

RAW MATERIALS POLICY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Brief history, experience during the process of
modernization and current image



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History of RM Policy

- ➔ Previous Czech RM Policy was approved in 1999 and evaluated in 2004.
- ➔ Our department tried some times to modernize RM Policy, but it was very difficult to find political support and political consensus in some areas (future of uranium mining, territorial limits for lignite mining etc.).
- ➔ Secondary RM Policy was separated, has been achieved independent and approved in 2012.
- ➔ Works on recently approved version of RM Policy started in the beginning of 2015.
- ➔ RM Policy was finally approved in the middle of 2017 by the Government.



Experience from the proces of negotiation and approving of RM Policy

- ➔ RM Policy is not only technical document, but first and foremost the political one.
- ➔ High density of population generates problems to open new mine due to proximity of settlement quite everywhere.
- ➔ Difficult discussions were held, when ecological organizations start to establish new areas of Natura 2000.
- ➔ Works on the text was preceded by 7 roundtables with questions of all areas related to the raw materials.



Experience from the proces of negotiation and approving of RM Policy 2

- ➔ Process of Strategy Environmental Assessment has taken nearly one complete year. During this time, many attempts from the side of NGO and ecological group became to undermine already agreed compromises.
- ➔ Short time before final approval, thread of resignation of government became and threatened the final approval.
- ➔ Fortunately, RM Policy was approved.



Base for Modernization

- ➔ whole mining sector was privatized during 90'
- ➔ Czech Republic joined EU
- ➔ fundamental changes on global market of raw materials
- ➔ European emphasis on energy and raw materials security
- ➔ issuing of strategic material Raw Materials Initiative by EC
- ➔ shift of interest to non-traditional raw materials or non-traditional usage of classic raw materials
- ➔ growth of importance of wide spectrum of ecological criteria
- ➔ effective raw materials diplomacy of Asian countries



Main Motto of RM Policy

Effective and sustainable assurance and usage of ore, non-ore, energetic, construction, even untraditional and high-tech raw materials for the welfare of population and competitive national economy of the Czech Republic.



Main Proclamation

Czech State as the owner of raw materials wealth clearly declare by the Raw Materials Policy that assurance of sufficiency of raw materials for domestic economy considers as one of its priorities. Czech State has interest on deeper specification of knowledge about its raw materials potential and on consistent protection of Raw materials deposits. Czech State supports the area of science and research foremost in segment of material-saving technologies, new modern or non-destructive mining methods, searching for new types of raw materials and new modern usage of classic raw materials.



Content of Raw Materials Policy

Raw Materials Policy of the Czech Republic consists of three main parts:

- ➔ Assurance of raw materials needs of the state
- ➔ Definition of aims and priorities of the strategy
- ➔ Instruments and tasks for realization of the state raw materials policy



Assurance of raw materials needs of the state

- ➔ First part of this chapter describes the current state of home-mined raw materials (energetic RM, ores, industrial minerals, construction materials), imported RM, recycling of RM (mainly construction materials) and commodity exchange.
- ➔ Second part describes main intensions of the state in the area of all above mentioned raw materials.
- ➔ Third part describes main influences affected raw materials sector (external and internal).



Definition of aims and priorities of the strategy

- ➔ First part defines strategic goals – security of delivery of RM, competitiveness and sustainability and defines parameters for evaluation of performance.
- ➔ Second part defines priorities - security of delivery of RM, effective and sustainable utilization of available deposits of RM and their consistent protection, effective RM policy and RM diplomacy of the state and support of education, research and development in the area of RM, and strategy to achieve them.



Instruments and tasks for realization of the state raw materials policy

- ➔ Legislative tools (Mining Law, Construction Law, ecological legislation)
- ➔ Tools in the area of state administration execution (regional RM strategies, periodical evaluations of the state RM policy, link between RM Policy and Land Use Planning, supervision on Commodity Exchange Market, Administration of State Material Reserves)
- ➔ Studies and analyses (availability of deposits, protection of deposits, recycling materials, classification of reserves and resources)
- ➔ Economical tools (royalties, prices of minerals)
- ➔ RM diplomacy (geological projects abroad, FDA projects, soft diplomacy)
- ➔ Education, support of R&D
- ➔ Media (communication, publicity)



Main conclusions and outcomes of RM Policy

- ➔ The most important domestic energetic RM are lignite and uranium ore.
- ➔ The biggest volume of extracted RM are the construction ones.
- ➔ Necessity to enhance geological prospection for modern high tech RM.
- ➔ Reinforcement of interconnection between RM Policy and Land Use Planning
- ➔ Simplification of authorization process in prospection and mining – particularly EIA



Thank you for your attention

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