

Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment
Ministerial Decree 2011/01

Date: 13.01.2011

Subject: Immediate Reduction of Legal Objection Period for Permit Decisions

Due to recent findings by the National Ombudsman regarding excessive delay and legal uncertainty in municipal permit proceedings, the Ministry hereby enacts **an immediate reduction of the formal objection period from eight (8) weeks to six (6) weeks.**

This decision applies to all decisions issued **on or after January 13, 2011** and is to be enforced **without delay** by all municipal legal offices.

1. Legal Basis

The decree is issued under emergency authority granted by the Spatial Governance Act (WRO §11A) and has direct binding power across all jurisdictions.

2. Scope and Enforcement

- Affected cases: All building permits and environmental licenses
- Any objections received after six weeks will be dismissed as inadmissible
- Municipal objection portals and printed letters must be updated within 48 hours

3. Staff Notification

All municipal BB-units are to inform frontline staff immediately and cease applying the 8-week window.

4. Transitional Clauses

There are **no grandfathering exceptions**. Any permit decision issued on or after this date falls under the new six-week regime, regardless of prior communication templates.

This directive has been published in the Staatscourant and will be followed by an explanatory memorandum later this month.

— Signed:

Mr. P. van Nuenen

Secretary of Legal Policy

Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment