

**IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION ON COMPETITIVENESS OF  
MINING COMPANIES**

*L. L. Lazebnyk, D.E., Prof. National University of State Tax Service of Ukraine,*

*Larisa\_lazebnik@mail.ru,*

*L. P. Gatska, Ph. D (Econ.), Ass. Prof. Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv,*

*Gatska@univ.kiev.ua*

**Research methodology.** The research is carried out under the concept of enlarged economic evaluation of environmental regulation, which states that the tightening of environmental requirements not only leads to increased costs, but also creates a «window of opportunities» for economic development and competitiveness of companies. To achieve results, abstraction, analysis and synthesis, comparison, the systematic approach, and other methods are used. The hypothesis of the work is in assumption that adjustments of the transparency, flexibility and rigidity of environmental regulation can affect loss or gain competitiveness of mining companies, because of the high position of environmental aspect among the competitiveness factors.

**Results.** It is shown that the interests of stakeholders in the mining industry meet in sphere of subsoil use, resource conservation and environmental protection and are implemented through environmental regulation, which both directly and indirectly affects the competitiveness of mining companies. It is determined that the environmental and social standards and statutory payments affect the expected revenues from investment in mining and building costs, which may enhance or weaken competitive advantages of the industry. It is indicated that the state must seek to reach a compromise between ensuring pollution control, rational resources use and prevent the reduction in the competitiveness of mining companies with the usage of environmental regulation. It is proved that in Ukraine today such compromise is not reached, and for environmental regulation, compulsory regulations are more dominant than economic factors. Overall impact of environmental regulation on the competitiveness of mining in Ukraine is mainly negative.

**Novelty** is in development of methodical approach, different view of environmental policy and regulation as important tools to achieve competitive advantage of the mining industry, as a whole, and individual mining companies, in particular.

**Practical value.** Guidelines for the development of environmental policy in the mining sector, focused on achieving both environmental protection and enhancement of competitiveness of the industry are proposed.

**Keywords:** mining, competitiveness, environmental regulation, environmental impact, environmental and social responsibility.

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