

Bosnia: Installation of wind turbines at Mesihovina wind farm started

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Date : September 4, 2017

The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) should get its first wind farm by the end of this year, since the works on the installation of wind turbines at the site of Mesihovina wind farm near Tomislavgrad have started.

According to the statement from power utility EP HZHB, which is the investor of the project, the construction of the foundations for wind turbines is currently ongoing, while the installation of the turbines should start within the next few days.

Last month, EP HZHB announced that Austrian Strabag has completed the construction of access roads and crane platforms and the installation of 22 wind turbines will follow. The contract for the construction of the wind farm Mesihovina was signed last year with Siemens, while the contract for the construction of 20/110kV transformer station Gornji Brsnik worth 4.3 million euros was awarded to the consortium of Croatian companies ABB and Elektrocentar Petek.

In early 2017, EP HZHB and USAID have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in order to speed up the construction of Mesihovina wind farm. The MoU will enable the identification of legislative, regulatory and administrative obstacles that the investor is facing in the process of obtaining all the necessary permits for the project. With its expertise, USAID will shorten and simplify the procedures and also encourage investment in energy sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The future wind farm Mesihovina will have 22 wind turbines and 44 MW output. It should be the first wind farm in Bosnia and Herzegovina, located near the town of Tomislavgrad. With expected average wind speed of 6 m/s, the wind farm should produce 115 GWh of electricity per year, which will increase EPHZHB's annual output by 10 %. The foundation stone for the wind farm Mesihovina was laid down in September 2010. The project will be funded by 72 million euros loan provided by KfW Bank (loan agreement signed in February 2010) and by 6 million euros provided by EP HZHB itself.

It is expected that wind farm Mesihovina will become operational by the end of 2017.