

Construction project of a combined heat and power (CHP) plant in Bulgaria's capital Sofia received five bids, said Bulgarian district heating provider Toplofikatsiya Sofia. The project is worth around 150 million euros.

The offers were placed by local company Mix-Construction, local subsidiary of Italian-based Arkad and three consortia: Italian Termomeccanica Ecologia, Comef and Bulgaria's Atomenergoremont; Chinese Tianying and Bulgarian companies GCR and KMC; Turkish BDK Aritma Teknolojileri, Ranteko Cevre Teknolojileri and Bulgaria's Geostroy.

In January, Toplofikatsiya Sofia launched a tender for awarding a contract for the construction of a combined heat and power plant. The company said that it plans to use EU financing under operational program Environment 2014-2020, as well as a loan from the European Investment Bank (EIB) to finance the construction of the power plant. The contract also envisages a two-year warranty period, as well as the provision of technical support and staff training within a three-year period. The new plant will use refuse derived fuel (RDF) as part of Sofia's waste management strategy. The RDF is produced at the Sadinata site, which was equipped with a Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant through an earlier EU-financed project. In late 2019, the European Commission has approved financial support, which the Bulgarian Government intends to provide for the project for the construction of combined heat and power plant in Sofia, which will run on municipal waste. Nearly 180,000 tons of unrecyclable waste will be used as fuel on an annual basis for the plant which will have thermal energy output of 55 MW and 19 MW of electricity output. The plant will deliver thermal energy to the Sofia-district heating network. According to initial plans, the plant should be completed by the end of 2023.