

Democratic People's Republic of Korea Resident

Fuel Law

Adopted by Decree No. 287 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly
on December 18, Juche 87 (1998)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 979 of the Standing Committee of the
Supreme People's Assembly on February 24, Juche 105 (2016)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 325 of the Standing Committee of the
Supreme People's Assembly on May 20, Juche 109 (2020)

Amended and supplemented by Decree No. 1660 of the Standing Committee of the
Supreme People's Assembly on June 11, Juche 113 (2024)

Chapter 1: Basics of the Resident Fuel Law

Article 1 (Mission of the Resident Fuel Law)

The Resident Fuel Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aims to strictly establish systems and order in securing, transporting, supplying, and selling resident fuel, thereby improving the resident fuel business and contributing to the convenience of people's lives.

Article 2 (Definition of Resident Fuel)

Resident fuel refers to fuel used for guaranteeing residents' living conditions. Resident fuel includes coal, oil, gas, firewood, and substitute fuels.

Article 3 (Principle of Securing Resident Fuel)

Securing sufficient resident fuel is a prerequisite for normalizing resident fuel supply. The state ensures that the business of securing resident fuel is firmly advanced so that there are no obstacles in the supply of resident fuel.

Article 4 (Principle of Transporting Resident Fuel)

Transporting resident fuel is an important process in the resident fuel business. The state establishes a well-organized resident fuel transportation system and ensures timely transportation of secured resident fuel.

Article 5 (Principle of Supplying Resident Fuel)

The state correctly determines the targets and standards for resident fuel supply and ensures timely and equitable supply of resident fuel.

Article 6 (Principle of Planning Production and Supply of Resident Fuel)

The state sets production and supply plans for resident fuel according to demand and ensures their flawless execution.

Article 7 (Principle of Saving Resident Fuel)

The state strengthens patriotic education among the people so that they use resident fuel sparingly.

Article 8 (Principle of Strengthening Material and Technical Foundations in the Resident Fuel Sector)

The state systematically increases investment in the resident fuel service sector to strengthen its material and technical foundations.

Article 9 (Guidance on Resident Fuel Business)

Guidance on the resident fuel business is carried out under the unified leadership of the Cabinet by the central resident fuel guidance agency, local people's committees, and relevant agencies. The central resident fuel guidance agency, local people's committees, and relevant agencies must regularly grasp and guide the status of securing, transporting, supplying, and selling resident fuel.

Article 10 (Research and Development of Combustion Efficiency and Substitute Fuels)

Scientific research institutions, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must research and develop technologies to improve the combustion efficiency of resident fuel and substitute fuels. Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens must actively adopt newly developed technologies and substitute fuels.

Article 11 (Heating and Cooking Using Electricity)

Local people's committees and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must actively promote the construction of small and medium-sized power plants using natural energy such as hydro, solar, geothermal, and wind power according to the characteristics of the region to ensure heating and cooking for resident households using electricity. They must also actively utilize methane gas produced from domestic wastewater, waste, agricultural by-products, and livestock manure as resident fuel.

Article 12 (Introduction of Achievements and Experiences in Resident Fuel Business)

Central scientific and technological administrative guidance and management agencies, central resident fuel guidance agencies, and local people's committees must widely

introduce and promote achievements and experiences in the resident fuel business in various forms and methods.

Article 13 (Supervision and Control of Resident Fuel Business)

Supervision and control of the resident fuel business are carried out by the central resident fuel guidance agency, local people's committees, and relevant supervision and control agencies. The central resident fuel guidance agency, local people's committees, and relevant supervision and control agencies must regularly supervise and control the status of securing, transporting, supplying, selling, storing, and consuming resident fuel.

Chapter 2: Securing Resident Fuel

Article 14 (Basic Requirements for Securing Resident Fuel)

Securing resident fuel is an important task for establishing sources of resident fuel. The central resident fuel guidance agency, local people's committees, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must firmly establish resident fuel production bases and systematically secure resident fuel.

Article 15 (Guaranteeing Conditions for Resident Fuel Business)

State planning agencies, labor administration agencies, transportation agencies, and other relevant agencies must fully guarantee the conditions necessary for securing, transporting, and supplying resident fuel. It is prohibited to assign social tasks to the resident fuel supply sector or mobilize labor engaged in securing, transporting, and supplying resident fuel for other tasks.

Article 16 (Preparation and Execution of Resident Fuel Production Plans)

State planning agencies, the central resident fuel guidance agency, and local people's committees must accurately calculate the demand for resident fuel, establish resident fuel production plans, and deliver them to relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations. Relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must execute the delivered plans without fail.

Article 17 (Organization of Resident Fuel Enterprises)

The central resident fuel guidance agency and local people's committees must reasonably and prospectively organize resident fuel enterprises according to relevant laws to secure, transport, and supply resident fuel.

Article 18 (Task of Guaranteeing Coal for Residents from Coal Mines)

State planning agencies, coal industry guidance agencies, and local people's committees must correctly designate coal mines that guarantee coal for residents and plan the guarantee of coal for residents. Designated coal mines must produce and guarantee the planned coal for residents without fail.

Article 19 (Development of Small and Medium Coal Mines for Securing Resident Fuel)

Local people's committees and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must establish small and medium coal mines to secure resident fuel and systematically produce coal for residents. Small and medium coal mines with insufficient reserves can be expanded or relocated under conditions that do not hinder the current and prospective mining of the parent coal mine. Relevant agencies must timely guarantee necessary conditions such as land use permits and resource development approvals related to the development, expansion, or relocation of small and medium coal mines for securing resident fuel.

Article 20 (Securing Coal for Residents through Order Contracts)

Local people's committees can secure coal for residents through order contracts with relevant coal mines if there is a shortage of coal to supply as resident fuel.

Article 21 (Securing Anthracite, Lignite, Low-Grade Coal, Selected Waste Coal, and Combustion Residue)

Local people's committees must secure and actively utilize anthracite, lignite, low-grade coal, selected waste coal, and combustion residue as resident fuel. State planning agencies, the central resident fuel guidance agency, the central power industry guidance agency, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must plan to utilize combustion residue from thermal power plants and factories using coal as fuel as resident fuel and deliver it to resident fuel enterprises.

Article 22 (Securing Oil and Gas)

State planning agencies, chemical industry guidance agencies, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must timely produce and guarantee oil and gas for residents. Resident fuel enterprises can secure oil and gas for guaranteeing resident fuel by entering into order contracts with relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations.

Article 23 (Securing Firewood)

Land and environmental protection agencies, agricultural guidance agencies, local people's committees, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must correctly designate firewood forest areas, actively cultivate firewood forests by planting fast-growing

and good firewood species such as poplar, and ensure their protection and management. To cultivate and protect firewood forests, a responsibility system per resident household and a responsibility system per institution, enterprise, and organization must be implemented. Land and environmental protection agencies, forestry agencies, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must recover all tops and branches produced during logging and utilize them as resident fuel.

Article 24 (Supply and Demand Contracts for Resident Fuel)

Resident fuel enterprises must enter into supply and demand contracts with fuel production agencies, enterprises, and organizations based on plans and accurately deliver or receive resident fuel.

Chapter 3: Transporting Resident Fuel

Article 25 (Basic Requirements for Transporting Resident Fuel)

Timely transportation of resident fuel is an important requirement for fully realizing the supply of resident fuel. State planning agencies, transportation agencies, the central resident fuel guidance agency, and local people's committees must establish a well-organized resident fuel transportation system and systematically transport resident fuel.

Article 26 (Conclusion and Execution of Resident Fuel Transportation Contracts)

Resident fuel enterprises must enter into resident fuel transportation contracts with relevant transportation agencies based on resident fuel transportation plans and timely transport resident fuel.

Article 27 (Organization of Resident Fuel Transportation)

Resident fuel is transported by train, automobile, and ship. Relevant transportation agencies must responsibly guarantee transportation means and organize transportation tasks for transporting resident fuel. The central railway transportation guidance agency and local people's committees must prioritize guaranteeing conditions for unloading resident fuel at relevant freight stations.

Article 28 (Guaranteeing Conditions for Transporting Resident Fuel)

The central social safety guidance agency, the central land and environmental protection guidance agency, and relevant agencies must prioritize guaranteeing the operation of transportation vehicles for transporting resident fuel and timely issue transit permits and relevant documents for vehicles mobilized for transporting resident fuel during the concentrated transportation months for resident coal.

Article 29 (Guaranteeing Fuel for Transporting Resident Fuel)

State planning agencies, local people's committees, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must plan and prioritize guaranteeing fuel necessary for transporting resident fuel.

Article 30 (Concentrated Transportation Months for Resident Coal)

State planning agencies, transportation agencies, and local people's committees must designate May to July and September to November as concentrated transportation months for resident coal and ensure concentrated transportation of resident coal during these periods to avoid hindrance in guaranteeing resident fuel.

Article 31 (Handing Over and Receiving Resident Fuel)

Transportation agencies must accurately hand over transported resident fuel to resident fuel enterprises. In case of accidents such as loss of resident fuel during transportation, the transportation agency is responsible.

Chapter 4: Supplying and Selling Resident Fuel

Article 32 (Basic Requirements for Supplying and Selling Resident Fuel)

Properly supplying and selling resident fuel is an important condition for ensuring the convenience of people's lives and fully guaranteeing the working conditions of institutions, enterprises, and organizations. Local people's committees and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must establish a proper resident fuel supply system and ensure normal supply of resident fuel.

Article 33 (Resident Fuel Supply Agencies)

Resident fuel supply is carried out by local people's committees and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations according to their targets. Local people's committees supply resident fuel to resident households and non-production institutions, enterprises, and organizations registered with local people's committees. However, resident fuel supply to separately designated targets is carried out by relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations.

Article 34 (Registration of Resident Fuel Supply Status)

Resident fuel enterprises and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must maintain resident fuel supply registers and regularly register the supply status by household and unit. In this case, the number of family members, number of employees,

type of residence or building, heating conditions, number of rooms, and type of fuel to be used must be accurately specified.

Article 35 (Submission of Resident Fuel Supply Registration Application Documents)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that wish to receive resident fuel supply from local people's committees must submit resident fuel supply registration application documents to the relevant local people's committee for registration.

Article 36 (Standards for Supplying Resident Fuel)

State planning agencies and the central resident fuel guidance agency must correctly determine the standards for supplying resident fuel and continuously update them according to the evolving needs of reality. Local people's committees and relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations must supply resident fuel according to the determined standards.

Article 37 (Methods of Supplying Resident Fuel)

Resident fuel can be supplied to resident households quarterly or monthly, or concentratedly. Institutions, enterprises, and organizations are supplied resident fuel according to plans.

Article 38 (Production, Supply, and Sale of Briquettes, Ignition Coal, and Combustion Additives)

Local people's committees must modernize briquette factories and coal combustion additive production bases according to the conditions of the relevant region and produce, supply, and sell various fuels and combustion additives such as briquettes, ignition coal, pellet coal, and molded coal to residents and consumer units.

Article 39 (Guaranteeing Resident Fuel through Stores)

Local people's committees must establish stores for guaranteeing resident fuel in necessary areas and ensure the convenience of people's lives.

Article 40 (Placement of Resident Fuel Supply Stations)

Local people's committees must reasonably place resident fuel supply stations and prioritize guaranteeing convenience for residents in supplying resident fuel.

Article 41 (Service for Selling Resident Fuel)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that wish to sell resident fuel independently must obtain the agreement of the central resident fuel guidance agency and the business

license of the provincial (directly governed city) people's committee or relevant agency according to the regulations. The central resident fuel guidance agency must notify the applicant unit of the result within 7 working days from the receipt of the agreement application documents.

Article 42 (Application for Business License)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that wish to obtain a business license must submit business license application documents to the city (district), county people's committee or relevant agency. Business license application documents must include the name of the applicant institution, enterprise, or organization, inspection certificate of heating equipment, approval documents for handling gas, location of service facilities, and agreement and approval documents from relevant agencies. The city (district), county people's committee must review the business license application documents within 7 working days from the date of receipt and send them to the provincial (directly governed city) people's committee.

Article 43 (Review of Business License Application Documents)

The provincial (directly governed city) people's committee and relevant agencies must review the business license application documents within 7 working days from the date of receipt and approve or reject them. If the business license application is approved, a business license is issued; if rejected, a rejection notice stating the reasons must be sent to the relevant institution, enterprise, or organization. The provincial (directly governed city) people's committee and relevant agencies must regularly notify the central resident fuel guidance agency of the status of processing business license applications.

Article 44 (Notification of Production, Import, and Sale Status of Resident Fuel)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations that produce, import, and sell resident fuel must notify the central resident fuel guidance agency of the status quarterly.

Chapter 5: Legal Responsibilities

Article 45 (Civil Liability)

If this law is violated and property damage occurs, the responsible party is liable for compensation, penalty payments, and late fees.

Article 46 (Compensation Penalty)

If resident fuel is illegally processed under various pretexts or if the order of storage and management of fuel is not properly maintained, resulting in loss, leakage, damage, or incineration of fuel, the responsible party is subject to a compensation penalty.

Article 47 (Fine Penalty)

The following cases are subject to fines:

1. If resident fuel is not supplied according to the determined standards, institutions, enterprises, and organizations are fined 300,000 to 1,500,000 won, and citizens are fined 20,000 to 100,000 won.
2. If unauthorized items are sold in stores designated for guaranteeing resident fuel, institutions, enterprises, and organizations are fined 1,500,000 won, and citizens are fined 100,000 won.
3. If resident fuel is sold to residents without a business license, institutions, enterprises, and organizations are fined twice the transaction amount.
4. If resident fuel is illegally processed under various pretexts, institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens are fined twice the transaction amount.

Article 48 (Suspension Penalty)

If the supervisory and control agency points out corrections for the actions specified in Article 47 and the defects are not corrected, the business activities of the relevant unit are suspended. If the situation is severe, the business is closed.

Article 49 (Confiscation Penalty)

If fuel is sold illegally, the fuel and funds used for the illegal activity are confiscated.

Article 50 (Warning and Severe Warning Penalty)

The following cases are subject to a warning penalty:

1. If transportation vehicles for transporting resident fuel are not timely guaranteed during the concentrated transportation months for resident coal.
2. If the task of designating firewood forest areas, implementing the responsibility system per resident household, and the responsibility system per institution, enterprise, and organization is not properly carried out, hindering the cultivation of firewood forests.
3. If the operation of transportation vehicles mobilized for transporting resident fuel during the concentrated transportation months for resident coal is hindered.
4. If resident fuel consumption standards are exceeded. If the actions specified above are severe, a severe warning penalty is given.

Article 51 (Unpaid Labor and Labor Education Penalty)

The following cases are subject to unpaid labor and labor education penalties of up to 3 months:

1. If the preparation and execution of resident fuel production and supply plans are not properly carried out, hindering the resident fuel business.
2. If coal for residents is not produced and guaranteed according to the plan at coal mines designated for guaranteeing resident fuel, hindering the resident fuel business.
3. If oil and gas for residents are not produced and guaranteed according to the plan, hindering the resident fuel business.
4. If resident fuel is sold to residents without a business license.
5. If the operation of stores and briquette factories for guaranteeing resident fuel is not properly carried out, hindering the convenience of people's lives.
6. If social tasks are assigned to the resident fuel supply sector, hindering the resident fuel business.
7. If resident fuel is illegally processed under various pretexts for performing social tasks.
8. If labor engaged in securing, transporting, and supplying resident fuel is mobilized for other tasks, hindering the resident fuel business. If the actions specified above are severe, unpaid labor and labor education penalties of more than 3 months are given.

Article 52 (Dismissal, Removal, and Discharge Penalty)

If severe consequences occur due to violations of this law, the responsible party is subject to dismissal, removal, or discharge penalties according to the severity.

Article 53 (Criminal Liability)

If the actions violating this law constitute a crime, the responsible party is subject to criminal liability according to the relevant provisions of the criminal law.

Chapter 6: Supplementary Provisions

Article 54 (Effective Date)

The Resident Fuel Law, amended and supplemented by Decree No. 1660 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on June 11, Juche 113 (2024), is effective from October 1, Juche 113 (2024).