

## A joint project of Serbia and Republika Srpska, HPP "Buk Bijela" is awaiting approval from Sarajevo

More than a year ago, the environmental permit for HPP "Buk Bijela" was annulled after the District Court of Banja Luka passed a verdict accepting the lawsuit of "Aarhus Center BiH". A new five-year permit was issued in February this year, but environmental associations filed a complaint with the ESPOO Convention Secretariat against BiH for violating and evading the cross-border environmental impact assessment procedure for the HPP construction project.

The Prime Minister of the Republika Srpska, Radovan Višković, said that the agreement with the Republic of Serbia on the joint construction of the hydro power plant (HPP) "Buk Bijela" was sent to the Competition Council of Bosnia, without whose approval the realization cannot begin.

Last week, the CAPITAL portal announced that "the government is hiding what kind of agreement it has made with Serbia regarding HPP Buk Bijela", ie that they do not want to reveal the details of the memorandum signed with Serbia regarding hundreds of millions of marks worth of hydropower plants on the Drina, based on that investment, Serbia will have a share in "Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske" (ERS).

Answering the parliamentary question of Nebojša Vukanović, Višković said that the Government of RS did everything it needed to do.

"The Government of Serbia did everything, and the concept of construction remains, now the company" Gornja Drina ", which was created by merging the hydroelectric power plants" Buk Bijela "," Foča "and" Paunci ". There is a construction contract between "Elektroprivreda Republike Srpske" and "Elektroprivreda Srbije" in the ratio of 51:49. The procedures on both sides have been completed and the contract, which was signed between the two "Elektroproivreda", has been submitted for verification and approval to the Competition Council of Bosnia. "Since I can't influence those institutions to work quickly, we have to wait for their response, and when it comes, we can start the preparatory construction work," Višković pointed out.

Vukanović said that the construction of HPP "Buk Bijela" was announced in 2007, when the then Prime Minister Milorad Dodik said that 110 million euros from the Development Program would be invested in HPP "Buk Bijela".

"You have been saying the same thing for thirteen years, and in the exposition you promised to build HPP" Buk Bijela "in your mandate. "What have you done so far, what is the secret construction contract, until when do you think you are making false promises?" Vukanović asked.

Source: capital.ba



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