



**LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS APLINKOS MINISTERIJA
THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA**

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Environment State Bureau of the Republic of
Latvia
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**NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REGARDING EXPANSION OF RESOURCE
EXTRACTION AT THE GRIEZES I SAND DEPOSIT**

The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, acting as a Point of Contact regarding notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (hereinafter – the Espoo Convention), hereby notifies the Republic of Latvia about a proposed activity under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Lithuania – Expansion of resource extraction at the Griezes I sand deposit, for which an Environmental Impact Assessment (hereinafter – EIA) process was started in May 2025.

The site of the proposed activity is located in the northwestern part of the Republic of Lithuania, in Grieze village of Mažeikiai district municipality, at a distance of 120 m from the border of the Republic of Latvia.

According to the Organizer of the Proposed Activity (Lanksmas Ltd., Melioratoriu St. 1, Mazeikiai, email: lanksmas@gmail.com) and the Preparer of the EIA Documents (GJ Magma Ltd., Vaidevucio St. 18, Vilnius, email: gjmagma@gmail.com, website: www.gjmagma.lt), the proposed activity will consist of further extraction of natural resources in the currently operating quarry into an additional depth and into an additional adjacent area.

Further details regarding the proposed activity, its location and potential environmental impacts are provided in the document attached to this notification.

The decision regarding the environmental impact of the proposed economic activity will be made by the competent authority – Environmental Protection Agency, taking into account potential environmental impacts, proposals of the public concerned, the results of consultations with national entities of environmental impact assessment (other state institutions and executive institutions of relevant municipalities), and the results of transboundary consultations.

Referring to Article 3.3 of the Espoo Convention and other relevant provisions of international and national legislation and with an intent to ensure efficient consultations and public participation, we kindly ask you to acknowledge the receipt of the notification and by **October 31, 2025**:

- indicate whether you intend to participate in the process of EIA as a potentially affected country;
- provide comments and proposals concerning the EIA;
- submit comments you might receive from the public and relevant authorities of your country.

Please address your response to this notification to Mr. Vitalijus Auglys, Point of Contact regarding Notification in accordance with Article 3 of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context:

Mr. Vitalijus Auglys
Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania
Telephone: +370 686 46 087
E-mail: vitalijus.auglys@am.lt (CC: beata.silobritiene@am.lt)

Enclosed:

1. Information on the proposed economic activity and its possible transboundary impact, in English, 11 pages.

Sincerely,

Head of Pollution Prevention Policy Group
Vitalijus Auglys

Mindaugas Raulinaitis, +370 695 41925, e-mail: mindaugas.raulinaitis@am.lt



INFORMATION ON THE PLANNED ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND ITS POSSIBLE TRANSBOUNDARY IMPACT

1. Name (title), address, telephone, e-mail of the developer (proponent of the proposed economic activity).

Organizer of the planned economic activity – Lanksmas Ltd, Melioratoriu street 1, Mazeikiai city, phone: +370-614-40818, email: lanksmas@gmail.com.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Document Preparer – GJ Magma Ltd, Vaidevucio street 18, Vilnius city, phone: +370-5-2318178, email: gjmagma@gmail.com, website: www.gjmagma.lt.

2. Information on the nature of the proposed activity:

2.1. title of the proposed economic activity;

Expansion of resource extraction at the Griezes I sand deposit.

2.2. type of activity and indication whether the proposed activity is listed in Appendix I to the UN Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention);

Sand resource extraction. Planned economic activity is not listed in Appendix I to the UN Convention. Sand mining is not included in the main types of metal ore or coal mining and processing.

2.3. description of the proposed activity, including the main activity and all peripheral and directly related activities (incl. description of technology to be used, related infrastructure, changes in traffic flows, etc.);

Resource extraction would continue from the currently operating quarry. The quarry expansion would continue to use the mining infrastructure and production export route created in previous years (1, 3 Fig.). It is planned that only mobile, conventional mining machinery widely used around the world (e.g. an excavator, loader, bulldozer, truck) will be operated in the quarry during sand extraction. It is planned that sand extraction in the expanded deposit will consist of the following main stages: 1. Preparation of the surface, removal of the topsoil and other vegetation; 2. Sand mining; 3. Production realization; 4. Recultivation of excavated area. Production transportation volumes would remain the same as in previous years when the quarry was in operation, up to 30-40 trips per shift.



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2.4. scale of the proposed activity (occupied area, scope, production capacity, water, raw material and energy use, generation of waste, etc.);

The planned economic activity area covers an area of approximately 27.3 ha (1 – 4 Fig.). It is planned to expand resource extraction in the operating quarry to a depth and into a new adjacent area. It is planned that the average annual sand extraction volume in the quarry will normally be about 10-20 thousand m³, and in individual years, when major road construction or construction works are taking place closer to the deposit, it will reach 70 thousand m³. In the planned area, as in the currently operating quarry, only natural sand will be mined. The raw material excavated from the quarry will be used in road construction and maintenance, construction, land reclamation, landscaping, for production of concrete and other construction mixtures. Mining machinery in the quarry will burn approximately 40-50 tons of diesel fuel per year, at the expected peak production volumes. No additional materials or water will be used in sand mining operations. No waste will be generated during the extraction of sand resources. The removed topsoil and other mineral soil will be used for quarry recultivation, flattening the slopes, filling the shallowest areas of the water basin, restoring the vegetation layer.

2.5. time-frame for proposed activity (start and duration of construction, operation and decommissioning, etc.).

Mining work in the expanded area would begin in 1-2 years, after EIA procedures have been completed and sand resource extraction has been designed. The resource extraction in the expanded area would be carried out for about 10-15 years.

3. Information on the location of the proposed activity:

3.1. location and description of the location (geographical, socio-economic characteristics, distance to the Affected Party to the Espoo Convention and its sensitive areas, e. g. “Natura 2000” and other protected sites, objects and sites of cultural heritage, residential areas, etc.);

The territory of the planned economic activity is in the northwestern part of the Republic of Lithuania, in the northwestern part of the territory of Mazeikiai district municipality, in the Zidikai eldership, in Grieze village, 120 m from the border of the Republic of Latvia. The territory of the planned economic activity is in a non-urbanized, rural area. The nearest homestead in the village of Meijas, located in the Republic of Latvia, is 400 m east of the planned area (1 Fig.).

The entire surface of the planned economic activity area has already been damaged by mining operations carried out in previous years (2 – 4 Fig.). Currently, the surface of the planned territory consists of an artificial water body formed at the site of the operated quarry, technogenic soil, newly



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formed turf, and a gradually growing self-seeding forest. Also, in some places, small artificial water bodies are formed further north of the operating quarry. The territory of the planned economic activity is not included in the protected areas (5 Fig.). The planned area in the Republic of Lithuania on the northeastern and northwestern edges is located close to the Natura 2000 network area “Ventos aukstupys” (LTAKM0002) important for protection of habitats, but is not included in it. Further away (40 m and more), Natura 2000 network area “Ventos upės slenis” (LTAKMB002) is located which is important for protection of birds.

There are no established protected areas adjacent to the planned economic activity area along the border of the Republic of Latvia. The nearest protected area of local importance, where dendrological plantations are protected (ID 24426), is 405 m east of the planned area (6 Fig.). Further, 880 m to the southeast, is located a microreserve (ID 187605). The nearest natural monument, a common oak (ID 13390), grows 420 m to the southeast.

The nearest natural habitats of European Community importance in a neighboring country, with codes 3260 and 6210, are 100 m to the northeast and 260 m to the southeast from the planned area, respectively. The nearest recorded locations of the European bullhead (*Cottus gobio*), spined loach (*Cobitis taenia*), European bitterling (*Rhodeus amarus*) and brook lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*) in the Venta River in the territory of a neighboring state are 300 m to the southeast. Further on, 425 m to the southeast and 480 m to the northwest were recorded brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) and woolly buttercup (*Ranunculus lanuginosus*). The planned activity will not have any negative impact on the nearest protected areas, natural habitats and protected species. The currently operating quarry is located closer to protected areas, natural habitats and research sites (except for the woolly buttercup research site) than the planned expansion of the deposit area into the adjacent territory.

There are no cultural heritage sites and areas located near the planned economic activity area along the border of the Republic of Latvia. Grieze Cemetery is 280 m to the east, and Grieze Lutheran Church is 390 m to the east (1 Fig.). According to the cultural heritage map of the Republic of Latvia, the nearest heritage site is indicated as Bierinu burial ground (ID 2158) (7 Fig.).

3.2. rationale for location of the proposed activity (e.g. geographical, economical reasons);

The planned economic activity in this location is not new. Mining in the Grieze I sand quarry began more than 4 decades ago. The entire surface of the planned area has already been damaged by mining in previous years. (1 – 4 Fig.). Mining expansion from an existing quarry would allow for more rational exploitation of the resources and recultivation of areas damaged by mining operations in



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previous years. In these areas, in the valleys of the Venta River and the Varduva and Vadakstis rivers flowing into it, sand and gravel extraction is a common phenomenon.

3.3. maps and other pictorial documents related to the spatial boundaries of the proposed activity, with a clear indication of the distance to the Affected Party to the Espoo Convention and its sensitive areas, as noted in 3.1.

- 1 Fig. Overview plan of Grieze I sand deposit. M 1:25 000.
- 2 Fig. Grieze I sand deposit situational plan. M 1:10 000.
- 3 Fig. Situational orthophotographic plan of Grieze I sand deposit. M 1:10 000.
- 4 Fig. Situational orthophotographic plan of Grieze I sand deposit. M 1:5 000.
- 5 Fig. Extract from the State Cadastre of Protected Areas of the Republic of Lithuania. M 1:10 000.
- 6 Fig. Extract from the OZOLS data system of the Republic of Latvia. M 1:10 000.
- 7 Fig. Extract from the Cultural Heritage Map of the Republic of Latvia. M 1:50 000.

4. Information on possible significant adverse transboundary impact of the proposed activity.

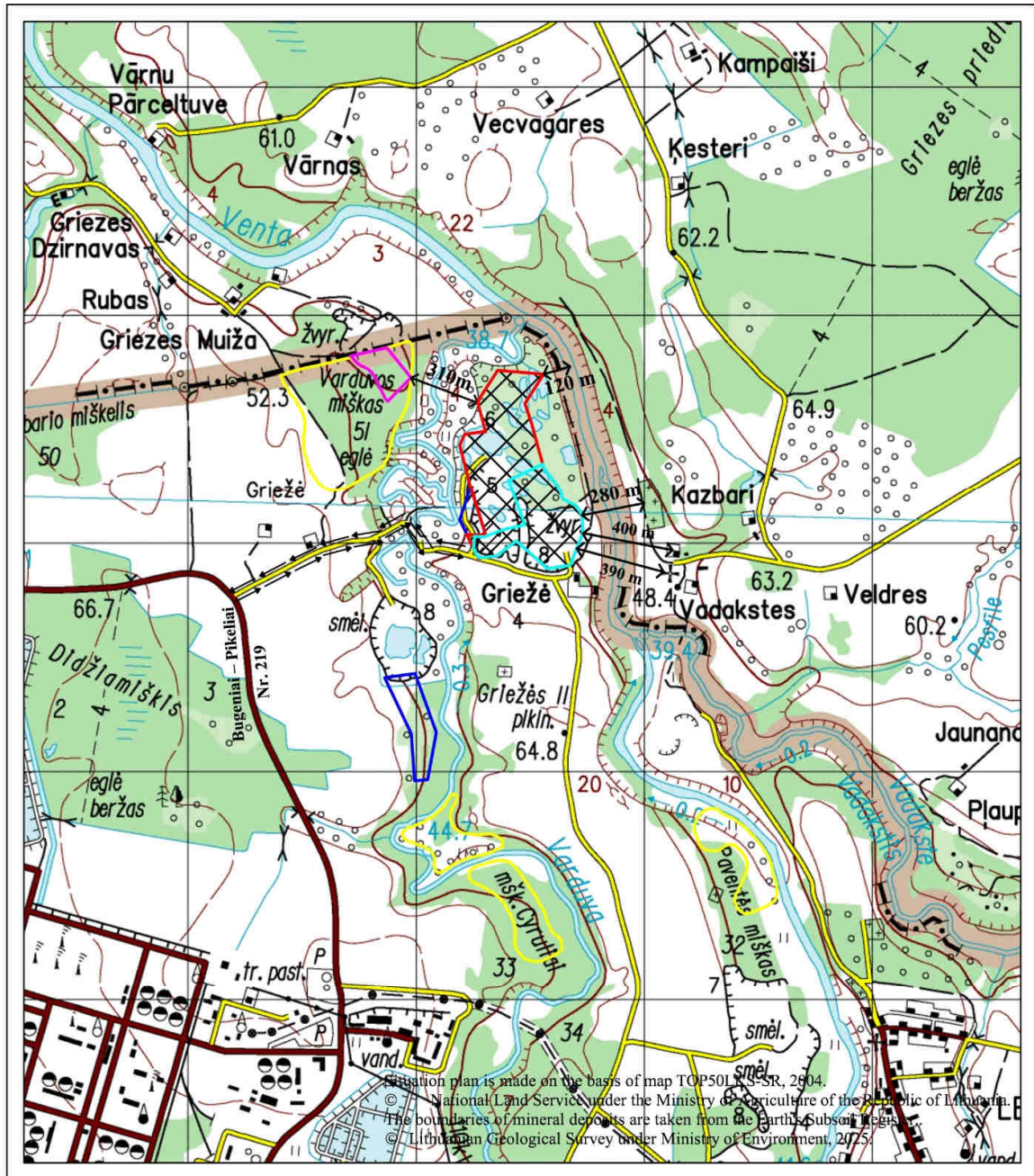
No economic activity will be carried out on the territory of the Republic of Latvia. The resumption of resource extraction in the area damaged by mining operations in previous years, currently abandoned, unreclaimed, and the deepening of the existing quarry will not have any significant negative impact on the environment of the neighboring country. Substantial mining impacts have already been made at this location in previous years. In this case, only the remaining unexploited resources of the deposit, which have been explored in detail, would be exploited and the quarry would be recultivated.

Pagarbiai / Sincerely

PAV dokumentų rengėjas / EIA documentation preparer

UAB „GJ Magma“ ekologas-inžinierius / GJ Magma Ltd ecologist-engineer

Edvardas Grencius



1 Fig. Overview plan of Grieze I sand deposit

M 1:25 000

LEGEND

- Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
- Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
- Area for which a mining permit has been issued
- Sand and gravel resources investigated in detail
- Sand and gravel resources investigated in preliminary detail
- Sand and gravel resources investigated in predictive detail
- Production transportation route

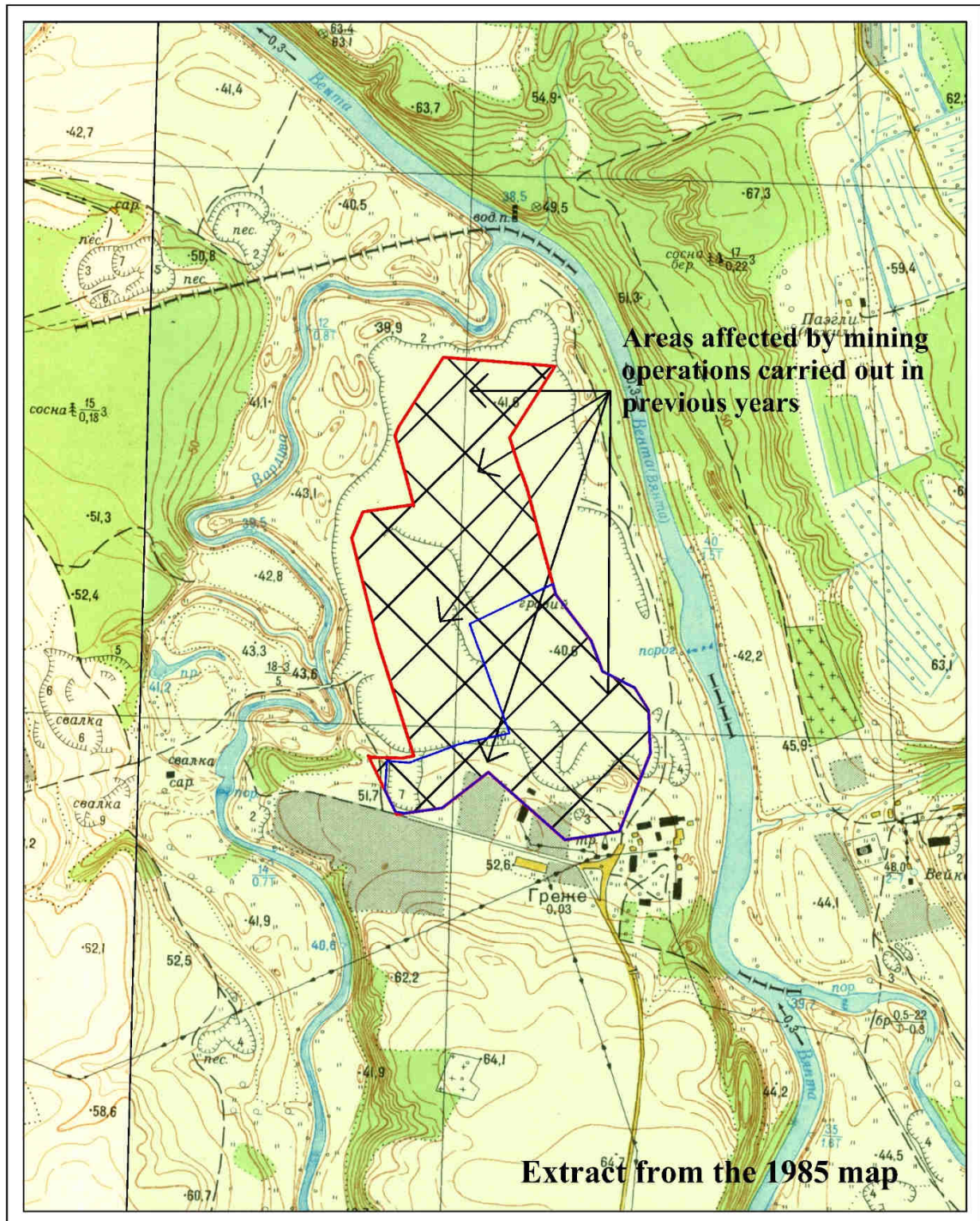
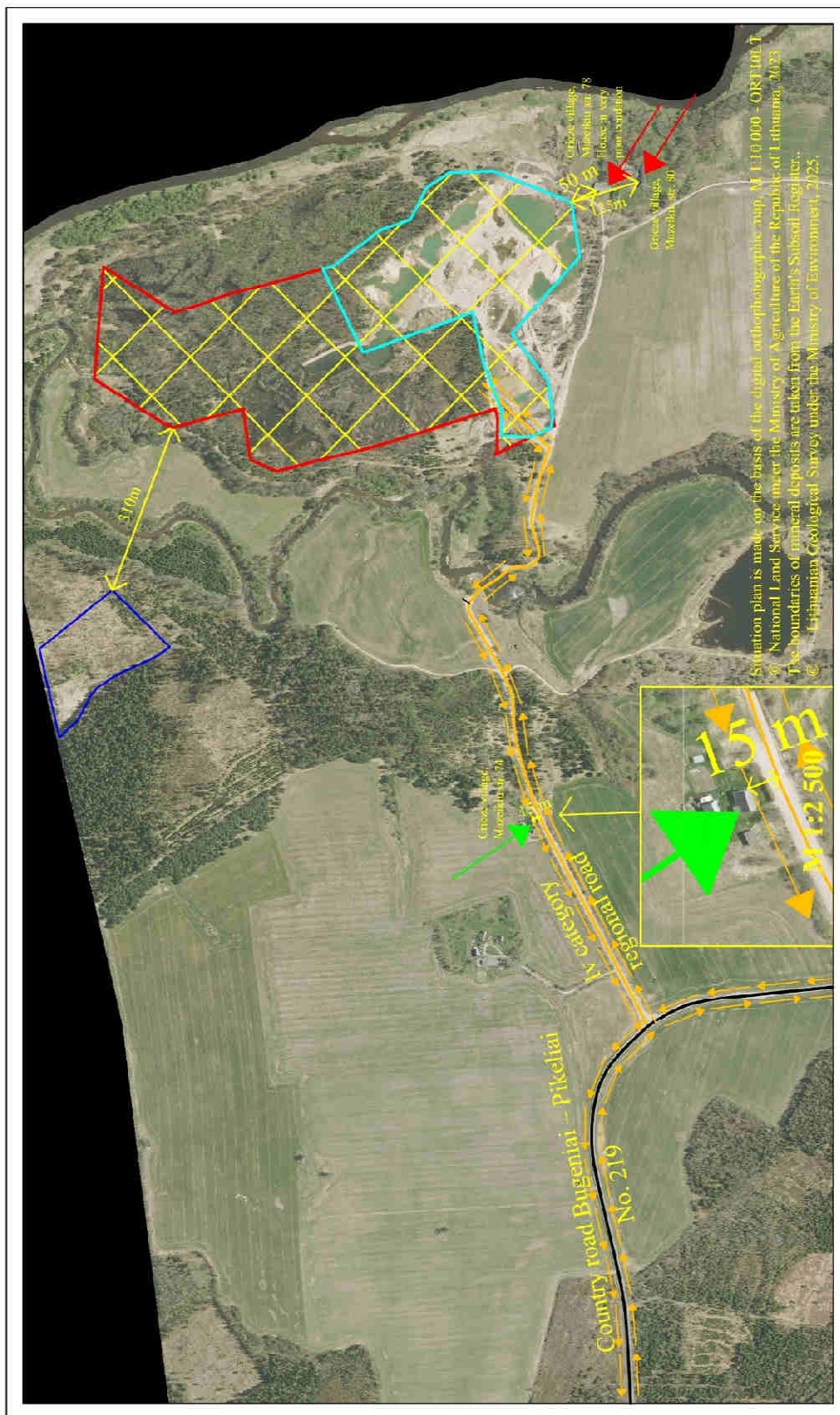


Fig 2. Grieze I sand deposit situational plan

M 1:10 000

LEGEND

-  Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
-  Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
-  Area for which a mining permit has been issued



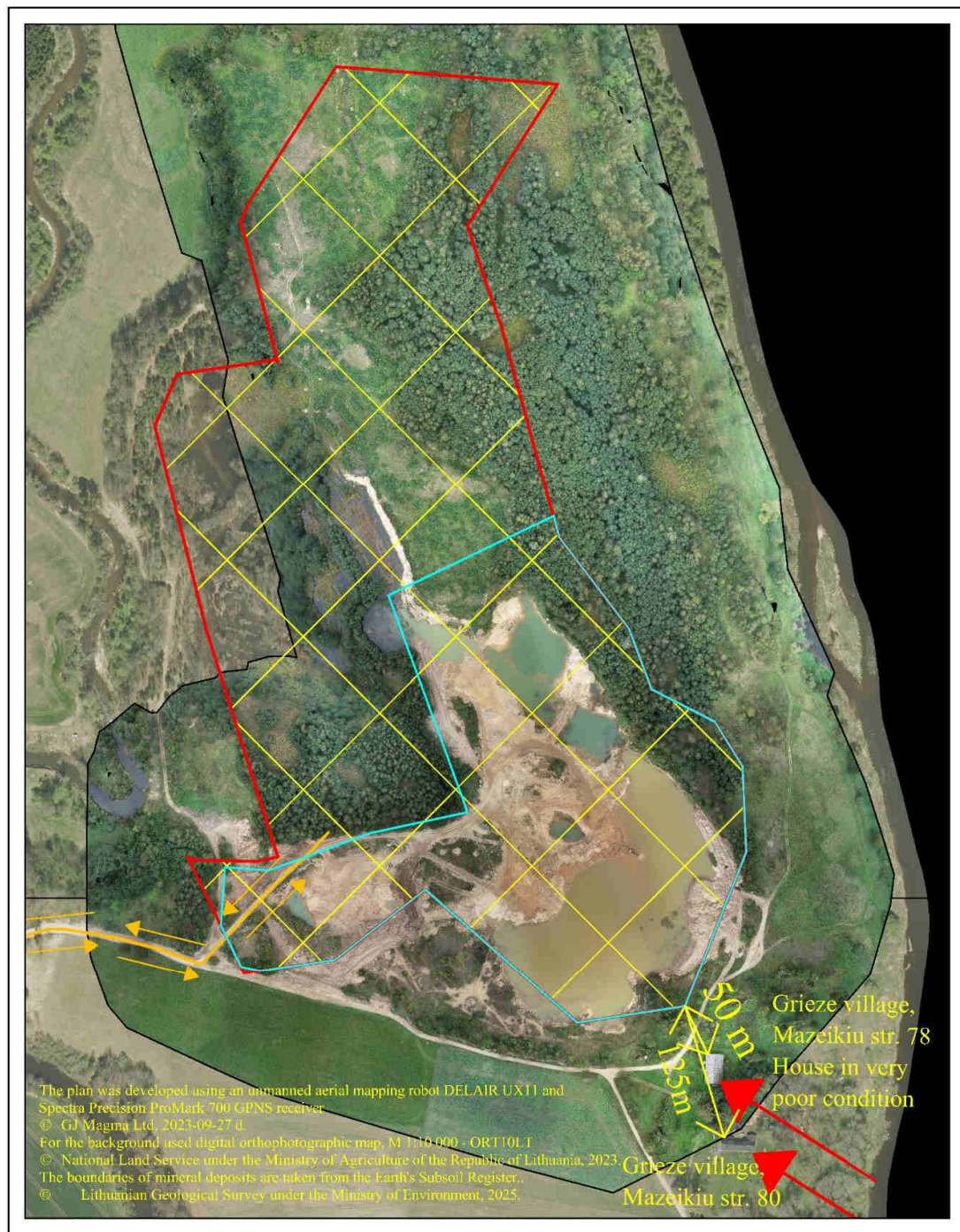
3 Fig. Situational orthophotographic plan of Grieze I sand deposit

M 1:10 000

LEGEND

- Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
- Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
- Area for which a mining permit has been issued to organizer of the planned economic activity

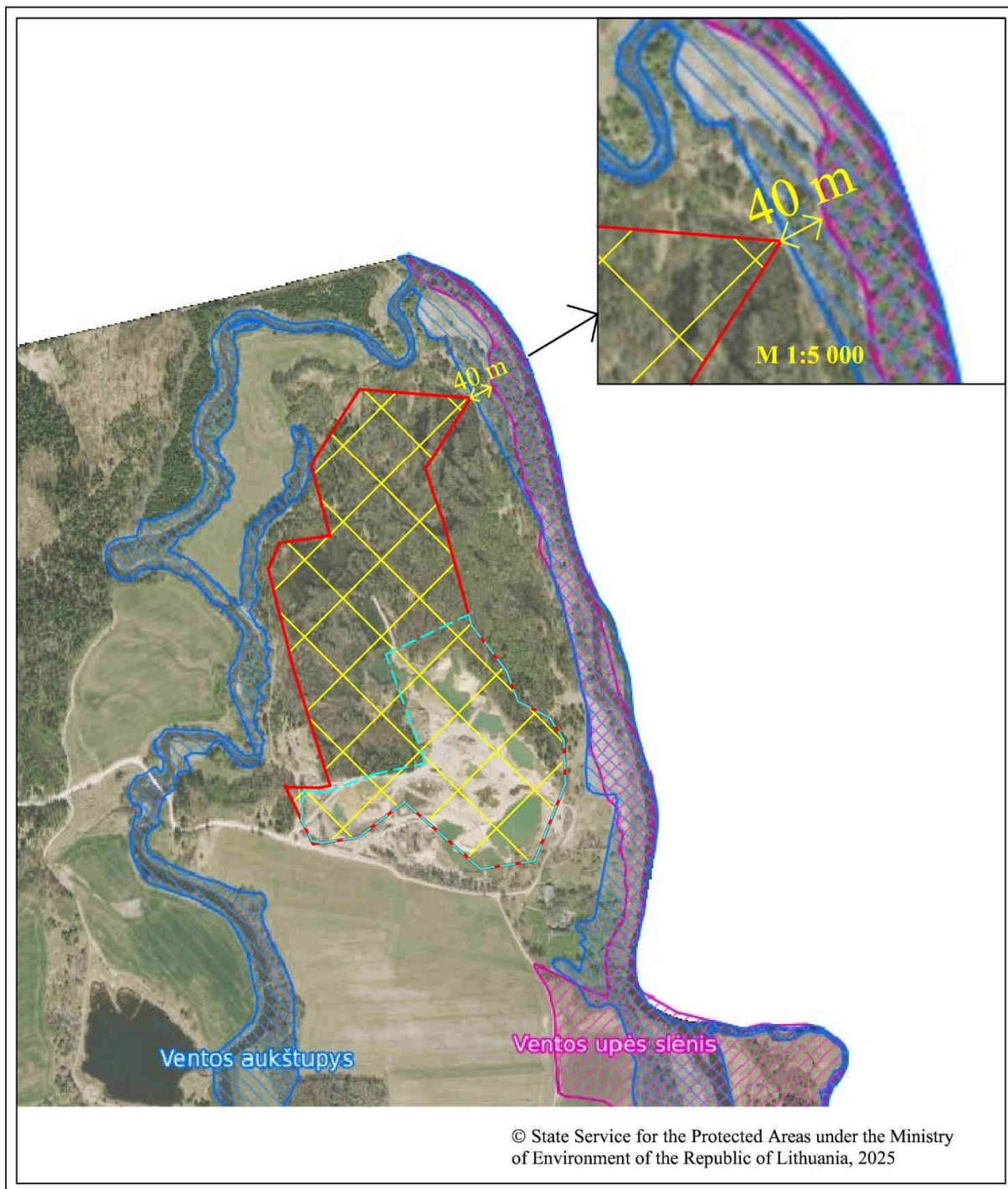
- Area for which a mining permit has been issued to another economic entity
- Production transportation route
- The closest homestead to the production transportation road
- The nearest homestead to the planned economic activity area



4 Fig. Situational orthophotographic plan of Grieze I sand deposit
M 1:5 000

Sutartiniai ženklai

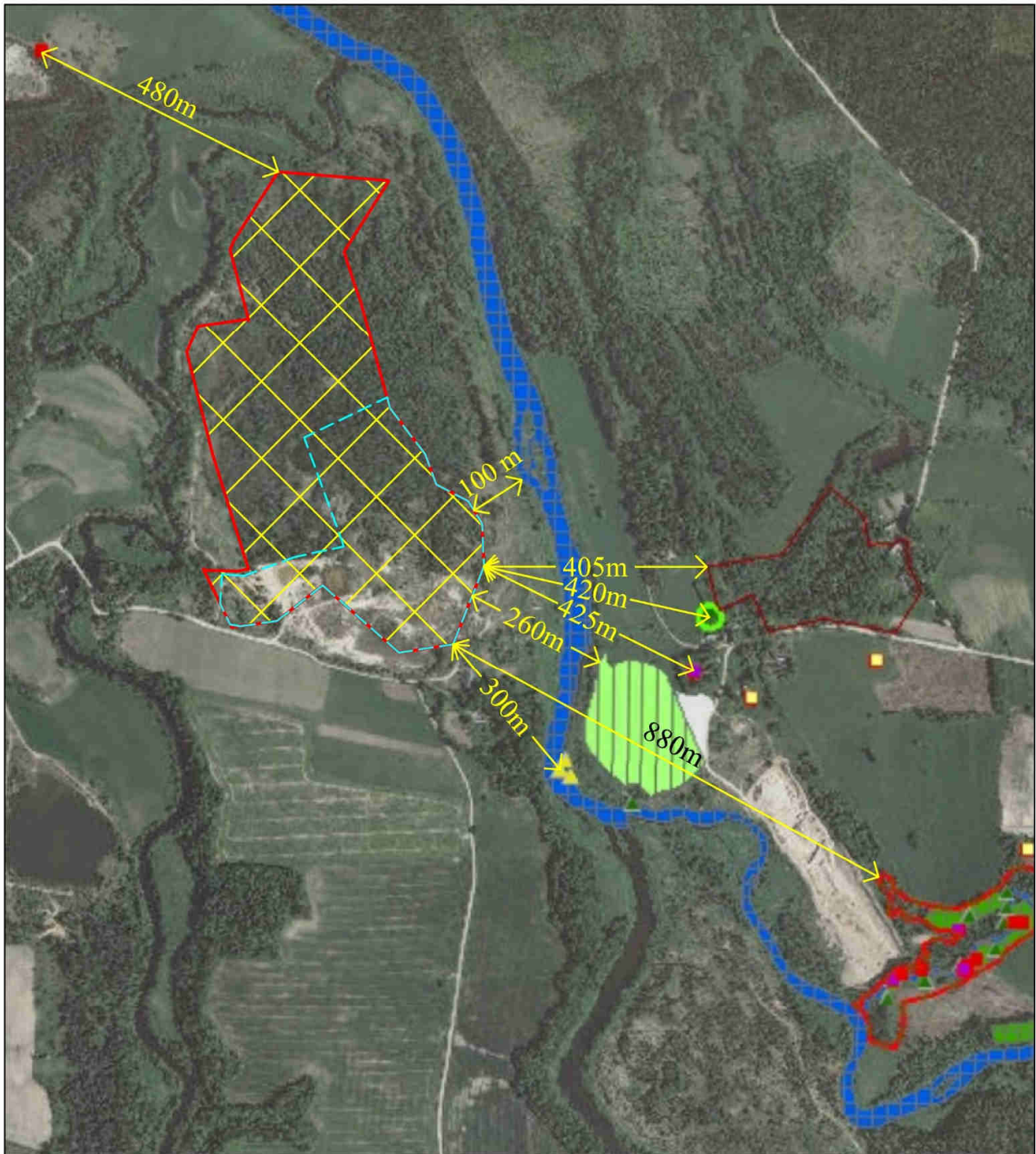
- Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
- Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
- Area for which a mining permit has been issued to organizer of the planned economic activity
- Production transportation route
- The nearest homesteads to the planned economic activity area



**5 Fig. Extract from the State Cadastre of Protected Areas of the Republic of Lithuania
M 1:10 000**

LEGEND

-  Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
-  Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
-  Area for which a mining permit has been issued



6 Fig. Extract from the OZOLS data system of the Republic of Latvia
M 1:10 000

LEGEND

-  Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 ha)
-  Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail
-  Area for which a mining permit has been issued



M 1:50 000

LEGEND

- | | |
|---|--|
|  | Area of planned economic activity (approx. 27.3 h ²) |
|  | Grieze I sand deposit investigated in detail |
|  | Area for which a mining permit has been issued |

DETALŪS METADUOMENYS

Dokumento sudarytojas (-ai)	Lietuvos Respublikos aplinkos ministerija 188602370, A. Jakšto g. 4, LT-01105 Vilnius
Dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė)	NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 OF THE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REGARDING EXPANSION OF RESOURCE EXTRACTION AT THE GRIEZES I SAND DEPOSIT
Dokumento registracijos data ir numeris	2025-09-26 Nr. D8(E)-3877
Dokumento gavimo data ir dokumento gavimo registracijos numeris	–
Dokumento specifikacijos identifikavimo žymuo	ADOC-V1.0
Parašo paskirtis	Pasirašymas
Parašą sukūrusio asmens vardas, pavardė ir pareigos	Vitalijus Auglys, Grupės vadovas, Taršos prevencijos politikos grupė
Sertifikatas išduotas	VITALIJUS AUGLYS, Lietuvos Respublikos aplinkos ministerija LT
Parašo sukūrimo data ir laikas	2025-09-26 09:18:26 (GMT+03:00)
Parašo formatas	XAdES-T
Laiko žymoje nurodytas laikas	2025-09-26 09:18:38 (GMT+03:00)
Informacija apie sertifikavimo paslaugų teikėją	ADIC CA ECC, Asmens dokumentu israsymo centras prie LR VRM LT
Sertifikato galiojimo laikas	2024-06-28 08:43:10 – 2028-06-27 08:43:10
Informacija apie būdus, naudotus metaduomenų vientisumui užtikrinti	"Registravimas" paskirties metaduomenų vientisumas užtikrintas naudojant "RCSC IssuingCA-2, VI Registru Centras - i.k. 124110246 LT" išduotą sertifikatą "DBSIS, Informatikos ir ryšių departamentas prie Lietuvos Respublikos vidaus reikalų ministerijos, į.k.188774822 LT", sertifikatas galioja nuo 2025-05-16 11:31:08 iki 2028-05-15 11:31:08
Pagrindinio dokumento priedų skaičius	1
Pagrindinio dokumento pridedamų dokumentų skaičius	–
Priedamo dokumento sudarytojas (-ai)	–
Priedamo dokumento pavadinimas (antraštė)	–
Priedamo dokumento registracijos data ir numeris	–
Programinės įrangos, kuria naudojantis sudarytas elektroninis dokumentas, pavadinimas	DBSIS, versija 3.5.85.4
Informacija apie elektroninio dokumento ir elektroninio (-ių) parašo (-ų) tikrinimą (tikrinimo data)	Atitinka specifikacijos keliamus reikalavimus. Visi dokumente esantys elektroniniai parašai galioja (2025-09-26 09:20:45)
Paieškos nuoroda	–
Papildomi metaduomenys	Nuorašą suformavo 2025-09-26 09:20:45 DBSIS