

Bosnia and Herzegovina: EFT RiTE Stanari claims there's no air pollution

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EFT coalmine and thermal power plant (RiTE) Stanari announced that, regarding environmental standards, the company fulfills all obligations defined by current regulations and environmental permits issued by the competent authorities in the Republic of Srpska (RS).

The statement from the company notes that the plant has a continuous system for measuring the level of emissions and no values above the prescribed limits have been recorded since the start of operation. Authorized and accredited institutions have also monitored air quality in the vicinity of the plant and all measurements so far show that the air quality in the area is fully in accordance with the regulations of the Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the European Union.

Earlier this week, CEE Bankwatch announced that the results of an independent measurement of air quality in Stanari as of July this year show alarming hourly values of harmful dust particles in the air coming from close proximity to mines and thermal power plant.

Thermal power plant Stanari is owned by local subsidiary of UK-based EFT Investments. The plant is located near the Stanari coal mine, which is located approximately 70 kilometers east of Banja Luka in the RS. It is the first privately owned power plant in the Western Balkan region. Originally the project was planned and permitted to be 420 MW, using supercritical technology, but was later changed to 300 MW and lower efficiency subcritical technology. No updated EIA was carried out based on the new plans.