

**CASE STUDY: OPERATION OF PLJEVLJA THERMAL
POWER PLANT AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE
DEROGATION ON THE BASIS OF THE DIRECTIVE ON
LARGE CUMBUSTION PLANTS**

UPES, Conference 2021

Overview

- Government of Montenegro decisions ratified by the Parliament to abandon project for 2nd unit to lignite power plant Pljevlja and to choose “Opt-Out” option for actual TPP Pljevlja confirmed by the formal decision of the Ministerial Council of the Energy Community
- Integral permit for operation of TE „Pljevlja“ No: UPI-101/2-02-2231/28 issued by the Agency for Environmental Protection at 22.03.2018 stipulates operation during derogation period of 20000 hours till 2023.
- Regardless different warnings from the Energy Community Secretariat, TPP Pljevlja continue operation from expiration of 20000 hours derogation in November 2020 till today.
- Montenegro Government informed Energy Community Secretariat about expiration of 20000 hours derogation in November 2020 at the beginning of 2021.
- Secretariat opens Case ECS 15/21

Case ECS 15/21

- The subject matter of this case is the non-compliance with the rules of the Large Combustion Plants Directive on limited lifetime derogation in Montenegro. The Secretariat preliminarily concluded that TPP Pljevlja, the only large combustion plant operating in the Contracting Party has failed to respect the opt-out rules under Article 4(4) of the Large Combustion Plants Directive. Even though the plant has reached its limit of 20,000 operational hours by end of 2020, it neither complied with the stricter standards of the Industrial Emissions Directive, nor ceased its operations, as required by Energy Community law.
- Directive 2001/80/EC took effect in the Energy Community on 1 January 2018. The directive requires operators of large combustion plants to significantly reduce the emissions of the air pollutants listed above. Opt-out is a time-barred implementation alternative to comply with the provisions of the directive.
- <https://www.energy-community.org/legal/cases/2021/case1521MN.html>
- No indications about the breach of rules on competition and the state aid
- No formal complaints by other market participants about advantage granted to the EPCG
- No indications about violations of human rights by pollution from existing plant

Comparative review of retrofit options for TPP Pljevlja: hard to imagine how this plant could comply with BAT standards for new plants specially in terms of energy efficiency

Emissions	BAT-AELs (mg/Nm ³) according to integral permit for operation of TE „Pljevlja“ No: UPI-101/2-02-2231/28 od 22.03.2018, table 7.	BAT-AELs (mg/Nm ³) according to NDT (BAT) EU 2017/1442, Jul 2017, in line with Directive 2010/75/EU for new power plants that is plants after „opt-out“ derogation of 20000 hours	BAT-AELs (mg/Nm ³) according to NDT (BAT) EU 2017/1442, Jul 2017, in line with Directive 2010/75/EU for new power plants with operation limited to 1500 hours per year, average during 5 years	Actual emissions according to Environmental Impact Assessment for intended ecological reconstruction Elaborat No.: 115-09/19
SO ₂	≤ 130 mg/Nm ³	10–75mg/Nm ³	220 mg/Nm ³	>5000 mg/Nm ³
NO _x	≤ 85-150(175)*mg/Nm ³	65 – 85mg/Nm ³	340 mg/Nm ³	>600 mg/Nm ³
CO	≤ 100 mg/Nm ³	< 5–100mg/Nm ³	do 140 mg/Nm ³	<30 mg/Nm ³
Praškaste materije	≤ 10mg/Nm ³	2–5mg/Nm ³	2-12 mg/Nm ³ Godišnji prosek	11 mg/Nm ³
HCl	≤ 5mg/Nm ³	1–3mg/Nm ³	20 mg/Nm ³	?
HF	≤ 3mg/Nm ³	< 1–2mg/Nm ³	7 mg/Nm ³	?
Hg	≤ 7μg/Nm ³)	< 1–4μg/Nm ³)	1-7 mg/Nm ³	?
Net electrical efficiency	31,5* – 39,5%	36,5* – 40%	No limits	Cca 31%
Napomena: * ova niža efikasnost se primenjuje samo za objekte koji imaju otežano hlađenje usled geografskih okolnosti				

Open questions?

- Security of supply?
- Functioning of regional market and its ability to provide electricity supply to customers in Montenegro?
- Human rights and air pollution?
- Competition rules?
- State Aid?
- The rule of law?