

## PRESS RELEASE

Azomures will begin annual turnaround from 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2020. Originating from the negative effects of the Government's Ordinance no. 114/2018 the natural gas price and availability has not been favourable for sustaining operation.

Normally plant turnarounds are scheduled for summer period immediately after farmers have used fertilizers for agriculture.

We hereby wish to apologise to all our clients and all Romanian farmers for any inconvenience caused.

"We were forced to take a measure which we can consider to be extreme, namely us scheduling the revisions of some of our equipment due to the price and availability of the natural gas. This is an unusual situation for us. We are ensuring reasonable quantities of fertilizers for the local market, currently under agricultural season, our distributors being ready to provide fertilizers. We are following closely the liberalization of the natural gas, which should reinstall normality for Azomures, but also for other companies using this natural resource as a main raw material", Harri Kiiski, Chief Executive Office of Azomures has stated.

The general revision is programmed to take place in March and at the beginning of April. Apart from normal annual maintenance activities, a series of investments will be made with the purpose of sustainability.

During the month of March the following facilities will be suspended: the Ammonia IV Production Plant, the NPK Production Plant for complex fertilizers, the Ammonia Nitrate I-II Production Plant, the Nitric Acid II and III Production Plants, the Power plant CET I. The following production units continue their operation: Ammonia III, Ammonia Nitrate III, Urea, Nitric Acid 4. The Melamine Production Plant will also continue its activities, melamine being a product used especially in the furniture industry.

According to the technical characteristics of the processes on the platform, during the shut-down and start-up of the production units, there may occur inconvenience due to the environmental noise for short periods of time.

As the main provider of fertilizers for the Romanian agriculture, Azomures is constant in his commitments undertaken towards the entire community in terms of environmental protection, compliance with the norms and laws in effect and is, at the same time, and will continue to be so, a landmark of professionalism and an important actor both for the local and national economy.