

THE SEVENTH SESSION OF THE PUBLIC LIAISON COMMITTEE

The meeting began with the approval of the Minutes and reporting results from the previous meeting.

Representatives from Eastern Mining, presented the activities from the previous period along with a brief overview of future planned activities. Following the completion of the eighteen-month Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), this was reported and a Non-Technical Summary submitted in the form of a brochure. This brochure outlines a basic summary of information from the ESIA for the entire municipality of Vares.

The Public Liaison Committee members were given transparent and important information regarding Eastern Mining's activities. There was also an opportunity to ask questions and express their opinions on topics that they felt were pertinent to their own organisations and communities.



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT - ESIA

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) was completed after eighteen months of intensive work, monitoring and data collection. The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment assesses the current environmental and social conditions throughout the Project area. The ESIA identifies project activities which may result in an impact on the current state of the region, as well as defining methods for avoiding, mitigating and managing these impacts (in accordance with international practice and its standards) as well as the provisions and guidelines of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

Within 60 days of the publication of the study, meetings will be organized, to enable all stakeholders to become familiar with the basics of the study. They will also be given the opportunity to give their feedback on it.

All those interested can find the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study, and related documents and attachments, on the Eastern Mining website and in the Company's Information Centre.

CHILDREN'S PARK RENOVATION PROJECT IN VARES MAJDAN

In cooperation with Alterural and the Municipality of Vares, Eastern Mining participated in the renovation of the children's park in Vares Majdan. The company has, once again, demonstrated its social responsibility and is particularly proud of this project which has brought such joy to the children in Vares Majdan. In accordance with our capabilities, we have led by example and, illustrated to others, the importance of supporting local development and improving socio-economic opportunities.



INTERVIEW WITH JASMINKA ZUKIC – LIVING HISTORY PROJECT

First of all, I want to thank you for agreeing to speak for our Living history project. For the start, tell us more about yourself.

My name is Jasminka Zukic; I am a graduate in Geological Engineering as well as a qualified teacher in Mathematics and Physics. I studied Geology in Tuzla, and Mathematics and Physics in Mostar. I worked for Energoinvest for almost three years until it ceased operations when war broke out. After the war, I was a teacher in a local school.

What was your first job?

My first job was at Energoinvest. I was awarded a scholarship and, ten months after leaving college, I began work as a Geological Engineer.

How many people were employed in your sector?

There were five people in the geology sector - three engineers, one technician and the head of the department.

Can you remember how many people were employed at Energoinvest in total?

About 300

Did someone of your family or relatives work at Energoinvest?

Yes, my father. He worked as a professional driver and was also Head of Maintenance.

At the time you had worked in lead, zinc and barite mine, to what extent women were employed?

Women were employed by the Mine. For example, there were 4 women in the geology department, two in the geodetic department. The Laboratory employees were predominantly women as were the kitchen & cleaning staff.

What did you like the most about your job?

Everything was well organized and we had all the equipment needed to effectively carry out our roles. The geologists had to go to the site every day in order to supervise operations. Transport was always provided as well as all the geological material needed to fulfill our daily tasks.

When you look back at the life then and now in Vares municipality, can you make comparison?

In my opinion, there is no comparison - it was a particularly difficult time; accommodation was almost impossible to find as there were too many residents. There were plenty of companies operating in the region, and jobs aplenty, with regular salaries. Life was good and organized.

How did Vares look like at the peak of its power at the time when lead, zinc and barite mine was operating?

Today, Vareš is unrecognizable. There used to be a lot more residents and plenty of activities for young people in Vares. For example, I played basketball and was a member of a shooting club. Vares offered a variety of activities for all residents. The surrounding villages held all sorts of social events which residents could participate in and have fun. We enjoyed an excellent quality of life.

During the operation of the Mine and the Ironworks, was sufficient attention paid to environmental protection and compliance with the laws of the area at that time?

Laws were obeyed and attention was paid to the environment. If a problem arose, it was solved immediately.

Do you have any message for youth who are just starting to build their careers?

I would recommend them to learn, as much as possible, and to work hard. They will reap the rewards of honesty and hardwork. They should resist the temptation to seek work abroad, because, I believe, life is better at home and nothing is more important than family. If anyone can fix the situation, youth can!

