



**Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Date: 22.11.2019.

Belgrade
Serbia

**IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT IN A TRANSBOUNDARY CONTEXT PROTOCOL ON STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Ref. EIA/IC/S/6Bulgaria/Serbia/mining

The projects concern:

- 1. “Constriction of an Experimental “Pilot” Facility for Technology Testing of Flotation Processing of Copper, Lead and Zinc Ore on the Territory of Karamanica, Municipality of Bosilegrad”**
 - Bearing in mind that the deadline of two years for the operation of a Pilot Facility of the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure carried out, has expired, the Environmental Inspectorate Republic of Serbia should prohibit the operation of this facility and we are still waiting for the official document which prohibits activities in that facility.
- 2. Ore Exploitation and Mining from Mines “PODVIROVI and POPOVICA”**
 - This is an old mine. At that time when the exploitation began, the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure hadn't yet existed. The first EIA was carried out for the project of reconstruction of the mine Podvirovi-Karamanica to deposit the mineral reserves, opening of deep horizons and an underground exploitation with a maximum capacity of 90,000 tons of ore per year and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning approved this Study No. 353-02-1019 / 2008-02 dated 08.06.2009. The ESPOO procedure was not carried out as mentioned above.
- 3. Extending the production of zinc, lead and other metals from the Grot Mine**

- GROT Project is not classified as an ESPOO project, due to the fact that it does not impact transboundary territory (Bulgaria). Explanation why the GROT Project is not classified as an ESPOO project is due to the fact that the potential negative impacts of this mine do not gravitate to the Bulgarian side and a detailed explanation of these impacts was sent to the Bulgarian focal point.

- 4. Also, on October 10th, we have held the first meeting of the Joint Commission for Environmental Protection between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Serbia and we will continue our good cooperation in the field of environmental protection in accordance with proposal of a Biannual Programme 2020-2021 on the implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Environment and Water of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia on Cooperation in the Field of Environment Protection, signed on 22nd January 2019 in Dimitrovgrad, Republic of Serbia.

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Focal point for ESPOO Convention
of the Republic of Serbia

Cc: Mr. Roman Svedas
Chair of the Implementation Committee