

Monitoring of permitting activities and changes in the regulation of extractive industries

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The Ukrainian Geological Survey has <u>published</u> information on the issuance of 2 special permits for the extraction and development of:

A type of mineral	potable groundwater	mineral therapeutic groundwater (radon)
The name of the object	water intake of the municipal enterprise "Miskyi Vodokanal" in the city of Cherkasy	site "Kryvorizka Miska Likarnya No. 11" of the Kryvorizka deposit in the Dnipropetrovsk region
Basis	for drinking water supply - regardless of the amount of extraction	exclusively for medical purposes by medical and sanatorium-resort institutions

On March 14, repeated auctions were held for the sale of special permits for the use of subsoil for 5 lots, but one special permit received a price offer:

Nº	The name of the object	A type of mineral	Region	The initial price of the lot, UAH	Price offer, UAH
1.	<u>Shakhtodilyanka</u> <u>Krasnolymanska</u> (layer k5v)	the main one is hard coal and secondary ones are gas (methane) of coal deposits, germanium in hard coal	Donetsk	21,684,786	23,000,000

Also, The Ukrainian Geological Survey <u>announced</u> the holding of the fifth auction in 2024, for which 8 subsoil plots with deposits of tuff, granite, potable groundwater, quartz sand, sand, and peat are offered.

The total initial cost of the lots is UAH 9,306,639.

Auctions will be held on March 20 on the <u>Prozorro.Sales</u> platform in real time.

Regulatory initiatives

The Ukrainian Geological Survey has <u>published</u> for discussion the Draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Monitoring the Geological Environment".

The Draft Procedure was developed to implement the Law of Ukraine dated March 20, 2023 No. 2973-IX "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine Regarding the State System of Environmental Monitoring, Information on the State of the Environment (ecological information) and Information Support for Environmental Management" (further - Law), which, among other things, provides for the creation and functioning of the state environmental monitoring system. The law provides that monitoring of the geological environment is carried out by the Ukrainian Geological Survey.

The draft of the Order provides for:

determine the monitoring objects of the geological environment and its structure determine the principles and procedure for monitoring the geological environment introduce types of forms of geological environment monitoring results and their publication

The draft act defines the mechanism for organizing and implementing monitoring of the geological environment, which provides for the exchange of information between monitoring subjects in the process of its implementation and the provision of state authorities and local self-government bodies with information for making management decisions regarding the state of preservation of the geological environment.

The geological environment monitoring objects are:

- mineral raw material base;
- arrays of underground water;
- exogenous geological processes;
- endogenous geological processes;
- geochemical state of landscapes;
- geophysical fields.

The Ukrainian Geological Survey will monitor the geological environment in the following order:

- 1. Collection, analysis and preparation of initial (basic) data for the formation of background (basic) knowledge about the monitoring object;
- 2. Carrying out special studies, surveys, observations and surveys of the components of the geological environment;
- Processing of observation results, identification of negative factors, the impact of which requires control;
- 4. Ecological (geological) mapping of the territory of Ukraine to assess the state of the geological environment and its changes under the influence of economic activity;
- 5. Assessment, analysis and forecast, prevention of the influence of negative processes.

Possible results of geological environment monitoring are:

- primary data (observation data);
- generalized data relating to the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of monitoring objects in a certain period of time and/or within a certain territory;
- assessment of the state of the geological environment and determination of sources of negative impact on them;
- short-term and long-term forecasts of changes in the state of the geological environment;
- scientifically based recommendations necessary for making management decisions in the field of protection, preservation, reproduction and use of the geological environment.

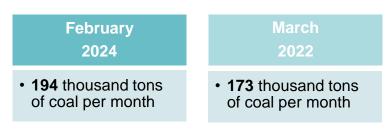
Comments and proposals for the draft act will be accepted until April 13, 2024, to the email address of the Ukrainian Geological Survey <u>office@geo.gov.ua</u> or to the address of the Geology Department of the Ukrainian Geological Survey, 03057, Kyiv, str. Anton Tsedik, 16.

Other news of the government, executive authorities, companies

The Committee on Energy and Housing and Communal Services held a round table on the topic: "The second year of the ban on the export of natural gas from Ukraine: consequences and prospects". Members of the Committee, representatives of the Office of the President, the Ministry of Energy, Energy Customs Service of the State Customs Service, the Association of Gas Production Companies of Ukraine, Ukrtransgaz, the Ukrainian Energy Exchange, as well as representatives of the Secretariat of the Energy Community, the embassies of Great Britain and the United States of America took part in the meeting. *All panelists agreed that the ban on the export of natural gas produced by private companies should be lifted.* The reason is that the sharp decrease in demand for natural gas in Ukraine due to the full-scale invasion does not allow private mining companies to find customers. Therefore, the lifting of the ban on gas exports will contribute to investments in gas production, integration with ENTSO-G and increasing the level of energy security of Ukraine.

In the electronic <u>cabinet</u> of the subsoil user, the service of submitting information to the Catalog of geological information has been <u>functioning</u> for a month. Subsoil users have already reported 56 units of primary geoinformation. The Catalog must also include information on the creation, acquisition, transfer of ownership of geological information or the granting of the right to use geological information by a subsoil user who is the owner or user of such information within ten working days from the date of its creation or change of ownership. Opening the possibility of entering information by business entities will speed up the filling of the Catalog. After the end of martial law, information will be available on the State Geological Portal.

Coal mining at state-owned coal mining enterprises:



The Third Administrative Court of Appeal <u>overturned</u> the order of The Ukrainian Geological Survey on the suspension of the special permit for the extraction of zircon-rutile-ilmenitebearing sands of the Malyshivske deposit (the Dnipropetrovsk region), granted by Motronivsk Mining and Processing Plant LLC. Motronivsk MPP is part of Dmytro Firtash's Group DF, which is subject to NSDC sanctions. The court stated that the suspension of the special permits was premature: the Service did not meet the 30-day period stipulated by the Code, only after which, according to the court, it had the legal right to suspend the permit.

According to Nadra.Info, with reference to the data of the State Tax Service in the Lviv region, in 2022-2024, the regional budgets received UAH 1,926,000 in rent payments for the use of subsoil for the extraction of hydrocarbons within the framework of the Agreement on the distribution of production (PSA) at the Ugnivsk site (investor – "Well Co" LLC). Of the 1,926,000 UAH of rent received by the region from PSA on Ugnivska, about 1,156,000 UAH went to the budgets of local territorial communities. In addition, it is reported that the rent for the use of subsoil for PSA in the Ugnivska section is set at the level of 1.25%.

With the <u>assistance</u> of the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine, UNDP in cooperation with JSC "Ukrgazvydobuvannya" and with the financial support of the Republic of Croatia conducted a survey of the territory of the de-occupied Kharkiv region for the presence of mines and other explosive objects. The study covered 17 square kilometers. From now on, it is possible to safely carry out 3D seismic exploration work for geological discoveries and increasing gas production in this area.