

Serbian state-owned power utility EPS plans to build a solar power plant within the future thermal power plant Kolubara B and has launched a tender for location research and preparation of investment-technical documentation.

According to tender documentation, both the construction of a land-based facility and rooftop facility are currently being considered. The main objective of the preparation of the technical documentation is to define the conditions for the execution of the works and the preparation of the technical documentation for a solar power plant with the optimal installed capacity in the given location, as well as to ensure the necessary and sufficient amount of data based on which the tendering documentation that will secure an adequate choice of the equipment and the bidder for the construction of the facility can be prepared. The deadline for the submission of bids is 23 November.

Last year, EPS signed a preliminary agreement on cooperation with Chinese company PowerChina on the construction of coal-fired thermal power plant Kolubara B near Ub. The preliminary agreement was signed by Acting Director of EPS Milorad Grcic and Director of PowerChina Yang Bo. The construction of this energy facility was originally planned in 1990s and now EPS plans to complete the 350 MW project in cooperation with Chinese company.

The construction of a new unit will ensure Serbia's sustainable industrial development and will be built in line with the latest EU environmental standards. The new unit represents replacement capacity for ageing TPP Morava and TPP Kolubara A.

The construction of TPP Kolubara B, located in the town of Veliki Crljeni, started in the early 1990s, but shortly after was abandoned due to the break-up of Yugoslavia. In June 2011, EPS signed a preliminary agreement with Italian Edison to set up a joint venture for the construction of the plant and in 2012 the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) expressed interest in financing the project. However, in September 2013, the EBRD said it is no longer interested in financing the plant, due to its policy for limiting lending for coal-fired power plants construction projects and in 2014 the project was again abandoned.