**Information of the Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection on the circulation of documentation and specific procedures for transboundary shipments of waste during the COVID-19 epidemic**

In connection with the announcement of the status of the COVID-19 epidemic we present the temporarily introduced rules applicable in the transboundary shipment of waste, until further notice.

1. **Contact:**

All correspondence regarding transboundary movements of waste should be sent to the following e-mail address: tfs@gios.gov.pl

1. **Notifications of intended shipment of waste**
2. The Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection accepts notifications sent via e-mail, as scanned documents in pdf format.
3. In case of incomplete documentation the Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection sends information on missing documents via e-mail to the person indicated in block 1 of the notification document, cc to other authorities concerned and to the consignee.
4. The Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection sends acknowledgements of receipt of notifications only via e-mail, as scanned documents.
5. Notifications of intended export of waste are transmitted via e-mail, as scanned documents. In case some other authority concerned does not accept such form of communication the notifications will be transmitted via regular post if possible.
6. In case of notifications of planned export of waste from Poland the financial guarantee must be submitted to the Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection at least as scanned document before the noticfication is transmitted to other authorities concerned. The original guarantee must be submitted before the permit is granted.
7. Permits for transboundary shipment of waste will be sent only as scanned documents via e-mail or e-puap platform.
8. **Shipments of waste**
9. It is recommended that during transport documents required for transboundary shipments of waste should be in digital format. Waste shipments may take place on the basis of documents held by the driver on a mobile device, e.g. telephone, tablet, laptop and presented in this form during transport checks. The electronic version of the documents (copies of notification documents, copies of consents, documents or Annex VII documents) should be in the form of a scan of the signed document or, where possible, with a digital signature.

**The notifier / person who arranges the shipment should ensure that all carriers have access to the required documentation.**

1. In the context of the Coronavirus crisis and especially in the case where unforeseen border crossing restrictions are established or delays in procedures occur it is allowed to:

- failure to meet the deadline specified in art. 16 b) of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006, i.e. notifying the competent authorities and the consignee about the planned shipment of waste 3 working days before the shipment starts. In this case, it is necessary to inform the competent authorities concerned of the circumstances;

- changing the route of the transport of waste specified in the consent after prior agreement with the Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection and other competent authorities involved. This does not apply if the change of route forces the involvement of a new transit country. In this situation, a new notification is required.

It is the responsibility of the notifier / person who arranges the shipment to ensure that these procedures are acceptable in the countries involved in the shipment of waste concerned, including all transit countries. If it is determined that transboundary movement is restricted or disturbed due to the impact of COVID-19, please contact the relevant competent authorities.