

## Rio Tinto claims that it is working in accordance with the regulations on the formation of a lithium mine in Serbia

The company Rio Tinto claims that the disputed land, which the locals claim has become construction in a non-transparent way, was not allocated, but only that the purpose was changed, from agricultural to construction, based on the Decree on the adoption of the spatial plan.

“The spatial plan for the special purpose area ‘Jadar’ was adopted in February 2020, which was preceded by an early public inspection lasting 15 days, and then a public inspection lasting 30 days. During the public inspection, two public presentations, one as part of a legal obligation, in Loznica, and the other additional one was held in Brezjak on the basis of a request sent by the company to the Ministry, because we learned from the local population that many of them are unable to come to Loznica. ” company response.

They also state that the date and location of the public inspection, as well as the presentations, were announced in the Informer newspaper (the advertisement was also submitted to our editorial office), and that the information was published on the website of the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure.

As they claim, then the citizens could submit their remarks and suggestions on the planning documentation. After that, a public session of the commission for plans was organized, and Rio Tinto, according to them, also organized “Open Door” days for the local population. Earlier this month, some villagers near Loznica and representatives of the Podrinje Anti-Corruption Forum announced at a press conference in Belgrade a complaint to the Administrative Court, as they believe the entire procedure was illegal and contrary to the Serbian Constitution. At that time, they also pointed out that the citizens were not told that a tailings pond was planned in addition to the mine.

Representatives of the global mining company, which plans to excavate and process the mineral jadarite in the vicinity of Loznica, say that the location in question has only recently been considered.

“The original location is part of the Spatial Plan, but for the needs of the mine in a way that is in line with the policy of safety and environmental protection on the one hand, and on the other hand cost-effective, we continued to research and find an even more favorable solution. considered 19 different sites within a 10-kilometer radius of the planned ore processing plant site. After a detailed analysis, we came up with a solution that we believe is best when it comes to waste disposal itself, all of which has resulted in us considering relocating the landfill. “, claim from Rio Tinto for N1.

Obtaining permits for this job is yet to come, according to the response from the company’s representative office in Serbia.

Source: [rs.n1info.com](http://rs.n1info.com)



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