

New Rules for Fertilizers: Order on End-of-Waste Status Published

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Yesterday, the *Diário da República* published **Order No. 5993/2025**, establishing the new rules for the **End-of-Waste (EoW) status** applicable to fertilizers produced from **livestock effluents, plant biomass and other organic by-products**.

The aim is to **facilitate the reuse of organic materials**, allowing them to cease being classified as waste and to be used as agricultural fertilizers, provided they meet specific criteria set out in both **national and European legislation** — notably **Ordinance No. 79/2022** and **Regulation (EU) No. 142/2011**.

The order also highlights the key role of **biomethane** and **organic recovery** in **decarbonization, sustainable waste management** and the advancement of a **circular bioeconomy**. Technologies such as **anaerobic digestion** and **composting** are now formally recognized as essential tools for both the **energy sector** and **waste policy**.

For a fertilizer to no longer be considered waste, the following conditions must be met:

- The biogas or composting facility must hold a valid **operating license**;
- The final product must comply with all applicable **technical standards**;
- There must be a **management system** in place to ensure compliance;
- The producer must issue a **declaration of conformity** for each batch, accompanied by a **technical datasheet** and **label**.

The new rules **enter into force today** and are aligned with key strategic goals set out in the **National Energy and Climate Plan (PNEC 2030)**, the **National Strategy for Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Effluents (ENEAPAI 2030)**, and the **Biomethane Action Plan 2024–2040**.

This new framework is particularly relevant for **agricultural companies** and **organic waste recovery operators**, opening new opportunities to convert waste into usable and compliant products.

For any clarifications regarding this change, please do not hesitate to contact the Public Law & Environment practice area at Abreu Advogados, through partner José Eduardo Martins.

Thinking about tomorrow? Let's talk today.

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