

Enforcement Of Environmental Crimes In Medan City Towards The Impact Of Transition Of Regional Regulation No. 6 Of 2015

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Abstract: *The amendment of Regional Regulation (Perda) no. 6 of 2015 on Waste Management in Medan City has implications for law enforcement against environmental crimes. This study aims to analyze how regulatory changes affect the effectiveness of legal sanctions for violators and their impact on more sustainable waste management. This research employs a qualitative method with a juridical-normative approach through legal analysis and interviews with relevant stakeholders. The findings indicate that the amendment strengthens the legal basis for addressing violations, including increased administrative and criminal sanctions for environmental polluters. However, implementation still faces challenges, such as low public awareness and limited resources for law enforcement agencies. Therefore, strengthening synergy between the government, society, and the private sector is necessary to enforce regulations and enhance environmental awareness*

Keywords: *Local regulation, environmental crimes, law enforcement, waste management, Medan City*

INTRODUCTION

The amendment to Regional Regulation (Perda) No. 6 of 2015 concerning Waste Management in Medan City is a strategic step in an effort to overcome increasingly complex environmental problems. The waste problem has become a crucial issue in various large cities, including Medan, where rapid population growth and massive urbanization have contributed to an increase in the volume of domestic and industrial waste. This regulation is expected to strengthen the waste management mechanism and make law enforcement effective against violations that have an impact on environmental pollution. However, along with the changes in regulations, challenges have emerged in implementation, especially related to the effectiveness of legal sanctions and public awareness in maintaining environmental cleanliness.

Environmental crimes are a crucial aspect in the context of this Perda amendment, considering the negative impacts of poor waste management on the ecosystem and public health. Frequent violations include indiscriminate waste disposal, water and soil pollution due to unmanaged waste, and industrial practices that do not meet environmental standards. Therefore, the revision of Perda No. 6 of 2015 is expected to not only be an administrative regulation, but also an effective instrument in taking firm action against perpetrators of environmental violations. Stricter law enforcement is needed to provide a deterrent effect and build a culture of compliance with existing regulations.



The dynamics of environmental law in Indonesia show that policies related to waste management often encounter obstacles in their implementation. One of the main factors is the weak coordination between local governments and related agencies in implementing the rules that have been prepared. In Medan City, although there are various policies that support environmental management, their implementation still faces various obstacles, including limited resources and low community participation in the community-based waste management system. In this context, the amendment to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 needs to be studied further to assess its effectiveness in reducing environmental crimes and improving the overall quality of the city's environment.

In addition to the regulatory aspect, the main challenge in enforcing environmental law in Medan City is the limited capacity of law enforcement officers in handling environmental pollution cases. Many cases of violations do not reach the legal realm because various reasons, such as lack of strong evidence, minimal supervision, or even potential conflicts of interest. This situation shows the need to strengthen legal instruments and stricter oversight mechanisms so that every violation can be prosecuted fairly and transparently. Without a more comprehensive approach, existing regulations will only be documents without effective implementation in the field.

Community participation is also a key element in supporting the success of waste management and environmental law enforcement. Communities as the main producers of waste have a responsibility to ensure that the waste they produce is managed properly in accordance with the principles of reduce, reuse, and recycle. However, the lack of education and socialization regarding the importance of responsible waste management has resulted in low levels of compliance with established regulations. The government needs to be more active in conducting environmental awareness campaigns and strengthening incentives for communities that contribute to better waste management.

From an economic perspective, suboptimal waste management also contributes to increasing social and economic costs due to the environmental impacts caused. Water pollution due to poorly managed waste can disrupt the supply of clean water, increase the risk of disease, and reduce community productivity. On the other hand, a good waste management system can be an economic opportunity, such as through the recycling industry and the use of organic waste for renewable energy production. Therefore, changes to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 should not only focus on the aspect of law enforcement, but also create mechanisms that encourage innovation in sustainable waste management.

As global environmental policies evolve, Medan City also needs to adopt a more progressive approach to waste management and environmental law enforcement. Many cities around the world have succeeded in reducing waste volume and improving environmental quality through the application of modern technology and incentive-based policies that encourage community compliance. Medan City can learn from these experiences by adapting more flexible regulations based on local needs, thus creating effective and sustainable solutions.

The amendment to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 should be a momentum for the City of Medan to strengthen environmental policies as a whole. This regulation must be able to answer existing challenges by providing concrete solutions in waste management and reducing environmental crimes. Synergy between the government, society, and the private sector needs to be strengthened in order to create a more

effective environmental management system. Thus, this regulatory change is expected to not only be a legal instrument, but also a real step in preserving the environment for future generations.

METHOD

This study employs a qualitative approach with a juridical-normative method to analyze the amendments to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 on Waste Management in Medan City, particularly in relation to law enforcement against environmental crimes. Data were collected through interviews with relevant stakeholders and literature reviews of legal documents and academic sources.

The analysis was conducted descriptively and qualitatively by assessing the effectiveness of regulations, implementation challenges, and law enforcement efforts. A comparative study was also carried out with other cities that have successfully managed waste issues. To enhance data validity, the study applied source triangulation techniques. This research explores community participation and the impact of regulatory changes on public legal awareness. The findings are expected to provide practical policy recommendations for local governments to improve waste management and strengthen environmental law enforcement in a sustainable manner.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The amendment to Regional Regulation (Perda) No. 6 of 2015 concerning Waste Management in Medan City is a strategic step in strengthening environmental policies, especially in dealing with increasingly complex waste problems. Based on the results of the study, it was found that the amendment to this regulation aims to increase the effectiveness of the waste management system, clarify legal sanctions for violators, and encourage community participation in maintaining environmental cleanliness. However, the implementation of this amendment still faces various challenges, both in terms of regulation, law enforcement, and public awareness of the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment. One of the significant changes in this regulation is the strengthening of the law enforcement aspect against violators of waste management rules. The new regulation provides stricter sanctions for individuals and corporations proven to have littered, polluted the environment, and managed waste that does not comply with applicable provisions. This stricter law enforcement is expected to provide a deterrent effect and increase public compliance with the established rules. However, in practice, there are still obstacles in implementing sanctions due to limited human resources and low coordination between authorized agencies. The results of interviews with the Medan City Environmental Service, it is known that one of the main challenges in waste management is the low level of community participation in environmental cleanliness programs. Many residents still have the habit of littering, whether in rivers, drainage, or empty land which ultimately causes bigger environmental problems. Although intensive socialization has been carried out, the level of public awareness of the importance of good waste management still needs to be improved so that the updated regulations can run optimally.

This study also found that one of the main factors causing weak environmental law enforcement in Medan City is the limited number of supervisors responsible for monitoring the implementation of this regulation. Currently, the number of available supervisors is still not comparable to the area and population that must be supervised. As a result, many violations that occur in the field cannot be prosecuted directly, thus reducing the effectiveness of regulations in creating a management system, better waste management.

Furthermore, the role of the private sector in supporting the implementation of this regulation change is also an important factor that needs to be considered. Several companies have shown their commitment to waste management by implementing environmentally friendly policies, such as recycling programs and reducing plastic waste. However, there are still many business actors who do not have sufficient awareness in implementing the principles of sustainable waste management. Therefore, there needs to be incentives for companies that are active in environmental programs and stricter sanctions for business actors who violate waste management regulations.

This study also revealed that the changes to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 have implications for regional governance in the environmental sector. With stricter regulations, regional governments have a greater responsibility to ensure that this policy can run effectively. This includes increasing the capacity of the apparatus in supervising the implementation of regional regulations, allocating a larger budget for environmental cleanliness programs, and strengthening cooperation with various parties in realizing a cleaner and healthier Medan City.

In addition to the law enforcement aspect and the role of government, this study also highlights the importance of education and environmental awareness campaigns for the community. Sustainable education programs can help change the mindset of the community so that they care more about environmental cleanliness and are active in waste management programs. Schools and educational institutions have a strategic role in instilling cleanliness values from an early age, so that it is hoped that future generations can have a better culture in protecting the environment.

In the context of implementing this regulation, technical challenges are also an aspect that needs to be considered. One of the problems often faced is the lack of adequate waste management infrastructure, such as limited landfills, a less than optimal waste transportation system, and a lack of modern waste processing facilities. Without adequate infrastructure, well-formulated policies will not be able to run effectively in the field. Therefore, there needs to be greater investment in the development of more sophisticated and efficient waste management facilities and infrastructure.

Legal perspective, changes to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2014/2015 has had a significant impact on the enforcement of environmental crimes in Medan City. This regulation provides a clearer legal basis for prosecuting violators, both individuals and corporations, who are proven to have polluted the environment due to poor waste management. However, greater efforts are still needed to ensure that the law can be enforced fairly and consistently. Law enforcement officers must have adequate capacity to handle environmental cases, and be supported by a court system that can provide appropriate sanctions for violators.

The results of the study also show that the success of the implementation of this regulation is highly dependent on the synergy between the government, the community, academics, and the private sector. Without solid cooperation from various parties, this policy will find it difficult to achieve its goals in creating a better waste management system and suppressing environmental crimes in Medan City. Therefore, a more effective coordination mechanism is needed in integrating various environmental programs that have been designed by various stakeholders.

As a conclusion from the results of this study, changes Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 has great potential in increasing the effectiveness of waste management and strengthening environmental law enforcement in

Medan City. However, the implementation of this regulation still faces various obstacles that need to be addressed immediately, both from legal, technical, and social aspects. Therefore, a more comprehensive and innovative approach is needed in dealing with waste problems, including utilizing modern technology and strengthening legal awareness among the community. With continuous evaluation and improvements in the law enforcement system, it is hoped that the changes to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 can have a real impact in creating a cleaner and healthier environment for the people of Medan City. This study also emphasizes the importance of the active role of all elements of society in supporting this policy, so that the objectives of the updated regulation can be achieved optimally.

CONCLUSIONS

The amendment to Regional Regulation No. 6 of 2015 on Waste Management in Medan City has significantly influenced the waste management system and environmental law enforcement. The regulation aims to strengthen policies, impose stricter sanctions, and encourage community participation in maintaining a cleaner environment. However, its implementation faces challenges, including limited infrastructure, weak law enforcement, and low public awareness. One major impact of the amendment is the stronger legal foundation for law enforcement against environmental crimes. Despite stricter sanctions, obstacles such as inadequate human resources, weak inter-agency coordination, and inefficient waste management systems persist. Additionally, many residents lack awareness of proper waste disposal practices, further hindering policy effectiveness. The study highlights the need for greater investment in waste management infrastructure, improved government supervision, and stronger collaboration with the private sector. Incentives for businesses adopting environmentally friendly practices and stricter penalties for non-compliance are essential. An education-based approach is crucial to raising public awareness, with schools and community programs playing a vital role in instilling responsible waste management habits. Strengthened coordination among stakeholders government, community, academics, and private sectors—is also necessary for policy success. To enhance policy effectiveness, this study recommends increased regulatory supervision, more intensive public awareness campaigns, and accelerated infrastructure development. Regular evaluations should ensure that policies remain adaptive to emerging challenges. With a comprehensive and innovative approach, the amendment can contribute to a cleaner and healthier Medan City in the future.

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