

The Law on Land Reclamation  
of the Republic of Lithuania

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CHAPTER I. GENERAL REGULATIONS

Article 1. Main notions

Land reclamation - improvement of the land by hydrotechnic, culturetechnic, agro-reclamation and other means in order to regulate the regime of water, heat and air in the soil, to improve conditions for agriculture, to increase productivity of soils, to create a rational structure of .....

Land reclamation facilities - drainage, ditches, embankments and other hydrotechnic constructions, irrigation facilities and the local roads which are located within the reclaimed land.

Land reclamation works - construction of land reclamation facilities, their reconstruction, repair, maintenance, also the implementation of other land reclamation measures.

User of land reclamation facilities - the owner or the lessee of land in whose land there are land reclamation facilities and they are attached to him for use or are in his property.

Article 2. The purpose of the law

This law regulates the design of land reclamation facilities, their use and protection, arrangement, financing and implementation of land reclamation works, legal relations between natural persons, legal persons and state institutions in the field of land reclamation.

Article 3. The object of land reclamation works

The object of land reclamation works is private and state land and land reclamation facilities that are located within it.

Article 4. Ownership and privatization of land reclamation facilities

Land reclamation facilities constructed from budgetary funds are attached for use to land owners or state land leasers according to the procedures set by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Land reclamation facilities are privatized according to the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 5. Organization and management of land reclamation works

The list of directions and priorities of land reclamation is

approved by the Government of The Republic of Lithuania.

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania prepares programmes of land reclamation, establishes priorities of land reclamation, elaborates and approves regulations concerning land reclamation, effectuates state supervision of land reclamation works, draws up cadaster of land reclamation facilities, coordinated activities of state land reclamation services.

Local governments(state land reclamation agencies) effectuate the role of owner of land reclamation facilities belonging to state and are responsible for the condition of these facilities, plans the works of land reclamation that are effectuated from the budget funds and play the role of customer for those land reclamation works, manage state accountability of land reclamation facilities, take measures for implementing this law and other Government decisions concerning land reclamation and is responsible for it.

#### Article 6. Planning and design of land reclamation

The land reclamation is planned, land reclamation construction and reconstruction projects are elaborated in accordance with regulations of territorial planning and other relevant regulations approved by authorities.

### CHAPTER II. FINANCING, STATE EXPERT EXAMINATION AND SUPERVISION, CADASTER OF LAND RECLAMATION

#### Article 7. Financing of land reclamation

Small works of maintenance of land reclamation facilities, land reclamation works effectuated in the land held in lease by foreign citizens and companies or by joint ventures with foreign natural or legal persons are made from the own funds of land owners or users.

What is considered small works is determined by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Other land reclamation works are financed from budget.

The construction of experimental land reclamation objects, preparation of land reclamation programs, applied scientific research in the field of land reclamation are financed from the state budget.

The Parliament(Seimas) of the Republic of Lithuania approves budget assignments for land reclamation works on various targeted purposes. State budget assignments for land reclamation works must guarantee normal functioning of land reclamation facilities which are state property.

Land reclamation facilities destroyed or damaged during natural disasters shall be reconstructed following the procedure

established for this purpose by the Lithuanian Government.

#### Article 8. State expert examination and supervision

State expert examination of land reclamation projects and state supervision are effectuated following the procedure established for this by Lithuanian Government.

#### 9. Cadaster of land reclamation

Cadaster of reclaimed land and cadaster of land reclamation facilities is integral part of state land cadaster and contains the whole information about legal, geographic and economic situation of reclaimed land and land reclamation facilities. Procedures of registry, accounting and cadaster of reclaimed land and land reclamation facilities are established by the Ministry of Agriculture.

### III. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF CITIZENS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA, ORGANIZATIONS AND USERS OF LAND RECLAMATION FACILITIES

#### Article 10. Rights

Legal and natural persons, users of land reclamation facilities have right to obtain information about implementation of measures, to participate in discussions concerning programs and projects of land reclamation, to require state expert examination of land reclamation works, and also to require punishment of persons, which are responsible for damaging of land reclamation facilities, to claim restitution of damage which is made by effectuating land reclamation facilities or arising from damage of land reclamation facilities.

#### Article 11. Obligations of land owners

Land owners are obliged to allow establishment of land reclamation facilities in their land which are needed to reclaim land of neighbors.

Damages which is made herewith to land owners or users shall be compensated and land used for these facilities shall be bought out from them.

#### Article 12. Obligations of the users of state-owned land reclamation facilities

The users of state owned land reclamation facilities are obliged to:

- 1) to make careful use of them and without any retribution perform small reparation works. If users fail to perform reparation works, these works shall be made by state expence. The expence incurred by state shall be recovered from land owner using procedures established by the Civil Code.
- 2) to allow persons authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture and

state land reclamation services to perform examination land reclamation facilities and, after agreement with user, to perform reparations of land reclamation facilities which are in their land, also allow to perform established supervision works.

3) to get approval from state land reclamation services for all land digging works made in reclaimed land.

Article 13. Requirements for the design of various facilities in reclaimed land and countryside

For the designing of roads, railroads, underground communications, gas pipelines, electricity and communication lines, bridges, water passes(?) and other facilities and buildings in reclaimed land and in countryside it is compulsory to obtain technical conditions from state land reclamation services and to observe them while designing.

CHAPTER IV. LIABILITY FOR THE VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW OF LAND RECLAMATION

Article 14. Legal liability

Persons who have violated this law or some other regulation concerning land reclamation are liable of disciplinary, administrative or criminal responsibility according the laws of the Republic of Lithuania.

Article 15. Compensation of damage to land reclamation facilities made by illegal activities

Legal and natural persons, which have made damage to land reclamation facilities by illegal activities and therefore inflicted damage on the property and interests are liable to compensate all damage and to restore facilities to previous condition.

Claims for the damages made to state owned facilities are presented by state land reclamation services.

Procedure of calculation of damages and rates for this calculation are approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.