

**NARKOTIKŲ, TABAKO IR ALKOHOLIO KONTROLĖS DEPARTAMENTAS**

**DRUG, TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL CONTROL DEPARTMENT**

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Dear Colleagues,

Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol Control Department (Department) is Lithuanian national competent authority responsible for receiving data about e-cigarettes and tobacco products on the EU-CEG portal. The Department supervises the compliance of labelling of tobacco products with the requirements of legal acts and cross-border distance trade sale.

The State Consumer Rights Protection Authority (SCRPA) is a competent Lithuanian institution that supervises labelling, composition and quality of electronic cigarettes and electronic cigarette refills and compliance of the composition and quality indicators, labelling of tobacco products with the requirements established by the Law.

EU-CEG notifications received by the Department are analysed, checked and evaluated whether the products can be supplied to the Lithuanian market.

Since 1st July 2022, it is prohibited to supply to the Lithuanian market e-cigarettes and e-cigarette refills if e-liquid contains flavourings other than the smell and (or) taste of tobacco. If product’s Brand name or Sub brand name refers to flavor and (or) taste additives or e-cigarette’s product contains substances which can give a non-tobacco smell and (or) taste, in this case the Department sends a notice to the company about the valid prohibitions and requirements for e-cigarettes. The Department also communicates with other member states regarding their opinion on certain issues related to tobacco products and e-cigarettes.

As well as, since 1st November 2024, was approved and came into force the list of specific permitted chemical substances that impart tobacco taste and smell to e-liquid. This means, that e-liquid can only contain, listed in the list permitted chemicals substances, that gives the taste and smell of tobacco. It is a very convenient tool for supervising the composition of e-cigarettes.

While checking and analysing the received notifications on the EU-CEG portal the Department pays attention to the capacity of e-liquid, the number of containers in one device, the concentration of nicotine. If a product's ingredients raise concerns about compliance with national legislation, the data on the product, as provided on the EU-CEG portal, is sent to the State Consumer Rights Protection Authority (SCRPA).

The biggest challenge is the reluctance of manufacturers and importers to cooperate and comply with the requirements of national legislation, because, for example, e-cigarettes without flavours are unattractive to consumers (young people).

Currently there are no fees for receiving, storing, handling, analyzing and publishing the submitted via EU-CEG information in Lithuania, but we are planning charge fees for tobacco products and e-cigarettes submitted notifications.

The department also imposes sanctions on economic operators for the violation of EU-CEG notifications (in the absence of a product notification on the market) and for placing on the market tobacco products to which flavoring and/or flavoring substances are added.

Deputy Director Gražina Belian