

ROUSSE REGIONAL MUSEUM OF HISTORY

Outgoing No. 169/04.04.2014

TO
Mr. Alexander Chakmakov
CEO
Gravel and sand pits - Bulgaria EAD
Sofia City

Re: *Expert opinion of experts from the Regional Museum of History – Rousse on notification of investment proposal for Extraction of Sand and Gravel from Alluvial Deposits in the Bed of the Danube River, Mishka Section (from km 462.0 to km 459.4) in the area of Babovo Village, Slivo Pole Municipality, Rousse County by the company Gravel and sand pits – Bulgaria EAD, Sofia city*

Dear Mister Chakmakov,

Referring to the notification of investment proposal for Extraction of Sand and Gravel from Alluvial Deposits in the Bed of the Danube River, Mishka Section (from km 462.0 to km 459.4) in the area of Babovo Village, Slivo Pole Municipality, Rousse County and the request for expert opinion thereon I hereby enclose the opinions of Ventzeslav Petkov – Specialist from the Nature Department and Varbin Varbanov – Specialist from the Archeological Department at the Regional Museum of History – Rousse.

Enclosures: as described above

Sincerely yours,

/signed/

Director

Ass. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Nenov

SEALED BY THE REGIONAL MUSEUM OF HISTORY – ROUSSE.

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Outgoing No. 168/04.04.2014

EXPERT OPINION

by Ventzeslav Velikov Petkov – Curator from the Nature Department at the Regional Museum of History - Rousse

Re: *Investment proposal for Extraction of Sand and Gravel from Alluvial Deposits in the Bed of the Danube River, Mishka Section (from km 462.0 to km 459.4) in the area of Babovo Village, Slivo Pole Municipality, Rousse County*

The Danube River is one of the water basins with the richest variety of biological species in Europe. It is the second longest river on the continent. With its 817 thousand sq. m. of watershed area the Danube is one of the largest natural biotopes on the continent with a rich biocoenosis.

There is a mixed breeding colony on the Mishka Island at 459 km from the estuary of the Danube River. The species that breed there are: the great cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) – 150 nests, the grey heron (*Ardea cinerea*) – 40 nests, the black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) – 30 nests, the little egret (*Egretta garzetta*) – 20 nests and the common spoonbills (*Platalea leucorodia*) – 3 nests. The island is a part of the protected zone Complex Kalimok, code BG0002030. The common spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) and the black-crowned night heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) are two of the bird species that breed in the colony with the highest priority of preservation in the protected zone. In 2013 a second nestling colony was formed on a small nameless island to the north-west of Mishka Island comprising only of great cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo*).

The realization of the investment proposal will cause a permanent disturbance to the bird species breeding in close vicinity of the excavation areas due to the noise generated and the constant human presence. I believe that the impact on the bird species that are being preserved in the protected zone Complex Kalimok code BG0002030 will be significant, extensive and durable.

04.04.2014
Rousse

Prepared by:
/signed/
V. Petkov

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Outgoing No. 168/04.04.2014

EXPERT OPINION

by Varbin Dobrev Varbanov – Curator from the Archeological Department at the Regional Museum of History - Rousse

Re: *Investment proposal for Extraction of Sand and Gravel from Alluvial Deposits in the Bed of the Danube River, Mishka Section (from 462.0 to 459.4 km) in the area of Babovo Village, Slivo Pole Municipality, Rousse County*

Referring to the notification filed by Gravel and sand pits – Bulgaria EAD of investment proposal for Extraction of Sand and Gravel from Alluvial Deposits in the Bed of the Danube River, Mishka Section in the area of Babovo Village, Slivo Pole Municipality, Rousse County no definite conclusions can be drawn on the existence of archeological sites since the area is located on the bed of the Danube River.

04.04.2014
Rousse

Prepared by:
/signed/
V. Varbanov