

**Policy****PL-15****SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFIERS**

Approved by: **Mgr. Martin Senčák**  
**Director**

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**PURPOSE:**

**This document determines SNAS policy on accreditation of environmental verifiers.**

Elaborated by: **Ing. Renáta Kuřková**

Date of elaboration: **22.09.2020**

Verified by: **Ing. Gizela Pelechová**

By coming into force of this PL expired the validity of **PL-15** from 10.09.2018.

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## **1 SNAS POLICY ON ACCREDITATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL VERIFIERS**

1. When assessing the environmental verifiers seeking to obtain accreditation for verification and validation of environmental statements SNAS follows provisions of ISO/IEC 17021-1: 2015 and Regulation (EC) No. 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council (hereinafter Regulation), amended by Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 and Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026, and the Methodical Guidelines for the Accreditation issued by the SNAS.
2. During the accreditation SNAS assesses and confirms competence of environmental verifiers, and the accreditation scope is specified based on the classification of economic activities.
3. The environmental verifier shall in compliance with the Regulation meet minimum requirements for technical competence and demonstrate an ongoing professional development.
4. The environmental verifier shall be an external third party, independent, in particular of the organisation's auditor or consultant, impartial and objective in performing its activities.
5. The environmental verifier shall ensure that it is free from any commercial, financial or other pressures which might influence its judgment or endanger trust in its independence of judgment and integrity in relation to the verification activities. The environmental verifier shall ensure compliance with any rules applicable in this respect.
6. Environmental verifier has to have documented methods and procedures for verification of the Regulation requirements including mechanisms of flexible quality management and provisions for confidentiality maintenance.
7. If the environmental verifier is an organization, it has to have an organization chart with detailed specification of its structure and responsibilities including a declaration on legal status, ownership and financial sources.
8. If an environmental verifier carries out also other activities than verification of environmental statements and environmental management systems and audit he has to demonstrate meeting conditions of impartiality and objectivity, it means to demonstrate that other carried out activities do not compromise verification results.
9. The part of the assessment of applicant for accreditation of the verifier is also witness assessment carried out through observation of performance of verification and validation. Requirement for the granting of accreditation is to carry out at least one witness assessment. The number of further witness assessments to be carried out depends on the scope of the requested accreditation.
10. After granting the accreditation SNAS performs planned surveillances of accredited verifiers during the validity of the accreditation certificate.

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11. Based on notification of accredited verifier that he plans to perform verification in the Slovak Republic, SNAS carry out supervision of his activities. SNAS also carry out supervision of verifiers accredited or licensed in another Member State on the basis of notification that verification activities will be carried out in the Slovak Republic.

12. During the accreditation and supervision activities of verifiers, SNAS cooperates with the competent authority - a legal person authorized by the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic. SNAS applies in its procedures guidance of FALB (Forum of Accreditation and Licensing Bodies).

## **2 RELATED DOCUMENTS**

ISO/IEC 17011 General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies

ISO/IEC 17021-1 Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS), repealing Regulation (EC) No 761/2001 and Commission Decisions 2001/681/EC and 2006/193/EC

Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1505 amending Annexes I, II and III to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 amending Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

Act No. 351/2012 Coll. on Environmental Verification and Registration of Organizations within the Scheme of the European Community for Environmental Management and Audit and on change and amendment of some acts

MSA-04 Procedure for the accreditation

MSA-06 Responsibilities of SNAS and Conformity Assessment Bodies

MSA-E/01 Scope and scope specification of accreditation of environmental verifiers

MSA-E/02 Requirements for environmental verifiers

MSA-E/04 Surveillance of environmental verifiers

MSA-E/05 Witness assessment of environmental verifiers

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