

Our response to Vega Energy letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2019.

To whom it may concern,

"As we have said in our previous statement, the Wind Power Plant as owned by our company is one which is entirely legal and for which all permissions have been obtained under the laws of the Republic of Turkey. The lawsuit filed against the environmental impact report by the relevant people has been concluded in our favour by the local administrative courts and the Council of State of the Republic of Turkey. Efforts made by these locals who want to zone this area for construction, thus turning the area into a heap of concrete have ended up in disappointment once again. This is our last reply on the matter.

Best regards."

Vega Rüzgar Enerjisi Elektrik Üretim A.Ş.

Let us make this clear once for all.

ABK RES/Vega Energy gives false information regarding the judiciary and NEVER EVER has an EIA report for this project been conducted. Instead together with the license issued in 2008, it was given an "EIA not required" document. In those days, even with another project file presented! The lawsuit that the locals and landowners who cultivate and have lived in the valley for generations had to file was against the "EIA not required" decision. Not as ABK RES / Vega Energy now try to make it sound, as it were against an EIA report that doesn't exist and never did exist.

An EIA/ESIA report is required for a largescale energy plant being planned on 1st and 2nd degree National protected area, which on top of it includes valuable private properties and people's homes. For the ones who doesn't know the valley, with its setting, historical and cultural heritage and rich earth & fauna it's the Tuscany of Turkey!

This case has been exhausted and prolonged in court since 2014, where the supreme court of The Turkish Republic ruled in the favor of the locals twice. The company is continually ignoring the concerns of the locals as well as court verdicts and meanwhile they proceeded with their construction.

For the record, in the same valley - same environment, for another wind turbine project, the same case and at the same period, was finalized within only 2 years with the verdict EIA is required. Only that verdict is a clear precedent, but was ignored with malpractice.

The only difference was that this investor did not sign a Euro contract with a German turbine supplier & finance entities before having the project area in its legal possession. Nor did it under circumstances of great risk, when not having all permissions and legalities safe and sound start the construction.

This project owner did not gamble with its investment, the environment, the locals and the judiciary system. After the court ruling when it was decided that an EIA was required, they acted responsibly when deciding not to proceed with the project.

However, ABK RES / Vega Energy, with a 24 million Euro accompli fait project at stake, had chosen another strategy. Against all odds, the Administrative court ruled against the higher Supreme court twice and finally the verdict was manipulated and twisted with one page in the company's favor. Now the case has been accepted and is pending before the Constitutional Court of the Turkish Republic.

For this renewable project being marketed as "green & clean", one can just ask; why instead of making an EIA report did ABK RES / Vega Energy prefer to resist in court for years? The answer is that a proper EIA for this valley would never approve a largescale energy plant! Their only aim today, which also benefits their associates, is to prolong the court procedures until they all make break-even! To the cost of the locals, the environment, the justice and human rights. It's very clear that instead of mitigating the damages, their aim is nothing else than to mitigate their balance sheet.

It has been the company's strategy to threaten and slander the locals and launch irrelevant accusations with no grounds. There are no such wish or plans by the landowners to turn their beautiful and peaceful valley into a heap of concrete, as they by slandering now try to make it sounds like. But for the record, we are all devastated that this company has dumped 400 trucks of beton, minimum 3600m<sup>3</sup> and 420 tons of iron for the foundations of the turbines! This on 1st degree natural protected land. In order to have access to the valley conveniently a forest fire happened and instead of planting new trees, the roads for the wide German Nordex SE turbines transportation were constructed in the forest and on private property!

The ABK RES/Vega Energy's response, by even given false information regarding the judiciary, only shows once again how they conduct in business.

Your sincerely,  
Madeleine Staaf Kura and Esen Fatma Kabadayi Whiting  
Çeşme Sürdülenebilir Platformu (Cesme Platform for Sustainability)