



ECONOMY

Investors of the largest wind park "Novoazovskyi" are in the shadows

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Donetsk - On the coast of the Sea of Azov, the largest wind park in Ukraine "Novoazovskyi" was opened. The company plans to import 43 wind turbines that will produce energy that can partially meet the household needs of a city like nearby Mariupol. Despite huge tax benefits from the state, the authorities kept secret the names of Ukrainian investors who spent \$150 million on the wind park.

Wind park "Novoazovskyi" is currently the largest ecologically clean energy project in Ukraine.

"43 wind turbines will provide more energy per year than the four neighboring districts - Telmanovsky, Novoazovsky, Pershotravnevy and Volodarsky. And almost half for such a huge consumer as Mariupol", - says the head of the Donetsk regional state administration, **Anatoliy Blizniuk** .

State preferences and "green" tariff

However, this project is not profitable for the state, says **Serhiy Titenko**, head of the Commission for Regulation of the Electricity Industry of Ukraine . The park buys 43 modern wind turbines from the German company "Furlender" for more than 70 million dollars. They are exempt from duty and VAT. In addition, the state has undertaken to purchase the energy of the wind farm at a special green tariff - 11.7 euro cents per kilowatt-hour, which is twice as expensive as the price of thermal electricity. In cooperation with the German company Furlender, headed by scientist **Joachim Furlender** , the investors also plan to organize the production of wind turbines in Ukraine on the basis of the Energomashpetsstal factory in Kramator. Despite significant state benefits, officials keep the names of investors from the Ukrainian side a secret.

"The Novoazovsk wind park has both foreign and Ukrainian investors, about whom I cannot speak now. The technical investor is the company "Furlander". **Not a single penny from the state budget, that is, all 100% of the funds are private,"** says Maksym Yefimov, chairman of the board of the Energomashspecial plant .

In the wind energy project, the share of only the German side is currently known - "no more than half". When asked by Radio Liberty to assess the level of corruption in Ukraine, the director of the German firm, Joachim Furlander, answered: "I started my speech with trust. And this trust did not disappoint me. I don't know how else to work in Ukraine. There are two of us, and we have a very serious business. For me, three more words are important: honesty, be honest and again honesty."

Blyznyuk's son "lighted up" in both enterprises.

Novoazovskyi Wind Park is part of the investment project "Wind Parks of Ukraine", which is a subsidiary of "Trading House of Ukrainian Machine-Building Plants" LLC. According to Interfax, among the shareholders of this company was previously the son of the head of the Donetsk region, Serhiy Bliznyuk.

Until the end of last year, the son of Anatoly Bliznyuk headed the supervisory board of the Energomashpetsstal plant, which plans to produce German wind turbines. The plant was controlled by a Cypriot firm that sold its stake to Russian partners shortly after the state provided the plant with free support of 172 million hryvnias.