Geo-Environmental Evaluation of Open Pits From Coal Mining, Combustion and Remains of Ash in Bardh and Mirash Open Pit Mines

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Abstract: Electricity production is a key of the economical development of one country. Human behaviour to environment is necessary according to legal regulation, conventions and directives of EU. Environment in KEK (Kosovo Energy Corporation) area is affected by pollution, as from the past of wild coal mining for electricity production and also from the actual activities. The areas evaluated as “hot spots”, in this work are: underground works from existing mines (Bardh and Mirash), existing ash dumps of Thermal Power Plants (TPP) “Kosovo A and B” and also some evaluations of volatile harmful elements released by coal combustion in mines and energy production in TPP Kosovo A. Attacked Environmental mediums are earth, water (surface and underground water) and air. The rehabilitation of underground works of the existing mines and existing ash dumps, and also placing of filters in chimneys of TPP Kosovo A, until the construction of the other TPP would be priority for environment. Rehabilitation must include: ash storage in existing mine holes, use of technological water for creation of ash pump ash water and their transport, non-creation of new ash hills (dumps), prevention of air pollution, replacement of lands in primary function and landscape adjustment. Positive example for environment in KEK to distinguish until now is the started project: “Return of ash in TPP Kosova B in Mirash open pit mines”. The objectives to be achieved with execution of these priorities of environmental rehabilitation (open pits of existing mines and existing ash dumps) are the immediate closure of TPP Kosovo A and building of a new TPP that will operate according to EU norms and standards.

Key words: Kosovo (CE Europe), Geo-environment, environment, pollution, mine, dump, energy.

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