

After 14 years, how much was required to obtain various permits and land acquisition, and the cost of seven MEUR, all is ready to start building of the largest Dalmatian wind farm in Konavle, in which the entrepreneur Gerald W. Monkhouse, founder of the American energy giant "Cannon Power Group", plans to invest about 220MEUR.

That this biggest planned investment in Dubrovnik- Neretva County is step to the realization, confirmed the Project Manager Teodorinko Renci Pecotic.

The wind farm will be built on the border between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, precisely at the stretch behind Velji Do to Duba Konavoska and Stravca. With a total capacity of 120 MW, Konavosko plant will be more powerful than the existing Dubrovnik Hydro Power Plants in Plat.

- We obtained most of approval for a building permit. I expect that the site could be opened in August, when in Dubrovnik will arrive the founder of the American company that builds Konavosko plant - says Pecotic.

The work on the wind farm project began in 2000th, when they had the first meeting with the leadership of Konavle municipality. They worked on the concept design and agreed with landowners for years, and only in 2009th in the County spatial plan was confirmed that wind farms could be built in the Konavle Mountains.

They did not have much sympathy for their project during the former county prefect Mira Buconic in 2007th, says Pecotic. But, when the current county prefect Nikola Dobroslavic came, everything changed, so wind power plants, whose construction was predicted in the area of Konavle, also were confirmed in county physical plan. Work on the location permit immediately began, which practically represented most of the work, all approvals were obtained and the Environmental Impact Study was made.

Pecotic and his partner paid around seven MEUR for collection of documents and administration, which has lasted for 14 years. The amounts which they had to pay to the land owners where the wind farm would be located also had been included. In addition to administrative difficulties, the problem was that the people in Konavle reluctantly sold the land; no matter whether it was in the mountains of Konavle.

Source; Serbia Energy See Desk