

The government supports full implementation of the electronic documents in the construction process from 2019

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On 18 September 2018, the government supported the amendments to the Construction Law, drafted by the Ministry of Economics, providing that from 2019, the entire documentation required for the construction process would be done electronically only - submission of dossiers, making decisions and approvals will take place in the [Construction Information System](#) (hereinafter referred to as BIS).

The prepared amendments to the law envisage a transition to the complete electronic document circulation in the construction process from 1 January 2019. Municipalities which still do not feel ready to switch completely to the circulation of electronic documents will be permitted to establish a transitional period in accordance with the binding regulations, but not beyond 31 December 2019. At the end of the transition period, the construction process will begin and continue solely electronically. An exception will be made to those construction processes that have already been commenced in a paper-based format - these processes can be completed in paper format without any time limits.

Electronic circulation of documents will allow every participant to the construction process to receive state-provided electronic services in the BIS, regardless of their location, in an easy, fast and efficient manner without any additional administrative burden.

Similarly, with the amendments, the law eliminates the obligation to publish information on the internet website of the municipality, while retaining the obligation to provide relevant information to the BIS, thus ensuring that all the relevant information related to the construction processes is concentrated in one place.

The BIS information and its circulation are ensured in the form of electronic documents and structured data. Consequently, the construction boards or institutions that perform the functions of a construction board, make decisions and approve construction plans, and issuers of technical and special regulations approve the conformity with the requirements contained in the relevant regulations in the form of electronically structured data in the BIS. This will reduce the administrative burden for all those involved in the construction process. The authority may notify the applicant that the requested document is available in the BIS.

In order to extend the range of persons who may be authorized by the construction agent BIS to represent themselves in the administrative process of construction, the bill stipulates that the building commissioner will be able to authorize not only the construction specialists to carry out their administrative proceedings in construction, but also any other private person such as family members, legal service providers, etc. The goal is to make the authorization process in the electronic environment more convenient, cheaper, more efficient for people, at the same time ensuring proper identification of the person.

For the purposes of learning BIS functionality, the State Construction Control Bureau will provide free consultations on the use of the construction information system.

<https://www.em.gov.lv/en/article/government-supports-full-implementation-electronic-documents-construction-process-2019>