

April 29, 2019

Dear colleagues,

one of Europe's last wild rivers needs your help:

The Vjosa River and her tributaries in Albania are at risk of being dammed by more than 40 hydropower plants (HPPs).

Currently, the major threat is HPP Kalviaç, which is planned within the ecologically most valuable river stretch. The concessionary company (the joint venture "AYEN-ALB", a consortium of Albanian company "Fusha sh.p.k" and the Turkish AYEN ENERJI") is pushing to conduct the **entire EIA procedure within the next three months** – a ridiculously short timespan for a project of such size (dam height: 43 meters; reservoir area: 16 km²; installed capacity: 111 MW).

In the frame of our campaign "[Save the Blue Heart of Europe](#)", we as EuroNatur, Riverwatch and EcoAlbania have been fighting for Vjosa's protection for the last six years in order to prevent the worst.

Now, we need your support by signing the attached appeal letter to Albania's Prime Minister, Edi Rama, to immediately suspend all hydropower developments in the Vjosa catchment until a Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment has been elaborated.

To sign, please forward the full name of your NGO, the full name of the head of your organization, incl. his/her correct position (e.g. CEO, Director, ...), and the country (where your NGO is based) to Besjana Guri, b.guri@ecoalbania.org, by May 8, 2019.

Thank you for your support!



Ulrich Eichelmann
CEO Riverwatch



Gabriel Schwaderer
CEO EuroNatur



Olsi Nika
CEO EcoAlbania


FOUNDATION