# **EPIF GROUP POLICY**

# **Policy on Reporting of Serious Concerns**

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy the below mentioned terms are defined as follows:

Business Partner means any individual or organization an Employee encounters during

the course of his or her work for EPIF, which includes actual and potential clients, customers, suppliers, distributors, business contacts, agents, advisers, and government and public bodies, including their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians and political parties;

Compliance Department means a department or an individual (Compliance Officer) of EPIF

Group Company that ensures that EPIF Group Company adheres to relevant laws and regulations and has in place internal procedures and controls to identify and manage regulatory risk; in case the EPIF Group Company does not have a Compliance Department or Officer, the

compliance function pertains to its statutory body;

**Designated Person** means an Employee designated by the EPIF Group Company as a point

of contact to raise any serious concerns and also to lead the investigation on the reported concern, such as the head of Human Resources or Compliance Department, or the relevant Director/Head of the business area to which the concern relates or another senior manager; this responsibility might be also shared according to the areas

to which the concern relates;

**Employee(s)** means all employees, directors and officers of EPIF Group and all

persons working on a contract basis, whether on a temporary or a

permanent basis, part-time or full-time;

**EPIF** means EP Infrastructure, a.s. and all companies that are directly or

indirectly controlled by it;

**EPIF Group Company** means any company which forms part of EPIF;

EPIF Group Policies means all EPIF Group Policies, such as Tax Governance Policy, Anti-

corruption and Anti-bribery Policy, Anti-money Laundering Policy, Environmental Policy, KYC Directive, Asset Integrity Policy, Bio-diversity

Policy, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, etc.;

Good Faith means that the individual reasonably believes or perceives the

information reported to be true at the time of reporting;

**Human** Resources means a department of EPIF Group Company that performs human

**Department** resource management, overseeing various aspects of employment,

such as compliance with labor law and employment standards, administration of Employee benefits, organizing of Employees files with the required documents for future reference, and some aspects

of recruitment and Employee offboarding;

**Policy** means this Policy on Reporting of Serious Concerns;

**Reporting Person** means one of the Employees, who has reported a serious concern

according to the Policy;

Victimisation means that continued employment and opportunities for future

promotion or training is prejudiced because the Reporting Person has

raised a legitimate concern.

#### 2. PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

The Policy's purpose is to provide Employees the means of reporting compliance concerns and compliance violations without fear of retaliation or retribution, and to set out the way in which any serious concerns that they have may be raised and how these concerns are dealt with.

#### 3. SCOPE

The Policy applies to all Employees in all countries and territories that EPIF Group operates in and relates to reporting in Good Faith of a serious concern about any suspected, actual or potential violation of law, regulations or EPIF Group Policies.

### **4. BASIC PRINCIPLES**

EPIF believes that speaking out and reporting serious concerns is essential for safety, legal and financial compliance and ultimately a successful business.

In accordance with EPIF's commitment to promoting and encouraging a culture of openness, integrity and accountability, EPIF expects and encourages Employees who have a serious concern about any aspect of the business to come forward and voice those concerns, without fear of any personal repercussions.

If an Employee believes there is a serious concern that needs to be raised, he or she considers the appropriateness and feasibility of attempted informal resolution by discussion in the first instance with the line manager or another colleague in a relevant position of seniority. In the alternative the matter could be raised through the procedure according to this Policy.

Reported concerns shall be kept confidential to the extent possible, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

#### **5. COMMITMENTS AND PROCESS**

## 5.1. Commitments

EPIF and EPIF Group Companies take all allegations of malpractice seriously and do not tolerate any Victimisation of Employees who raise genuine concerns and report issues in the public interest. EPIF Employees should be watchful for illegal activities and unethical conduct or anything that might prejudice safety and report anything of that nature they become aware of.

### 5.2. Responsibilities

Division of powers and responsibilities according to the Policy among EPIF Group Company's departments and bodies is set in its internal processes and rules of operations in line with the four eyes principle.

In the absence of such division of powers and responsibilities, the Human Resources Department of EPIF Group Company is accountable for receiving, initiating and investigating all reported concerns in accordance with the Policy procedure. The EPIF Group Company Compliance Department is consulted on legal issues. Other departments or bodies of EPIF Group Company might be included in the investigation process based on the relevance and the EPIF Group Company's internal processes and rules of operations. The results of the investigation together with possible recommendation on further steps are submitted to the EPIF Group Company Board.

#### 5.3. Ban on Victimisation

The Reporting Person shall not be Victimised for raising a matter under this procedure. Victimisation of any Reporting Person raising a qualified disclosure is a disciplinary offence. If a Reporting Person believes to have suffered any such Victimisation, he or she should inform a Designated Person immediately. If misconduct is discovered as a result of an investigation under this procedure, the EPIF Group Company's disciplinary procedure is used, in addition to any appropriate external measures. An instruction to cover up any wrongdoing is itself a disciplinary offence. If told not to raise or pursue any concern, even by a person in authority such as a manager, an Employee should not agree to remain silent, and should report the matter directly to the Designated Person.

#### 5.4. Procedure

Any matter raised under this procedure is investigated thoroughly, promptly and confidentially, and the outcome of the investigation is reported back to the Reporting Person.

EPIF Group Company adopts a detailed procedure on investigation of concerns raised according to this Policy, respecting the following principles:

- i. the point of contact to raise any serious concerns to is determined;
- ii. undertakings in respect of the confidentiality and protection of the source of the concern are included;
- iii. the investigation is carried out as quickly as possible, without affecting the quality of the investigation;
- iv. a written report when the investigation is complete is provided to the Reporting Person, informing of the findings of the investigation and any action that is proposed;
- v. possible corrective actions are considered;
- vi. a report to the Company board of serious concerns reported is drafted on a regular basis.

# 5.5. Confidentiality and Anonymity

EPIF Group Company establishes internal or external channels for receiving concerns raised according to this Policy which are designed, set up and operated in a manner that ensures the confidentiality (to the extent possible) of the identity of the Reporting Person and prevents access to non-authorised Employees. At least one of the established channels shall also enable anonymous submission of concerns, such as a hotline.

#### 6. APPLICATION OF THE POLICY TO BUSINESS PARTNERS

EPIF aims to encourage openness and will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this Policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

All Business Partners are encouraged to raise concerns about any issue relating to EPIF or suspicion of violation of the EPIF Group Policies at the earliest possible stage. In that case the principles and process according to the Policy shall apply mutatis mutandis for dealing with such concerns.

#### 7. IMPLEMENTATION

The Policy is implemented by all EPIF Group Companies into their internal processes and rules of operations. Such implementation also includes adoption of a detailed procedure for investigating of concerns. For this purpose, a Model Procedure attached hereto as Annex 1 may be appropriately adapted to reflect the EPIF Group Company structure.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Model Procedure for Investigating of Concerns

Signed by Daniel Křetínský, a Chairman of the Board of Directors of EP Infrastructure, a.s. and Gary Mazzotti, a Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of EP Infrastructure, a.s. on 6 April 2021

# Annex 1 - Model Procedure

A Designated Person is the point of contact to raise any serious concerns.

Some concerns may be resolved by agreed action without the need for formal investigation. Any urgent action necessary shall be taken before any investigation is conducted. If it is deemed that an investigation is not warranted, then the Employee will be advised of this.

If the Designated Person, in conjunction with the relevant Director/Head of the business area, to which the concern relates, feels that an investigation is necessary they will appoint a person who will arrange for the matter to be progressed. The person identified as leading the investigation should first obtain full details and clarification of the concern ensuring that they have fully understood what the concern is.

## They should then:

- i. consider the involvement of external bodies, e.g. the police (a discussion over this decision will be held with the Head of Human Resources who may include other relevant Directors);
- ii. fully investigate the concern with assistance as appropriate;
- submit a detailed written report containing the findings of the investigation and any proposed actions to the EPIF Group Company Board.

The person identified as leading the investigation will ensure that the investigation is carried out as quickly as possible, without affecting the quality of the investigation. Where possible, they will also provide the Reporting Person with the following:

- i. written acknowledgement that an investigation is being conducted;
- ii. if the investigation is prolonged written updates as the investigation progresses;
- iii. a written report when the investigation is complete, informing of the findings of the investigation and any action that is proposed. There may be some confidential or sensitive information that may not be given.

In some cases, it may be necessary for the Reporting Person having raised the concern, to attend meetings to allow information to be clarified. A fellow Employee or Trade Union representative can accompany the Reporting Person at these meetings. The chosen representative must not have any conflict of interest in relation to the concern that has been raised.

Due to the unknown nature of any potential concerns raised, it is not possible to say how long an investigation should take. If the concern is of a criminal or illegal nature the EPIF Group Company may notify the Police or other external regulatory agencies and will co-operate fully in any resultant investigation.

On receipt of the investigation report the EPIF Group Company Board will consider and decide, with advice from the Designated Person, what corrective actions are necessary. The EPIF Group Company Board will then in conjunction with the relevant subsidiary Board (if appropriate) allocate responsibility for close out of the actions agreed to an appropriate senior manager.

If the Reporting Person is still not satisfied with the findings or proposed corrective actions following the investigation, he or she should advise the Designated Person about his or her dissatisfaction.

The EPIF Group Company's undertakings in respect of the confidentiality and protection of the source of the concern from victimisation will continue to apply during any review process.

On completion of any investigation, all records of the concern raised and all documentation gathered during the investigation, together with a copy of the final report, will be sent to the Designated Person.

These records will be kept for a period of 5 years for audit purposes and will then be destroyed in a confidential manner. No records will be held in personal files unless allegations are shown to be founded or unless malicious intent has been proved.

The Designated Person prepares a report on a quarterly basis of any concerns reported, giving the details, reports made, corrective action planned, and corrective action completed. This report is made to the EPIF Group Company Board. If no concerns are raised, no report is submitted.

If, following investigation, the EPIF Group Company concludes that a Reporting person has made false allegations maliciously or with a view to personal gain, the Reporting person may be subject to disciplinary action.