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## SECTION 9

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## 9.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### 9.1 Background

A number of internationally funded environmental studies have been carried out in Eastern Europe focusing on the Environmental Hotspots within the Danube River Basin. The RTB Bor operations within the Bor area represents one of these hotspots and this is documented in TSD # 1.

In response to the environmental issues a number of technical studies have been carried out and input has been received from communities such as Bor. This has resulted in the development of Local Environmental Action Plans (LEAPs) that have identified various means of addressing the environmental problems, and a prioritization of tasks that need to be implemented. TSD # 2 presents the Local Environmental Action Plan for the Municipality of Bor in 2003. This document clearly served to:

- defines the problems,
- document public opinion with respect to solving the environmental problems threatening the Bor Region;
- present a vision for the future;
- a strategy for improvements in air quality, water resources, waste management, soil quality, and food quality improvements for adversely affected agricultural areas.

In 2006, the World Bank funded an Environmental Assessment of the RTB Bor Operations in support of the proposed privatization initiatives. TSD # 3 includes extracts from the 2006 EIA that focus upon the public consultation process followed at that time.

Although the privatization of RTB Bor did not proceed as planned the general strategy for dealing with the environmental problems remained. Initiatives associated with the Bor Regional Development Project are advancing and there is significant cooperation from all stakeholders that include:

- IFC/World Bank;
- The UNDP – Danube Regional Project;
- Export Development Canada;
- Government of Serbia;

- RTB Bor and its associated companies;
- The Municipality of Bor;
- The University of Belgrade – Technical Faculty in Bor
- NGOs such as – the Young Researchers of Bor; and
- Community members of Bor and the surrounding villages.

In reviewing the extensive documentation that has been assembled for the Bor area over the last 10 years, it is apparent that there is a clear awareness of the environmental problems among the various stakeholders. The communities have been fully engaged in the process, and there is considerable technical expertise within Bor and the surrounding area that can help address the issues. TSD # 13 provides a summary of various community engagement activities that have occurred from 2006 to the present. It includes examples of articles in the RTB Bor company newspaper the “Kolektiv” that address the recent progress in advancing the development of the new smelter and acid plant. It also includes other information that show how the community has been actively involved in other various activities. For example, it identifies:

- Information on Projects from the Association of Young Researchers of Bor – including:
  - Participation of local communities in the management of mine water control;
  - Enhancing Access to Information and Public Participation in Environmental Decision Making;
  - Danube Regional Project Component 3.4 - Pilot Project, Improving Access to Information and Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making Danube Regional Project;
  - B – O – R (Better Obtained Rivers) and B – O – R (Bolje održive reke), important information websites;
- Involvement of local Bor businesses in promoting technologies to address pollution of mines water in the Danube basin, based on the experience and lessoned learned in the Bor area; and
- Involvement of the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Technology in demonstrating tailings revegetation plots.

## 9.2 Community Consultation Specific to the New Smelter and Acid Plant

### 9.2.1 Public Consultation Meeting

A public meeting was held on May 4, 2010 to present the development concept for the Project. The presentation was prepared by Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade and presented at the meeting was held in Bor Municipal Assembly on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2010, with the beginning at 10:00am. A list of participants was filed indicating the name of individuals attending, the name of the organization or stakeholder group they represented (if appropriate), and their contact reference (address/telephone number). This information was retained for RTB Bor's records.

There were 61 registered participants at the meeting, representing various stakeholders:

- **State institutions:**
  - Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning,
  - Public Enterprise Srbijavode.
- **Local Government:**
  - President of the Municipal Council (Mayor)
  - Local Office of the Municipal Environmental Protection Administration,
- **Local utility companies:**
  - PUC "3 October ",
  - PUC "Heating"
  - Tourist Organization,
  - "Business Incubator"
- **Scientific - Professional Institutions:**
  - Institute of Mining and Metallurgy
- **Educational Institutions:**
  - Kindergarten "Bambi"
  - Technical School,
- **Health care institutions:**

- Department of Public Health "Timok – Zajecar"
- **NGOs:**
  - Association of young researchers,
  - "Citizens Association" Black Peak"
  - "Ekoagenda 7 / 35"
  - Association for the development of the city,
- **Unions:**
  - Independent Trade Union of Municipal,
  - Independent Union of RTB,
  - Trade Union Smelter,
  - Union "Independence"
- **Business sector:**
  - RTB Bor,
  - Copper Mines Bor,
  - Smelting and refining of copper,
  - Smelter,
  - Sulfuric acid plant,
  - Electrolysis,
  - Power Plant,
  - Logistic,
- **Project Management Office for World Bank**
- **Media:**
  - Television Bor,
  - Television, "Sezam"

- Paper "Kolektiv"
- Media Center.

Dr. Zika Golubovic, President of the Provisional Municipal Council opened the Public Consultation by welcoming all present stakeholders. He introduced the audience that the main aim of the presentation was to present EIA (or ESIA) for proposed project for Bor smelter modernization/reconstruction as the tools to improve the current state within the Municipality and introduced Mr. Milijic (RTB Bor, Assistant General Manager – Quality and Ecology) and Dr. Kamberovic (TMF- Belgrade).

Mr. Milijic welcomed all the present stakeholders

Dr. Kamberovic then shortly presented EIA (ESIA-Version 1). He first thanked all the attendees for taking part in public consultation. Copies of the overheads used in the presentation are presented in TSD # 13.

After the presentation Dr. Golubovic opened the discussion by asking the audience to comment.



### **Summary of Input Received**

First comment gave Mr. Trujkic from Independent Trade Union, supporting the proposed project and emphasizing that human health does not have a price. He also mentioned that proposed project will open new employment position, but also current workers will hold their positions. Improvement of occupational conditions was one of the important aspects this project addressed and it was welcomed.

Second comment came from representative of Bor Tourist Organization, Mr. Stankovic. He said that he is not familiar with the technological improvements this project will bring, but thinks that improvement in environmental conditions will enable Bor region to develop tourism and reveal its natural resources. Additionally this will allow development of new small businesses in tourist sector together with additional employment.

The third speaker was director of Kindergarten Bambi, Mrs. Zikic. She stated that current condition in children health is extremely bad, that most of the children are sick. She expressed hope that modernized smelter will create better environmental conditions which will affect improvement of health, both with children and Bor residents.

The fourth speaker, representative of NGO Ekoagenda Mr. Nikolic, expressed concern regarding solid waste, but otherwise strongly supported the Project. Prof. Kamberovic responded this question saying that solid waste management is component of EIA and will be fully elaborated within the Study. Mr. Nikolic was satisfied with the answer to his question. Also, Mr. Nikolic donated Prof. Kamberovic an Agenda developed by owners of destroyed and exposed to ecological difficulties properties (January, 2003) as an illustration of hystorical conditions.

Mr. Aleksic from the Independent Union of RTB, as a fifth speaker exhibited strong support for the proposed Project and improvement of environmental conditions, as well as in occupational health. He also stated that water is special problem in Bor expressing hope that project is not “drop of clean water in a dirty pool”. Prof. Kamberovic and RTB Bor representative assured Mr. Aleksic and all present people that solving water problems is one of the main issues in this project, and that all data will be transparent, so all the stakeholders could be familiar and point out inaccuracies during work of the modernized smelter.

Mrs. Glisic from Technical school as seventh and last speaker expressed agreement with proposed project and presented ESIA and stated her hope that new smelter will result in schooling of mining and metallurgical technicians, due to the fact that there aren't any in the moment.

The formal public consultation meeting finished at 12:00.

As a final conclusion of public presentation was that it received strong support from all attendees in executing proposed project, due the fact that it will revitalize the city and contribute better and healthier life in Bor.

Figure 9.2-1 provides a certified copy of the record of the May 4, 2010 public meeting.

Figure 9.2.1 Certified Copy of Official Record of May 4, 2010 Public Meeting

**Zapisnik**  
**sa javne prezentacije Studije uticaja na životnu sredinu za EDC banku projekta**  
**Modernizacija topionice bakra u Boru**

**Minutes from public consultations regarding the**  
**Environmental Impact Assessment Study for EDC bank for the purpose of**  
**Bor copper smelter reconstruction/modernization project**

Javna prezentacija Studije uticaja na životnu sredinu za EDC banku projekta Rekonstrukcija topionice bakra u Boru održana je prostorijama Skupštine opštine Bor 4. maja 2010. godine sa početkom u 10 časova.

Na javnu prezentaciju pozvani su svi predstavnici zainteresovanih nevladinih organizacija, mesnih zajednica, javnih komunalnih preduzeća, zdravstvenih institucija, srednjeg i visokog obrazovanja i dr. identifikovani u okviru same Studije uticaja (Poglavlje 7.).

Spisak prisutnih dat je u prilogu Zapisnika.

Izrađivači Studije (Tehnološko-metalurški fakultet, Univerziteta u Beogradu) su prezentovali u osnovnim crtama cilj projekta i njegov uticaj na poboljšanje životnih uslova i stanja životne sredine u Boru i regionu.

Prisutna javnost se saglasila sa prezentovanim Studijom i snažno podržala predstavljeni projekat, bez kog nema mogućnosti za život i održivi razvoja grada Bora i regiona.

Bor, 04. May 2010.



Public consultations regarding the ESIA for EDC bank for the purpose of Bor copper smelter reconstruction/modernization project, were held in the premises of the municipal assembly of Bor on May the 4<sup>th</sup> 2010, with the beginning at 10 a.m.

To public consultations were invited representatives of all non-governmental organizations, local communities, public utility companies, health institutions, secondary school and faculty, etc., identified within the very ESIA (Chapter 7.)

List of participants is attached to the Minutes.

The creators of the Study (Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade) presented the bases of the project target and its effects onto the improvement of living conditions and environmental situation in Bor and the region.

The present participants approved of the presented Study and strongly supported the presented project, without which there is no possibility for life and sustainable development of the town of Bor and the region.

Za SO Bor  
  


### 9.2.2 Other Means of Communication and Engagement

RTB Bor's newspaper, the "Kolektiv" provides a means of communicating information about the project to employees, and the general community and interested stakeholders. The Kolektiv is published regularly and provided to workers, and made available to the local community at community newsstands. It is also made available on the RTB Bor website.

Part 1 of TSD # 13 provides a brief summary of the articles published in the newspaper "Kolektiv" in regards to the new smelter. The articles address the new smelter and its effect on the ecology of Bor Area. These articles were published in the period from December 31, 2009 to July 15, 2010.

The Kolektiv will continue to serve as a means of keeping the workers, the community, and interested stakeholders informed about the progress of the construction and commissioning of the new smelter and acid plant.

Important milestone information on the project, such as the contract signing ceremony held in June will also be posted on the RTB Bor website. Some of the information on the website is also provided in English as a means of making the broader 'international' community aware of the improvements and progress being made at RTB Bor.

The local media (e.g. Television Bor and Television, "Sezam" , and local radio) are also actively involved in communicating news to the community and surrounding area.

RTB Bor and other local businesses also want to actively demonstrate their progress in addressing the environmental issues and in reducing both air and water pollution to the local community, and in the broader national and international setting.