



02 July 2015 – “Sardich” MC Received Official Compliance of EIA Project for the “Kazandol” Mining Complex for Cathode Copper Production

In accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Macedonia¹ and the international standards for implementation of the project “Kazandol” Mining complex for cathode copper production, “Sardich MC” has submitted information to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning on intention of environmental impacts assessment in November 2014. The assessment reviews all possible environmental risks in the short-term and the long-term perspective, considers the project activities from the point of view of a person and the state, suggests safer and more productive options of implementation, therefore the reason for Project EIA being the foundation for any new object designs.

After obtaining the approval from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning and in cooperation with “Empiria EMS”², “Sardich MC” has developed the Project EIA, delivered for review to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning on 27 January 2015. The project assess all possible environmental impacts in the construction and in the exploitation phase, treating aspects of ground and surface waters, environmental air, soil, waste production, noise, vibrations, biodiversity, landscape issues, as well as socio-economic impacts, influence on agriculture and cultural heritage in detail.

Abiding the Article 91 from the Law on Environmental Protection, public hearing took place in the Valandovo municipality House of Culture on 30 March 2015 with participation of representatives of “Sardich MC”, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning, local administration, social and ecological organizations and other stakeholders. After the presentation of the project by “Empiria EMS” environmental expert Marjan Mihajlov, the floor was opened for questions where the questions on technology were asked and concerns on possible impacts were stated. Project EIA developers answered and commented the inquiries, underlining the following advantages of the selected technology: lack of pollutant emissions in the air, ground and surface water, low level of noise from mining works, lack of dangerous waste from mining works and possibility of its processing, minimized impact on nature and biodiversity, lack of significant impact on landscape and others.

After the conclusion of the public hearing, special Committee from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning reviewed the Project EIA developed by “Sardich MC” and confirmed the Project EIA compliance with all the requirements for similar projects. Based on the aforementioned Committee report the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Spatial Planning issued an official Decision on Project EIA compliance³ on 02 July 2015.

¹ Decision on definition of projects and criteria for necessity of performing the assessment of the environmental impact (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia, 74/2005).

² “Empiria EMS”, Macedonian certified company, expert for Macedonian and European legal norms, standards and BATs in regard of environmental protection. The company developed numerous projects, strategic documents, EIA projects and spatial planning projects.

³ Decision on agreement on execution of project for the “Kazandol” Mining complex for cathode copper production, Valandovo municipality, number 11-866/19 from 02/07/2015