

Preparations for the implementation of the Miskolc project are steaming ahead

Significant progress has been achieved in the implementation of the geothermal project of Miskolc. In line with the schedule, the technical design of the energetic equipment of the production well and the pipeline system connecting the production well with the district heating system of the city has been commenced. At the design competition, the contract has been awarded to the highly experienced Pöryr Erőterv Zrt. (www.etv.hu).

The detailed routing of the lines is being consulted with the competent authorities and the representatives of the public utility service companies as required in the effective regulations. We have a strong focus on the protection of the national heritage, because in the surroundings of Miskolc there are several valuable archeological sites, and consultations are also in progress in relation to the necessary preliminary excavations in order to safeguard these locations.

The optimal connection points of the planned pipelines are being planned in close cooperation with Miskolci Hőszolgáltató Kft. In the course of the preparation of a new project phase, we are examining the option to develop heat transfer stations in the Avas area, because after the modernization of the heat exchangers the production wells can be potentially suitable for supplying the entire Avas district. In the light of the preliminary calculations, the modernization would bring about considerable savings in energy and finances.

Similarly, in line with the preliminary schedule preparations for the drilling of the reinjection well of Kistokaj are being made; after the terrain correction works, the drilling activities are expected to be launched in late May. Procedures for the obtainment of permissions for the entire system will be foreseeably started at the end of the summer with the involvement of the competent authorities and institutions. The first phase of the project involves the drilling of two reinjection wells in addition to the existing production well and the construction of a cc. 8-kilometer pipeline system to the housing estate of Avas.

Balázs Bokorovics, Chairman of PannErgy's Board of Directors has said:

"Both in the period of design and the execution of works, we will closely consider the protection and safeguarding of the environment and water reserves of Miskolc. In our activities, we continuously see what significance the general public attributes to the potentials inherent in geothermal energy, and on the other hand we face those strict requirements that the utilization, exploitation of our common treasure, the deep-lying thermal waters should not bring about any environmental impact. The world-class technology we use, that is the reinjection well system to be constructed will guarantee such secure operations, as in this respect we fully subordinate our work to the criteria of environmental safety."

György Vécsi, managing director of MIHŐ Kft. has added:

“In the future, heat supply to the city will strongly rely on geothermal energy.

In proper view of the interests of both parties, recent months have seen the successful renegotiation of our cooperation agreement, which by gradually increasing the volumes of heat received allows more favourable pricing for MIHŐ Kft., thereby maximizing the utilization of geothermal energy.

MIHŐ Kft. and PannErgy Plc’s close cooperation so far has forged steady foundations for further developments, more efficient and secure district heat supply in the interest of the city’s population and all the district heating consumers. With the completion of the geothermal system, now it seems to be feasible to exploit this environmentally friendly and renewable energy to an even larger extent than it was planned, up to 40–50 percent in district heat supply.”

In large city setting, it would be an unparalleled solution in Hungary, and probably in Europe, as well.

