

Ref.: UNECE/2017/SED/78

14 August 2017

Solicitation of Comments on the Draft Specifications for the Application of UNFC to Anthropogenic Resources

The UNECE Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC) is pleased to present for public comment the draft document “Specifications for the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) to Anthropogenic Resources”. Growing interest in sustainable resource supply has created a need to assess the future availability of secondary raw materials. International policy setting, government resource management, business process management and capital allocation require a common and comprehensive understanding for evaluating the availability of resources from both primary and anthropogenic sources.

Classification of secondary raw material quantities is currently not established by any international standards. To overcome this gap, significant progress has been made to broaden the application of UNFC and to encompass anthropogenic resources. Being applicable to all energy and mineral activities worldwide, UNFC provides a robust framework for compiling and communicating expert knowledge on the evidence of quantities and the socio-economic context. The draft specifications issued for public comment represent ‘rules of application’ of UNFC to anthropogenic resources, intended to assess the secondary raw material quantities based on the maturity level of recovery projects.

The draft Specifications have been prepared as the basis for public comment to receive input from interested stakeholders to ensure the development of a robust supporting document that could be used by governments, regulators, industry and financiers. The public comment period will be open from 14 August until 12 October 2017. Comments may be provided online or via e-mail. Full details are available on the UNECE website at www.unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the participants of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action Project, Mining the European Anthroposphere (MINEA) and the EGRC Working Group on Anthropogenic Resources for their efforts in preparing the Specifications.

Yours sincerely

Scott FOSTER
Director
Sustainable Energy Division
UNECE

Ulrich KRAL
Chair
Anthropogenic Resources
Working Group

Soraya HEUSS-ABBICHLER
Leader
MINEA
Working Group