

Serbian state-owned energy utility EPS will invest 140 million euro (\$150.6 million) in its Kolubara mining basin in 2016, local media reported on Tuesday.

EPS will direct the funds towards the maintenance of the mining basin and its yearly overhaul, news agency Beta reported quoting Serbia's energy minister Aleksandar Antic. Antic noted that Kolubara has over the past three days supplied some 70,000 t of coal to power generating complex TENT, adding that it will return to its maximum production of 90,000 t per day once weather conditions stabilize.

In December, Kolubara said it had extracted 28.2 million t of coal since the beginning of the year, meeting its 2015 coal production target four days ahead of schedule.

The Kolubara mining basin suffered the biggest damage among all EPS units during the May floods in 2014, when its open pit mines were inundated, disrupting production for several months.

Kolubara, based in Lazarevac, in central Serbia, produces around 30 million t of coal annually. It supplies the country's biggest power generating complex, TENT.

source: Seenews