

A lot of studies needed for the preparation of the project for construction of wind farm. Preparation of feasibility study for the construction of wind farm in Kostolac is ongoing and its completion is expected in October.

Electric Power Industry of Serbia is to face a series of new activities after that. Predrag Djordjevic, Senior Project Manager in the Key Investment Projects Department of EPS, says that these activities represent part of creation of technical conditions for wind farm construction.

Proving construction feasibility and preparing preliminary design is followed by preparation of tender documents for procurement of equipment and works. Serbia has important electricity generation from hydropower, but share of other types of renewable energy sources is very small.

Therefore, the use of renewable energy sources in future generation represents for EPS an important step forward in electricity generation.

The answer that Djordjevic gave to the question what has been done so far was that the location has been selected and wind turbines have been positioned.

A multiyear process of research works and detailed calculations is done on the site, based on which the most efficient configuration of the wind farm is being done.

Study "Monitoring of birds and bats on the site of construction of the wind farm Kostolac" has been prepared so far. The study represents collected and analysed results of one year's birds and bats monitoring finished in November 2015.

EPS accepted principle of preventive planning in the function of protection of birds and bats – explained Djordjevic.

This principle comprises an early identification of potential conflicts between construction and operation of the planned wind farm and preservation and survival of birds and bats and timely reaction.

The study has shown that all positions of wind generators defined by actual plan are completely suitable for construction and operation. The study has been done in accordance with the standards of the European Union.

The wind farm is foreseen to be located in eastern Serbia, in the area of Kostolac coal basin, around 90 km from Belgrade.

Potential locations for construction of the wind farm in Kostolac basin are abandoned mining facilities and external overburden landfills created at the occasion of opening of open cast mines "Cirikovac" and "Drmno", as well as spaces of closed open cast mines "Cirikovac" (2010) and "Klenovnik".

According to the previous feasibility study with preliminary design for construction of wind

farm in Kostolac, total potential surface area of the windfarm is around 50 km<sup>2</sup>. Partial surface areas of specific locations of the wind farm are significantly smaller. They vary within the range from 1.5 km<sup>2</sup> up to 10 km<sup>2</sup>.

Our interviewee says that the results of the previous feasibility study have shown that it is possible to build wind farm of 20 turbines of total installed capacity of 50 – 60 MW in this area. The lifetime of the wind farm is projected to 20 to 25 years, and characteristics of the terrain reflect very favourable selection of location.

The land, which is property of the Republic of Serbia is administrated by EPS, i.e. it is administrated by its branch “TPP-OCM Kostolac”, and thus there is no property issue.

**Funding** Due to the importance of wind farm construction related to utilization of renewables for electricity generation, the project is included in the list of projects that are being developed within the negotiations on development cooperation between the governments of Serbia and Germany held in the period 2011 – 2015. There is a lot of work until the final determination of the manner of financing, emphasizes Djordjevic.

Source; EPS Energija