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Mine water treatment for Bulgarian Ellatzite mine

The Bulgarian Geotechmin Group has commissioned EnviroChemie to build a mine water treatment plant for the Ellatzite mine.

Various EnviModul technology modules will be combined for the new mine water treatment. An Envochem® chemical treatment and an Envochem® heavy metal precipitation remove pollutants from multiple sources sustainably and efficiently. The sludge from a lamella clarifier will be transported to the sludge collection pit. The turbidity of the treated water will be measured and, depending on the value, discharged either to the existing wastewater treatment plant or directly to the river.

The new mine water treatment plant will have a design capacity of 720 m³/h. The first stage will have a capacity of 360 m³/h. According to the customer's requirements, the plant can be operated with varying hydraulic loads and its capacity can be easily expanded.

"We are starting the project to achieve higher environmental standards. This is part of the long-term strategy of the Geotechmin Group. As a socially responsible company, Ellatzite-Med has already invested in clean environmental projects and will continue to do so. We are focusing on water management," says Ellatzite Mining Complex Director Eng. Vasil Shiskov.

Alexander Grigorov, head of the company's environment and water department, explains that the new plant will provide highly efficient mechanical and chemical treatment of mine water. He adds that this is the third wastewater treatment plant at the mine and the second to be built using EnviroChemie technology.

"Together with the Ellatzite-Med teams, we carried out intensive studies and analyses to determine the best treatment process for the mine water," says Dr Maria Natcheva-Schwarz, Managing Director of EnviroChemie Bulgaria, explaining the development of the customised treatment process.

The new mine water treatment system is expected to go into operation in 2025.



Image: The Envirochem® system, chemical treatment and heavy metal precipitation, remove pollutants from multiple sources in a sustainable and efficient manner.

Presse-Contact

Jutta Quaiser, Head of Marketing & Communication, EnviroChemie GmbH,
In den Leppsteinswiesen 9, 64380 Rossdorf, Germany jutta.quaiser@envirochemie.com,
Tel. 0049 6154 699872 oder mobil 0049 171 3159166