

ASBESTOS-CEMENT PIPES ARE BEING REPLACED BY PLASTIC PIPES IN MONTENEGRO

Despite the fact that asbestos is a cancerogenic substance and is banned in European Union, the material is used for water supply networks in Montenegro.

There are about 609 km of water pipelines made of asbestos in Montenegro.

«According to the data collected from the companies regulating water supply and disposal, the total length of asbestos pipes in Montenegro is about 609 km. Depending on the age of water supply systems, asbestos pipes make up to 70% of the total pipelines length, as it is in Ulcinj», says Sinisha Stankovic, representative from the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism.

Presently these types of pipes are being replaced by several municipalities but the dynamic of works depends on the local government budget. The average price for one meter of water supply pipeline ranges from 80 to 200 euros.

Stankovic also reminds that according to numerous researches asbestos is only harmful when inhaling. Moreover, there is no direct contact with water – the internal surface of the pipe have a cement-mortar lining and pipe damages do not create serious hazard requiring immediate response.

The representative of Institute of Public Health state that asbestos has harmful effect on respiratory system when inhaling cancerogenic asbestos particles. The research that proves or contests the harm caused by asbestos in water pipelines has not been carried out.

The matter of particular materials choice and their properties are subject to the utility legislation.



Asbestos pipes are gradually being replaced by plastic or other safer pipes in Podgorica. Over 150 km of water pipelines were installed within the last few years using modern materials and new technologies.

Source: openmonte.com

ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES FOR PRIVATE INVESTMENT INTO WATER SUPPLY AND DISPOSAL

On 26 June the changes in Governmental Regulation of Russian Federation, «State Regulation on tariffs in water supply and disposal» came into force. They were initiated by the Ministry of Construction and Housing and Utility of Russian Federation and Federal Tariffs Service.

The guarantor companies responsible for water supply have got the opportunity to include business profit into the tariff. From now on 5% of the profit is guaranteed by the government in case if the operator reaches performance target in the long term. At the same time, tariff growth rate will not change as the money redistributed within the present tariff.

Moreover, company savings gained as a result of its energy efficiency will remain in its disposal for a long period.

“These measures will help to attract additional resources into industry modernisation as they will make water supply and disposal more viable and therefore attractive to the investors”, says Andrei Chibis, Deputy Construction and Housing and Utility Minister of RF.

The changes are approved by D.A. Medvedev, Prime Minister of Russian Federation

Source: gosstroy.gov.ru