



Water sector in Poland

Joanna Kopczyńska – Deputy President for Management of Aquatic Environment, State Water Holding Polish Waters



State Water Holding Polish Waters

Created 1st of January 2018 on the basis of the previous existing national and regional water authorities (1 + 7), management of drainage and water facilities (17) & others;

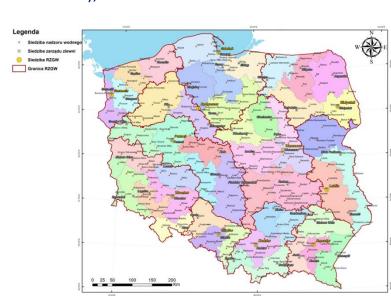
Consists of 11 regional branches and headquaters in Warsaw, staff about 5.600 employees;

Main tasks:

- Water permits, water assessment (for investors others than Polish Waters);
- Regulatory office for water& wastewater tariffs (new task);
- Investments flood defence projects, inland navigation;
- Maintenance of the existing water facilities;
- Collecting fees for water use;
- Preparation of projects: River Basin Management Plans,
 Flood Protection Plans, Marine Strategy,
 National Programme for Wastewater

Annual budget: ca 1,3 bln PLN (ca 310 mln EURO)

Project portfolio: ca 10,5 bln PLN (ca 2,5 bln EURO)





Circular water technologies

Responsible development strategy – adopted by the Council of Ministers – February 2017

Creation and development of a uniform water management structure in the catchment system, responsible for all water related activities, including in particular protection against flood and drought;

Development of a map of disposable water resources for use by the population, industry, agriculture and other branches of the economy as well as the rules for their updating based on the balance sheets of surface resources and groundwater;

Creating legal and financial mechanisms conducive to the rational use of water resources and implementation of water-saving technologies.





Legal actions aiming at water savings and circular technologies

Water law – new water fee:

reduction of natural field retention due to the execution of works of more than 3,500 square meter of works or buildings permanently connected with the ground, affecting the reduction of this retention by excluding more than 70% of the biologically active area in areas not connected to open or closed sewage systems;

National Smart Specialisations (Krajowe Inteligentne Specjalizacje) — UE& domestic funds for R&D: improvement of water quality, increasing water resources for consumption and economic purposes, improvement of the surface and ground water quality; wastewater treatment; recovery of water and other raw materials from sewage; use and energy recovery in water and sewage management.



Regulatory Authority for tariffs

State Holding Polish Waters – is a regulating/analysing/ but not setting the tariffs and regulations.

In Poland water services are mainly provided by companies 100% owned by self-governments.

In 2018 all companies were obliged to send a draft tariff for approval to the Regional water management (11).

If the decision was unsatisfactory the president/mayor or the applicant can sent the complaint to the National Water Management Board (II instance)

If both decisions are unsatisfactory than the applicant may appeal to court.



Regulatory Authority for tariffs

Settlement of disputes between water and sewage companies and recipients of services

Art. 27e. The resolution of the regulatory authority, In disputes regarding:

- a) refusal to conclude a contract for water supply or sewage disposal by a water and sewage company,
- b) cutting off the water supply or closing the sewage connection, or refusing to connect the property network to the person applying for joining the property to the network at the request of a party, the regulatory authority shall decide by means of a decision.
- 2. The decision of the regulatory body referred to in para. 1, may consist in ordering a water and sewage enterprise to:
- 1) conclusion of a contract for water supply or sewage disposal;
- 2) to restore the water supply;
- 3) opening the sewer connection;
- 4) connection to the network.





Regulatory Authority for tariffs

Settlement of disputes between water and sewage companies and recipients of services

If the applicant is not satisfied with the decision of Regional Water Management may appeal to the District Court in Warsaw - the Court of Competition and Consumer Protection

If the citizen is unsatisfied with the quality of services he can not only appeal to the company but as well send a complaint to the Office for Competition and Consumer Protection.







Thank you for your attention

www.wody.gov.pl