



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development

Suma Chakrabarti
President

Mr Mark Fodor
CEE Bankwatch Network
Na Rozcesti 1434/6
190 00 Prague 9 – Liben
Czech Republic

by email: main@bankwatch.org

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Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter and bringing to my attention the views of CEE Bankwatch Network on the Mining Strategy consultation process.

First of all, I would like to thank your organisation and other civil society stakeholders for an active engagement in the development of the first EBRD Mining Strategy which aims to define the role the EBRD should play in supporting the development of the mining sector in our region of operations.

As I understand it, an extensive public consultation process in London and countries of operations spanning for over 3 years has brought to our attention diverse views of our stakeholders, including mining companies, governments, local communities, civil society organisations, industry associations and academia. This constructive dialogue has improved our understanding of the challenges surrounding the mining sector and best international practices of responsible mining.

As you know, in accordance with the Bank's Public Information Policy, all stakeholders' comments will be consolidated and addressed in a "Report on the Invitation to Comment", which will be an important part of the EBRD's Board of Directors' decision-making process on the final Mining Strategy later this year. The Report will be disclosed on our website alongside the newly approved Strategy. You can find out more information about the consultation process on EBRD blog *Actively Seeking Public Input: The EBRD's Draft Mining Strategy* at www.ebrdblog.com/wordpress/2012/07/.

With regard to the scope, the Mining Strategy does not cover carbon-related issues such as the impact of thermal coal combustion on climate change, its role in the energy mix and its contribution to energy security in certain parts of the Bank's region of operations. All carbon-related issues of thermal coal and oil and gas continue to be covered by the Energy Operations Policy and its subsequent updates. The Mining Strategy, however, covers other



aspects of thermal coal mining activities, such as environmental, health, safety and social issues. The Bank will start working on a revision of the 2006 Energy Operations Policy in the fourth quarter of 2012 which will include an extensive public consultation in 2013 with stakeholders including clients, industry associations and civil society organisations. Naturally, we encourage CEE Bankwatch to get actively involved in the forthcoming review.

Finally, I highly appreciate your views on the way we could improve our consultation practices on the Mining Strategy as well as on policies and strategies in general in order to strengthen further the Bank's transparency and accountability. I would strongly encourage you to put your recommendations forward during the revision of the Public Information Policy which will also take place in 2013.

Yours ever,

Juana Chatozaki