

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**TERNA ENERGY: “Municipal Solid Waste Treatment Plant of Epirus Region” Project commences Commercial Operation**

Today, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the project “Municipal Solid Waste Treatment Plant of Epirus Region”, located in Elefthohori, Dodoni, which is one of the most modern waste management plants in Europe, commenced commercial operation. It is thus successfully completing the Region’s endeavor to exploit the appropriate financing tools and seize important development opportunities in order to implement, in the interests of the citizens of the Region, infrastructures which permanently exempt Epirus from the critical problem of waste management.

The project was implemented from Epirus Region and “Aeiforiki of Epirus”, subsidiary of TERNA ENERGY Group, with the vital contribution of the Public & Private Partnerships (PPP) Special Secretariat, and constitutes a model project, as it was completed within unprecedented licensing and construction timetable. It has also been already awarded as “the project of year 2018”.

With the commercial commencement of the Waste Processing Plant of Epirus, an important part of the Regional Waste Management Plan has been implemented in line with the National Waste Management Plan and the existing European legislations, ensuring on permanent basis the avoidance of any potential penalties both for the region and the Greek State.

The total amount of investment settled at EUR 52.6 million whereas the added value in relation to the project reached 70%.

The fundamental axis of the plan concerns the management of Conventional Wastes through the use of modern technologies aiming at an absolute environmental protection and according to a financially viable strategy so that the long-term implementation and operation of the project is fully ensured. The WPP of Epirus is the first unit in Greece producing biogas from municipal solid waste materials. This means that from the waste management procedure there will be also production of electric energy, which will be channeled into the country’s electrical grid. By this manner, the WPP of Epirus not only will put effort into the environmental protection and lower volumes of waste materials, but it will also strengthen the concept of green energy production making Epirus Region a “Green Region”.

The Waste Processing Plant will be processing 105 thousand tons of wastes on annual basis through the Sewage Treatment Plan (STP), will be recycling at least 17,000 tons of appropriate materials and

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will be producing green energy of 10,800 KWh per Green Energy year with the capacity to satisfy the needs of 3,000 families and generate savings of 12,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

During the construction period 200 employment positions were created. The project's plan provides for the creation of 90 more working positions during the 25-year operation of the project, and of a large number of parallel jobs (such as in the areas of transportation, trade, management of recycling materials, etc.).

Indicatively, some of the benefits arising from the operation of the Municipal Solid Waste Treatment Plant of Epirus Region are the following:

- Very low entrance duty (one of the lowest in Europe) granted to all citizens.
- Decrease of the footprint with regard to the waste management of Epirus Region.
- Creation of a total waste management system with the development of collection systems at source, thus contributing decisively to the fulfillment of the national targets for recycling.
- Maximization of recycling and composting.
- Promotion of the concept of green energy-based production.
- Greater environmental awareness on behalf of all citizens thanks to the establishment of a new ecological and environmental culture about waste management.

It is worth noting that the international experience as well as evidence regarding similar projects has shown that such waste management plants are being rejuvenated from parallel actions such as environmental education, visits from schools, universities and other entities or bodies.

**Information:**

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