

ПАТ “Миронівський хлібопродукт”



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від 23 листопада 2017

Good afternoon.

We would like to express our gratitude to the Business & Human Rights Resource Center for the opportunity to represent the intentions and actions of the holding company Myronivsky Hliboproduct (MHP) in the villages of Ratsevo and Vitovo of Chigirinsky district of Cherkassy region.

Our company always adheres to the policy of openness and interaction with local communities, treats public opinion with attention and draws up an action plan taking into account the opinion of the inhabitants of the territories where expansion of the holding's capacities is planned.

Thus, the preliminary intentions of the SE «Peremoga Nova», the structural subdivision of the MHP group, were first presented to the inhabitants of the villages of Ratsevo and Vitovo on December 20, 2015, for the study of public opinion. At public hearings organized by Ratsevo village council at the request of the director of SE «Peremoga Nova» Victor Grinyuk, key information about the planned project was made public (poultry houses of the parent poultry population), the company representatives responded to issues raised by the inhabitants.

According to the results of the voting, the vast majority of residents who came to the meeting in both villages spoke in favor of supporting possible construction (Vitovo village- of the 174 people present, 170 were agreed, in Ratsevo village of the 448 present - 444 also supported the construction of the capacities of the SE «Peremoga Nova» on the territory of Ratsevo Village Council. This is evidenced by the two minutes of these meetings.

This gave the company the opportunity to proceed with the development of the preliminary Detailed Area Plan for the Ratsevo Village Council, including the Preliminary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the stage-by-stage informing of the inhabitants about the essence and consequences of the location of the company's facilities.

On November 5, 2016, in the newspaper «Chigirinsky Vesti», according to the legislation of Ukraine, an Statement of Intent was posted with a brief description of the environmental impact and indicating where exactly everyone can see a more detailed document and give their comments (according to the law, within 1 month). During this period one comment was received from the National Ecological Center of Ukraine (NECU), whose employee is Vladislav Martsinkevich. On these comments from NECU on January 16, 2016, a response was sent from SE «Peremoga Nova» that these comments will be taken into account during the development of detailed EIA.

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I would like to note that with the representatives of NECU and Bankwatch (and, in particular, with Vladlena Martsinkevich), there is also direct communication on all issues of interest - in 2017, 2 meetings were held, on which, among others, we discussed plans for the expansion of the MHP in Ratsevo and Vitovo villages and also further plans of the company (as evidenced by two minutes of meetings), the necessary documents were provided, verbal and written responses to inquiries were provided.

The representatives of NGO «Chigirinskaya Narodna Rada» (based in Chigirin and member of which is Nina Martynovskaya) repeatedly addressed notes to various state bodies and MHP. So, during the year 2016-2017, 5 explanatory letters were sent by the MHP in response to these appeals.

On February 22, 2017, a meeting took place in Kiev with Nina Martynovskaya, Bogdan Legenyak, Mikhail Pogorishny, where they were provided with explanations regarding the plans and actions of the MHP (as evidenced by the minutes of the meeting signed by both parties), and another official letter with detailed explanations.

During the 2016-2017 period, the numerous personal meetings of representatives of MHP and SE «Peremoga Nova» with inhabitants of villages Ratsevo and Vitovo were held, where the specifics of the company's actions were explained, the potential opportunities for the arrival of a large investor, the number of jobs in the event of project implementation, the increase of taxes and fees to the local budget, and social support for the local community. Also, the company ecologist provided answers to inhabitants' questions regarding the impact and consequences on the environment. Specialists in land relations gave explanations to inhabitants, who expressed a desire to provide their land shares to SE «Peremoga Nova» for construction on commercial terms, according to the current competitive evaluation.

For local residents, numerous excursions to SE «Peremoga Nova» were organized, so that everyone could see the acting analogical enterprise independently and to rely on their own opinion when making a decision. In view of the great interest of local communities, articles were published in local media and the stories were shown on local TV so that as many people as possible were informed about the specifics of the work of the enterprise.

On our part, it was repeatedly declared that the final decision of SE «Peremoga Nova» will be based on the opinion of local inhabitants according to the results of public hearings. The requirements of the company's participation in public communities hearings are not obligatory according to the legislation of Ukraine, however, in all of its projects, MHP implements the best world practices and necessarily takes

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into account any views expressed by inhabitants, conducts consultations and participates in public hearings, as a democratic, public and transparent way to find out the opinion local people.

The detailed plan of the territory, according to the legislation of Ukraine, must be approved by the relevant state bodies. After this, an Expansion Project is developed with a detailed EIA, where, in addition to general data, MHP also indicates impact on important aspects such as socio-economic impact, influence on the historical and cultural heritage, flora and fauna of the region, ways of monitoring and interaction with the masses at all stages, etc. This document, according to the legislation of Ukraine, must be made public and within 30 days all those who wish can submit their comments, which the company will not leave without attention. After finalizing, taking into account the received comments, EIA will be presented at public hearings and every inhabitant of the village will be able to speak out, vote for or against future construction.

The MHP always respects the legislation of Ukraine, the principles of open dialogue and interaction with all interested parties, does not allow manipulation or intimidation, always provides full information about its activities and responds to requests and appeals. Attempts to present MHP and SE «Peremoga Nova» as those who ignore public opinion, we regard as manipulative and provocative.

MHP is a public and open company, we are always ready to provide information that will interest you. We are glad for further cooperation!

Sincerely,

Alona Kuzmenko,

Director of Public Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility

PJSC Myronivsky Hliboproduct