PRESS RELEASE

WASTE: NEW TARIFF METHOD AND FIRST TRANSPARENCY RULES INTRODUCED

Besseghini: "A more efficient system, also to counteract the grey areas"

Milan, 31 October 2019 – Incentivize the improvement of waste collection, treatment and disposal services, standardise conditions throughout Italy and guarantee transparent information to users. These are the basic principles of the new **tariff method** for the **integrated waste management service**, launched today by the Italian Regulator (ARERA), which has also set **transparency obligations towards users**.

The new rules, defined following an extensive consultation process involving all the stakeholders, determine the TARI (*waste disposal*) fees to be applied to users in 2020-2021, the criteria for the costs recorded in the 2018-2019 two-year period and disclosure obligations.

A common, certain and shared framework of rules that is now available to managers, municipalities and other local authorities, allowing for the structured development of a sector that currently reports very diversified conditions within Italy, from both an industrial and local governance point of view. In the future, any changes to tariffs can only be justified if there are improvements to the quality of service or if additional services are provided for citizens, considering the social sustainability of the tariffs applied and the environmental sustainability of the industrial cycle, respecting the balances of local public finances.

Managers must activate all the tools necessary to ensure that **documents and information are made available and can be understood by users**, such as the Service Quality Charter or fee collection documents.

The new method - which provides tariff limits and four different templates that can be adopted by local authorities and managers in relation to service improvement objectives - regulates, in particular, the following phases: **street sweeping and cleaning, collection and transport, treatment and recovery, treatment and disposal of urban waste, tariff management and relations with users**. For these phases, the Tariff Method imposes **strict consistency between the cost and the quality of services** "allowing for a more efficient system - stated **Stefano Besseghini**, president of ARERA - to counteract the grey areas. Our aim is to have the same rules for all citizens, transparent financial flows and skills, not to mention a drastic reduction in payments evasion which - in addition to creating differences among consumers - takes away essential resources from the waste cycle. Waste is not an emergency affecting a single municipality or region, but rather it is a system that needs to be integrated and managed in a consistent way throughout Italy".