

EXTENDED DOCUMENTARY INVESTIGATION BY NATALIA ZUBKOVA

GURSH LIQUIDATED ON PAPER

How the State Programme Closed Mines in Kuzbass — and
What Was Left to the People

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FROM THE AUTHOR

Natalia Zubkova

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I spent many years watching coal change the cities of Kuzbass. Gradually, I began to feel that their residents had fallen into a kind of coal trap.

Mines were closing. The state was financing their liquidation. Programmes run by the State Institution for the Reorganisation and Closure of Unprofitable Mines and Open-Pit Mines (GURSH) were operating, people were being resettled from unsafe housing, and money was being paid. But moving in itself did not mean escaping the coal geography.

I know this not only as a journalist. There were three children in my family. We lived in Kiselevsk, and our flat was worth so little that selling it would not have enabled us simply to leave and begin a new life in another large city. What could we have bought with that money, and where could we have bought it? In Novosibirsk, we would not even have had enough for a two-by-two-metre shack.

Over the years, I saw a similar problem among other people. Even when a state programme gave someone money for resettlement, the central question remained: where could they resettle for that amount? In an inexpensive coal-producing area, the value of housing itself became part of the trap. A person could leave one unsafe house yet remain within the same industrial geography — figuratively speaking, be resettled to the other edge of the open-pit mine.

But during this investigation, I became interested in another side of this system as well.

I began examining the mechanism by which land and housing could be compulsorily acquired for the needs of the Russian Federation in connection with subsoil use, even though the direct economic participant was a commercial coal company. The state made the acquisition decision, while the subsoil user gained the ability to continue operations on the land. This arrangement made a strong impression on me.

It strongly resembled a well-established and legally sanctioned mechanism in which the interest in coal extraction could come into direct conflict with a person's right to their own home. And, more broadly, with their right to live in an environment that is not destroyed around them as mining advances.

The documents proved especially important here. In one of the court cases examined, the initial offers for three plots increased after the court-appointed expert appraisal by approximately 52, 113 and 283 per cent. With respect to a specific offer, the court used the phrase “manifestly unfair terms of property compensation.” This does not prove that it always happened this way. But it shows why the mechanism itself deserves much closer scrutiny.

This investigation, then, is not only about whether GURSH closed mines properly and where state money went.

It is about a simpler question: at the end of this entire system, what did the individual receive?

A genuine opportunity to escape the coal trap — or merely a new place within it?

Contents

Resettled to the Other Edge of the Open-Pit Mine

1. RUB 99.5534 Million: Submitted, Accepted, Paid	5	11. Why Don't They Just Leave?	30
2. What "Liquidated" Means	8	12. A Payment Is Not the Price of a Lost Place	31
3. How People Came to Live Inside the Coal Geography	9	13. Resettled a Second Time	32
4. The Scale of GURSH: 203 Enterprises and a Legacy Lasting Decades	12	14. Zenkovskaya: A Project Through 2030	33
5. Mine Dewatering After the Last Shift	14	15. Old Damage and New Mining	36
6. Baidaevskaya and Shushtalepskaya: Completion Followed by Further Work	14	16. How Land Was Made Available to Private Coal Mining Through a State Need	37
7. Kiselevskaya: Closure Beside New Mining	15	17. Khakassia: The Initial Price and the Court Valuation	41
8. Fire After the Closure Date	18	18. Kazas: Another Resettlement Mechanism	42
9. Malinnaya and Parnikovaya: A Recurring Problem of Place	23	19. Moiseenkov: A Criminal Judgment Does Not Replace Investigation of a Site	43
10. The House Is Unsafe, the Person Is Ineligible: How Resettlement Works	29	20. What, in the End, Was Liquidated?	43

D01–D12 identify document inserts; V01–V16 identify the investigation's main visual sequence.

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Three Evidentiary Layers

Paper Reality

What state bodies, GURSH, companies and courts recorded in documents.

Observed Reality

What can be seen on the ground, in a photograph or video frame, or what Natalia observed directly.

Information Gap

What cannot be established from the available public material and the body of material assembled for this investigation.

1. RUB 99.5534 Million: Submitted, Accepted, Paid

In the autumn of 2023, the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation accepted work at three coal-mine closure sites in Kuzbass. State contract no. 0173100008323000046/K/12/P, dated 4 September 2023, was worth RUB 304.5762 million. The contractor was OOO ShakhtaStroi, a Russian limited-liability company. Under the technical specifications, the company was to extinguish burning areas at the waste-rock dump of the Shushtalepskaya mine and make the remaining mine workings and structures of the Baidaevskaya and Dimitrova mines safe.¹

The contractor submitted KS-2 work acceptance certificates and KS-3 cost certificates dated 4 October, 3 November and 4 December 2023. They listed work at the industrial site of the Dimitrova mine and preparatory work at the Shushtalepskaya waste-rock dump. The total value of the documents was **RUB 99,553,400**.

This amount passed through several stages of documentary control. The documents were signed by the contractor, checked by construction-control company OOO RUSENERGO, approved by representatives of the Ministry of Energy, and monitored by employees of the Federal State Budgetary Institution GURSH (FGBU GURSH). The federal budget then paid the amount submitted.¹

The Ministry of Energy subsequently carried out an audit. Its result was included in material from an audit review by the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation: the contractor had not performed the work submitted for payment and paid for, while the documented items concerned work that was not in the contract's technical schedule. This is not an inference by the authors of the investigation, nor a conclusion drawn from the appearance of the land. It is the result of a subsequent state audit, set out by the state audit body.

D01 — PAPER REALITY

The contract, the certificates, the payment — and the subsequent audit

RUB 304.5762 million

— contract price →

RUB 99.5534 million

— certificates and payment →

work not performed

— finding of the subsequent audit.

“The work specified in the documents incorporated into the certificates and statements was not performed by OOO ShakhtaStroi.”

Source: appendix by the Accounts Chamber to the audit material, paragraphs p_11395–p_11397; state contract no. 0173100008323000046/K/12/P of 4 September 2023.

After the audit, the Ministry of Energy sent the contractor three claims totalling RUB 105.129 million:

Date and claim number	Basis	Amount
22 July 2024, no. SM-11780/12	cost of work submitted and paid for	RUB 99,553,400
12 November 2024, no. EG-18869/12	separate claim under the contract	RUB 2,246,100
6 December 2024, no. EG-20655/12	contractual penalty	RUB 3,329,600
Total		RUB 105,129,000

The contractor transferred RUB 2.2461 million. At the time of the audit, RUB 102.8829 million remained outstanding. On 19 March 2025 — while the audit was still under way — the Ministry of Energy filed a claim with the Moscow Commercial Court seeking RUB 99.5534 million in unjust enrichment and RUB 3.3296 million in penalties.¹

D02 — PAPER REALITY

What followed the audit

RUB 105.129 million

— three claims by the Ministry of Energy.

RUB 2.2461 million

— transferred by the contractor.

RUB 102.8829 million

— remained outstanding.

19 March 2025

— claim filed with the Moscow Commercial Court.

Source: the same Accounts Chamber audit material, paragraphs p_11375–p_11376. The outcome of the relevant court claim is absent from the body of material assembled.

The final outcome of this court claim is not in the body of material examined. The investigation therefore does not claim that the entire amount named has already been recovered or repaid. But the central chain is fully established: **the contractor submitted it — control approved it — the state paid it — a subsequent state audit found that the work had not been performed.**

The Accounts Chamber did not deliver a criminal judgment concerning this contract. Nor does one episode turn all of GURSH's activity into a fiction. Its significance lies elsewhere: it shows why a certificate, a signature and a payment cannot be treated as conclusive proof of a physical result on the ground.

Three levels of this investigation converged in a single contract.

Paper reality — the design, contractor, technical specifications, construction control, certificates and payment.

Observed reality — the specific land where the work was to be carried out and which could be inspected after acceptance.

Information gap — what cannot be established from the body of material available: how the claim ended, how much money was ultimately recovered, and what each site looks like after any subsequent remedial work.

An information gap does not mean that an event did not occur. It means that the available information is insufficient for a specific conclusion. The principle also works in reverse: an official document reliably shows what a public body or enterprise recorded on paper, but does not always prove the physical condition of a site.

The central question of the investigation is broader than a single contract: what happened to people and land after mines closed, the state paid for their liquidation, and GURSH reported that measures had been completed? Where is the line between the long-term consequences of mining, flaws in the state mechanism, a failure of control and a proven crime?

2. What “Liquidated” Means

Mine closure is not a single act or a single date. After the last shift, mine workings must be closed off or isolated, shafts backfilled, hazardous buildings demolished, industrial sites made safe, burning dumps and underground fires extinguished, and disturbed land reclaimed. Gas emissions must be monitored, and the surface protected from subsidence and deformation. Where necessary, mine dewatering and mine-water treatment must continue. A separate task is resettling people from homes damaged by old mine workings.

These measures have different time frames. Backfilling a shaft may be accepted under a certificate in a particular year. Monitoring deformation, pumping water, maintaining treatment facilities or extinguishing a newly identified burning area may be required much later. The word “completed” therefore makes sense only when accompanied by an explanation: which measure, at which site, in what scope and as of what date.

To manage the legacy of the mass closure of unprofitable enterprises, the State Institution for the Reorganisation and Closure of Unprofitable Mines and Open-Pit Mines (GURSH) was created in 1997.³ The institution organised designs, procurement, monitoring and social measures. Its institutional form changed in 2010; in 2022, SOTSUGOL was merged into GURSH. Its charter established five branches, including the Kuzbass branch. Their functions included preparing design solutions and procurement, monitoring, expert assessment, resettlement, maintaining environmental facilities and handling citizens’ submissions.⁴

GURSH continued to exist after the principal mine-closure programmes had been declared complete. Its state assignment for 2025–2027 provides for proposals on closing mine workings, demolition, land reclamation and monitoring; expert opinions on technical designs; and materials for resettlement. The planned indicator for 2025 is the preparation of social-support documents for 994 families.⁵ This is a plan, not proof that every family has already received money and moved.

The legal termination of an enterprise, completion of a particular project, acceptance of specific work and the physical safety of the land are four different events. This investigation does not substitute one for another.

3. How People Came to Live Inside the Coal Geography

A resident of Kiselevsk does not always have to leave the city to see mine structures, a spoil heap or the edge of an open pit. Natalia Zubkova observed this proximity for many years as a resident and journalist. The mine, homes, old mine workings and later open-pit mining existed here not as separate worlds, but as parts of the same everyday territory.

V01 · OBSERVED REALITY



V01. Mine structures and urban housing in Kiselevsk in a single panorama. The video author identifies the location as the former Kiselevskaya mine, viewed from Goncharskaya Hill. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; video published 5 November 2017, timecode 00:00:35; the filming date has not been established. [Source video](#).

The story did not begin in the same way everywhere. Afonino and Cherkasovo existed before the industrial Kiselevsk mining operation. In 1911, Afonino had 354 residents and Cherkasovo 721. By 1 January 1917, their populations had risen to 594 and 1,000 respectively. Following surveys carried out in 1914–1916, the mine operation was founded; on 15 October 1917, open-pit mine no. 1 produced its first 752 poods of coal.³⁰

The sequence is more complicated than a simple account in which everyone arrived after the mine. Some settlements were already there. Industrial mining then changed them and began to shape the growth of a new urban environment.

In 1932, a workers' settlement was established at the Kiselevsk coal mine. In 1935, the manager wrote about the gap between industrial growth and housing growth: output was rising much faster than the housing stock, whose first homes had begun to be built in 1932.³⁰ An official profile of the Kiselevsk Urban District later expressed its spatial structure in the phrase “**where there is a mine, there is a settlement.**” The document lists eight spatially separated districts, including Afonino and Zelyonaya Kazanka — “Mine No. 12.”

V02 · OBSERVED REALITY



V02. Housing, a railway, industrial facilities and spoil heaps in a single panorama. The author identifies the location as Tugaisky Log, the former Krasnokamenskaya mine and the Afonino district, and dates the filming to April 2018. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 13 April 2018, timecode 00:00:51. [Source video.](#)

Natalia recalls the practical side of this layout. Workers had to reach the place where they went underground every day, at a time before mass employee transport existed. This is her explanation of an urban environment she knows, not a universal statistical rule for every mining settlement in Kuzbass.

Mining then developed within the established city. Underground workings passed beneath existing buildings. After some mines closed, open-pit mining appeared or continued on certain sites. Design materials for the Mine No. 12 field show the Mine No. 12 and Cherkasovsky-2 open-pit mining areas combined into a single pit, old designated mining allotments and industrial sites of closed mines, settlement land and the nearest homes.³¹

V03 · OBSERVED REALITY

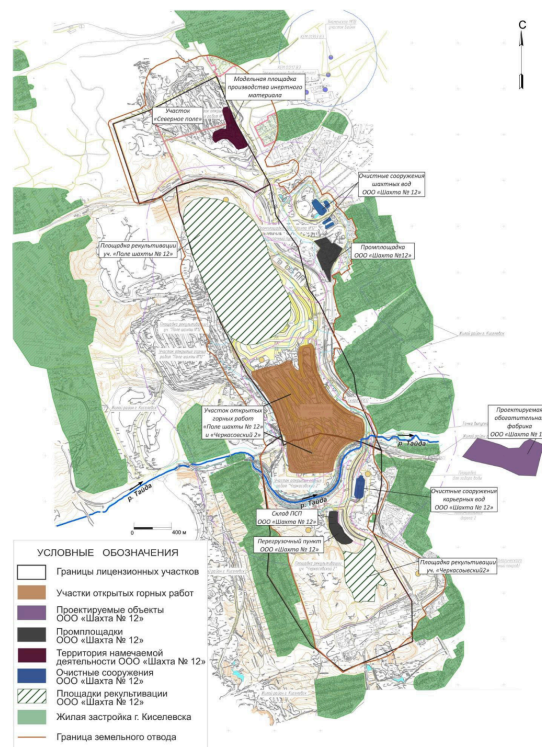


Рис. 2.2.3-1. Ситуационная карта - схема района расположения модельной площадки отработки новой технологии производства продукции «Инертный композиционный материал на основе отходов от технологических процессов обогащательной фабрики ООО «Шахта № 12»

11

V03. Situational map of the Mine No. 12 Field and Cherkasovsky-2 areas: licensed subsoil blocks, open-pit workings, reclamation sites, industrial sites and housing. Source: Russian OVOS environmental impact assessment materials, [Шахта_12_OBOS_результаты.pdf](#), figure 2.2.3-1, PDF page 10. The map shows the project's representation of the area. [Local document](#).

This is how Kiselevsk's present coal geography emerged: not as one pattern, but as the superimposition of different periods. Villages that existed before the industrial mine operation; workers' settlements that grew with the mines; underground mining beneath urban land; mine closures; and new open-pit workings beside existing housing.

As of 1 January 2025, Kemerovo Region — Kuzbass had 2,527,219 permanent residents: 2,188,670 urban and 338,549 rural.³² This is the population of the entire region. It is not the number of people living above old mine workings, inside sanitary protection zones or beside open-pit mines. But the history of Kiselevsk answers a narrower question: how did people's place of residence and the territory of mining become spatially connected long before today's disputes over resettlement and reclamation?

4. The Scale of GURSH: 203 Enterprises and a Legacy Lasting Decades

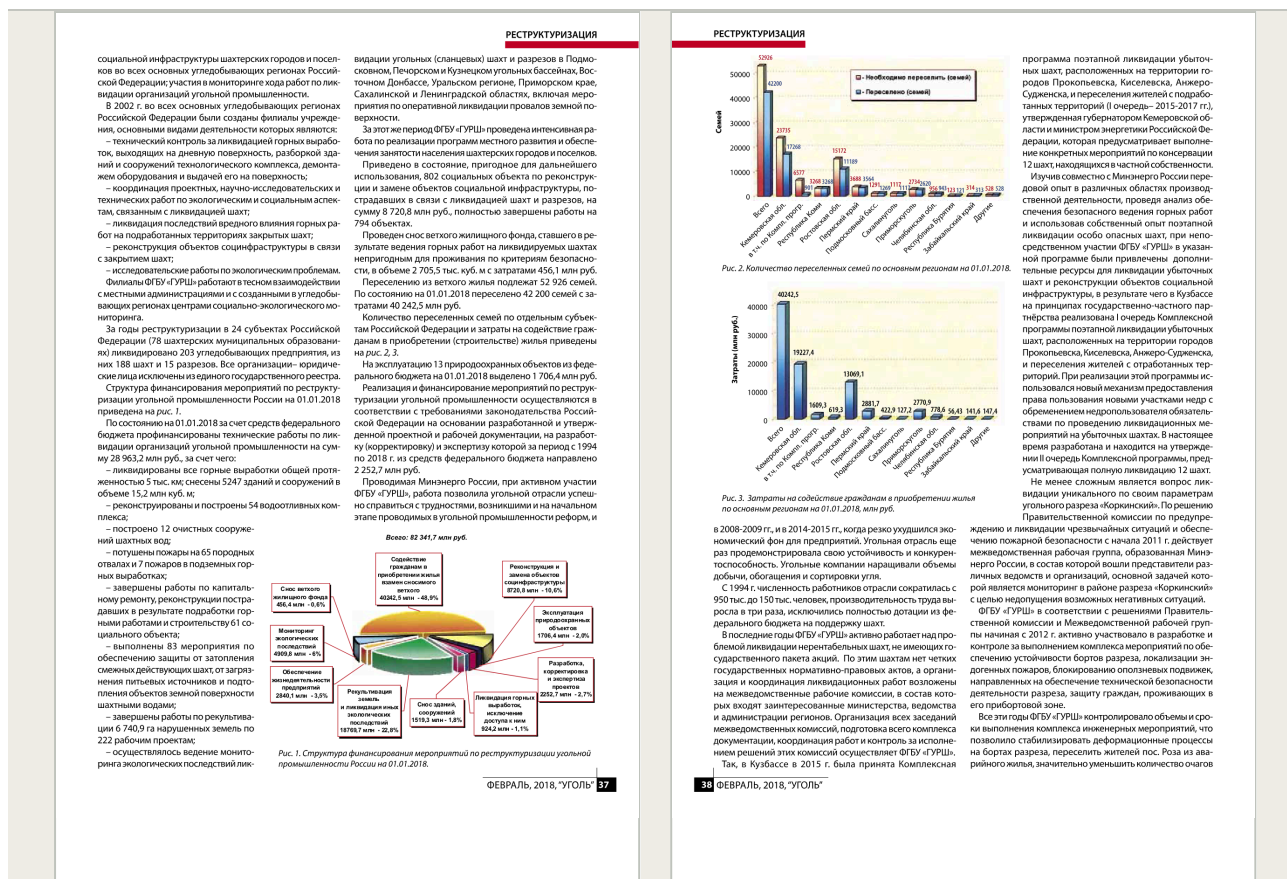
In an industry journal article published in 2008, GURSH's then-director, Alexander Agapov, reported RUB 25.7 billion in funding since 1994 and completion of the main technical work at 198 mines and open-pit mines. According to his figures, RUB 7.61 billion had been allocated to reclamation and measures addressing environmental consequences; 2,777.2 hectares had been reclaimed; and fire-extinguishing work had been carried out at 19 mines.²

In 2018, GURSH's then-director Andrei Moiseenkov published the results of the institution's twenty years of work. This was self-reporting by the head of the institution, not independent verification of every site. Its value lies elsewhere: it shows the scale of the system and how the system itself described what had been accomplished.⁶

As of 1 January 2018, the programme covered **203 coal enterprises — 188 underground mines and 15 open-pit mines** in 24 regions and 78 municipalities. About 5,000 kilometres of mine workings were associated with the enterprises undergoing closure.

What GURSH reported as accomplished by 1 January 2018	Reported amount
Industrial buildings and structures demolished	5,247 facilities; 15.2 million m ³
Mine-dewatering facilities built/maintained	54
Mine-water treatment facilities	12
Burning waste-rock dumps extinguished	65
Underground fires extinguished	7
Protective measures against flooding and pollution completed	83
Land reclaimed under 222 projects	6,740.9 ha
Social facilities comprehensively repaired	61

The financial chart in the same publication gave a total of **RUB 82.3417 billion**. The largest categories were resettlement — RUB 40.2425 billion — and reclamation and environmental work — RUB 18.7697 billion. It listed RUB 8.7208 billion for social infrastructure, RUB 4.9098 billion for monitoring, RUB 2.8401 billion for maintaining enterprises, RUB 2.2527 billion for design and expert review, and RUB 1.7064 billion for maintaining environmental facilities.⁶



“FGBU GURSH – Twenty Years On”

Two pages of Andrei Moiseenkov's 2018 article show the programme's structure, number of enterprises and expenditure. Source: *Ugol [Coal] journal*, 2018, PDF pages 39–40. This is a publication by the institution's director about the results of its work.

The resettlement table listed 52,926 families due to be resettled as of the historically significant date and 42,200 families resettled by the time of publication. Kemerovo Region accounted for 23,735 families on the original list and 17,268 resettled families; the reported financing was RUB 19.2274 billion. The difference between 52,926 and 42,200 – 10,726 families – concerns the programme's historical body of cases and is not automatically the size of a current waiting list.

In the same self-report, the remaining need was estimated at RUB 30.486 billion. With financing of about RUB 2 billion a year, the author estimated that approximately another fifteen years would be needed. This estimate alone showed that the institution's twentieth anniversary did not mean the end of all obligations.

Later documents confirm that the social component continued. The federal project for 2024 envisaged resettling 933 families; GURSH's report on its state assignment recorded 920 – thirteen fewer than planned. In 2024, the Ministry of Energy concluded 41 contracts for social payments with a total value of RUB 915.6 million. GURSH submitted lists containing 18,267 recipients; verification against Social Fund records as of 10 March 2025 found 908 deceased persons on those lists, and the potential reduction in planned expenditure after updating the data was estimated at

RUB 43.1 million.¹ These numbers concern the administration of social assistance, not the total number of people who remained on hazardous land. The 2025 state assignment separately required preparation of materials for 994 families.⁵

5. Mine Dewatering After the Last Shift

Mine dewatering shows especially clearly why a closed mine can remain an engineering facility. After mining stops, water continues to enter the workings. If its level cannot safely be allowed to rise, pumping protects adjacent workings, urban land, utilities or water sources. The pumped water must be directed to treatment facilities.

In its 2008 publication, GURSH reported 60 mine-dewatering facilities built, reconstructed, expanded or commissioned out of 64 envisaged by the designs, and water-treatment facilities at 14 mines.² The 2018 self-report listed 54 mine-dewatering facilities and 12 treatment facilities.⁶ These figures come from publications issued in different years and from differently formulated snapshots; they cannot mechanically be turned into one cumulative total.

Some facilities were transferred to municipalities. This changed the owner or operating organisation, but did not stop the physical process itself. A mine could disappear as a producing enterprise yet continue to exist as a system of pumps, pipelines, water treatment and monitoring.

This investigation does not treat mine water as a separate environmental subject: the composition of discharges, their effects on rivers and the effectiveness of treatment require an investigation of their own. Here, mine dewatering serves as a measure of time. It shows that the word “closed” may describe production, but not the end of technical obligations.

6. Baidaevskaya and Shushtalepskaya: Completion Followed by Further Work

In its industry report for 2007, GURSH listed completed measures at enterprises undergoing closure. The paper recorded a particular stage of the programme, a particular project and the position at the time of the report.²

Fifteen years later, the 2023 state contract again included Shushtalepskaya, Baidaevskaya and the Dimitrova mine. At Shushtalepskaya, burning areas on a waste-rock dump were to be extinguished; at Baidaevskaya and Dimitrova, remaining mine workings and structures were to be made safe.¹

The 2023 contract does not describe the same volumes and locations as the 2007–2008 reports, and it does not devalue the work completed then. But it changes the meaning of “completed.” **In 2008, one set of measures was being completed; in 2023, different work was already required at the same enterprises.**

New risks arise on closed sites, remaining structures are discovered, thermal processes continue, or renewed engineering intervention is required. Completion applies to a measure, not to a promise that the land will never again require state expenditure.

7. Kiselevskaya: Closure Beside New Mining

The history of the Kiselevskaya mine shows another form of continuation: the old mine field was simultaneously becoming the territory of new open-pit mining.

A judicial decision in a tax dispute established the actual volume of extraction. Under a contract dated 15 December 2005, a contractor extracted coal within the designated mining allotment of OOO Shakhta Kiselevskaya. In 2007, it extracted **217,332 tonnes** of coal worth **RUB 98,266,306**; in 2008, it extracted **70,927 tonnes** worth **RUB 40,777,669**.⁷

The work took place on the western limb of the first Tyrganskaya anticline in the Dvoinoi, Podspornyi, Bezmyannyi and Moshchnyi seams. The court stated that the open-pit mining operations had in fact been carried out under a design that had not been approved in the prescribed manner. At the same time, the case file contained annual mine-development plans approved by Rostekhnadzor and a letter authorising the contractor’s work. The court considered the tax consequences and found the operations and supplies genuine; it did not make a criminal finding of unlawful extraction.

In 2014, Rosnedra, the Federal Agency for Subsoil Use, offered the Bungursky Yuzhny-2 and 8 Marta-2 blocks at auction. Together with the rights to explore for and extract coal at those blocks, the winning bidder was required to carry out liquidation work at the Kiselevskaya mine site; those obligations were later associated with subsoil-use licence KEM 01827 TE. OOO Sibenergougol won the auction; the stated one-off payment for subsoil use was **RUB 215.6 million**.⁸

In 2018, OOO Sibenergougol, OOO Shakhtoupravlenie Maiskoye, AO Salek and OOO RudniK entered into an agreement connected with amending the closure design. It listed six plots with a total area of **208.46 hectares**. Adding the rows produces 208.45 hectares — a discrepancy in the document itself that cannot be silently corrected. The plots included disturbed land, embankments, an old dump, and surfaces described as prepared for biological reclamation.⁹

Plot under the 2018 agreement	Area	Description in the document
No. 1	67.79 ha	to the north-west; disturbed land and embankments

Municipal technical conditions dated 6 December 2018 classified **421.7 hectares** of municipal land as disturbed by the Kiselevskaya mine. They required technical and biological reclamation, formation of stable slopes, restoration of vegetation and at least five years of care for plantings.¹⁰ This was a list of required work, not a certificate that the work had in fact been completed.

СОГЛАШЕНИЕ
о безвозмездном использовании земель на территории шпота
Шахта Киселевская Киселевского месторождения

г. Киселевск «20» сентября 2018 г.

Общество с ограниченной ответственностью «Сибирнефтеуголь», именуемое в дальнейшем ООО «Сибирнефтеуголь», в лице генерального директора Устинова Валерия Васильевича, действующего на основании Устава, с одной стороны,

Общество с ограниченной ответственностью «Шахтоуправление «Майское», именуемое в дальнейшем ООО «Шахтоуправление «Майское», в лице генерального директора Рудавова Олега Юрьевича, действующего на основании Устава, 4,

Акционерное общество «Салех», именуемое в дальнейшем АО «Салех», в лице генерального директора Рутова Игоря Александровича, действующего на основании Устава, с другой стороны, и

Общество с ограниченной ответственностью «Рудник», именуемое в дальнейшем ООО «Рудник», в лице Лисового Виталия Анатольевича, действующего на основании доверенности от 20 декабря 2016 г. №4-третей-сторон, далее совместно именуемые «Стороны»,

ПРИНИМАЯ ВО ВНИМАНИЕ, ЧТО:

(А) между ООО «Сибирнефтеуголь» (Заказчик), ООО «Шахтоуправление «Майское», АО «Салех» (совместно именуемыми Покладчиками) заключен Договор подряда ПД-08/17 от 01.05.2017г. (с учетом всех изменений и дополнений) для выполнения работ по ликвидации шахты Киселевской Киселевского месторождения; и при необходимости - с привлечением третьих лиц, ликвидационных работ (далее – Ликвидационные работы) на участке Шахты Киселевская Киселевского каменноугольного месторождения согласно утвержденного Положения о порядке пользования недрами Кедр №8 01827 Т/К от 15.10.2014 и Технического проекта ликвидации горных выработок в границах участка недр «Поле шахты Киселевская» лицензия Кедр 01827 (далее – Технический проект ликвидации), до их полного завершения и сдачи Заказчику;

(В) от ООО «Рудник» в адрес ООО «Шахтоуправление «Майское» и АО «Салех» поступило предложение о передаче ООО «Рудник» земельных участков, указанных в пункте 1.1 настоящего Соглашения, общей площадью 208,46 га для использования их в целях, предусмотренных законодательством;

(С) ООО «Сибирнефтеуголь» получено предложение от ООО «Шахтоуправление «Майское» и АО «Салех»(именом от 0148 сентября 2018 г. № 1449, № 2474) об внесении изменений в Технический проект ликвидации по соглашению, описанном в вышеуказанном пункте.

В связи с изложенным Стороны заключили настоящее Соглашение о нижеследующем:

1. ПРЕДМЕТ СОГЛАШЕНИЯ

1.1. Настоящее Соглашение заключается в отношении 6 (Шести) используемых земельных участков общей площадью 208,46 га, расположенных на территории участка Шахты Киселевская Киселевского каменноугольного месторождения, которые в соответствии алгоритмом действия Сторон по настоящему Соглашению при соблюдении требований законодательства могут быть предоставлены ООО «Рудник» в целях использования их в соответствии с законодательством:

Номер участка, указанный в схеме его условного обозначения	Площадь, га	Характеристики земельного участка
Участок 1	67,79	Участок расположен на северо-западной части лицензионного участка за железной дорогой. Поверхность нарушена. Имеются насыпи грунта.
Участок 2	82,69	Участок расположен в юго-восточной части лицензионного участка. Участок нарушен.

Участок 3	13,41	Участок расположен в северо-западной части линейного участка за земельным участком Краснобродского угодного рывера (Лихаузовское поле).
Участок 4	0,76	Участок расположен в юго-западной части линейного участка за земельным участком Краснобродского угодного рывера (Лихаузовское поле). На участке находится породный отвал.
Участок 5	10,11	Участок расположен в северо-восточной части линейного участка. Поверхность участка, готова к биологической рекультивации.
Участок 6	33,69	Участок расположен в южной части линейного участка. Поверхность выровнена, готова к биологической рекультивации.

1.2. Схема расположения земельных участков, указанных в пункте 1.1 настоящего Соглашения, приложена в Приложении №1 к настоящему Соглашению.

2. АЛГОРИТМ ДЕЙСТВИЙ СТОРОН

2.1. Алгоритм действий ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж»:

2.1.1. На основании подпункта (А) преамбулы настоящего Соглашения ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж» с участием ООО «Фуджид» осуществляют согласование настоящего Соглашения, включая алгоритм действий сторон, с Администрацией Киселевского городского округа. В случае, если настоящее Соглашение не будет согласовано с Администрацией Киселевского городского округа в течение 30 дней с момента подписания настоящего Соглашения, настоящее Соглашение считается автоматически расторгнутым и прекращает свое действие (за исключением положений, предусмотренных пунктами 3-6 настоящего Соглашения).

2.1.2. После согласования настоящего Соглашения Администрацией Киселевского городского округа, на основании подпунктов (А) и (С) преамбулы настоящего Соглашения ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж» на свой собственный счет и за счет привлеченных к работе специалистов осуществляют следующие мероприятия в указанном ниже порядке:

- осуществляют проведение кадастровых работ по формированию и постановке на кадастровый учет земельных участков общей площадью 208,46 га, указанных в п. 1.1 настоящего Соглашения, и оказывают содействие при заключении договоров аренды земельных участков, указанных в п. 1.1 настоящего Соглашения, между ООО «Фуджид» и Администрацией Киселевского городского округа;
- осуществляют мероприятия по внесению соответствующих изменений в Технический проект ликвидации, а также, при необходимости, в визу документацию на выполнение Ликвидационных работ, участие под Шахта Киселевского Киселевского месторождения согласно утверждению на положительную меру ИЕМ 01877-9;
- осуществляют получение всех необходимых согласно законодательству экспертизы и согласований государственных органов (включая получение положительного заключения экспертизы промышленной безопасности от Ростехнадзора ЦСР Ростехнадзора по УГО Технического проекта ликвидации с учетом внесенных изменений, а также осуществляют иные мероприятия, необходимые для производства и завершения Ликвидационных работ;

2.1.3. Во избежание сомнений ООО «Сибнортуголь», «ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж» подтверждает, что до момента внесения изменений в Технический проект ликвидации и получения соответствующих экспертиз и согласований, указанных в предыдущем пункте настоящего Соглашения, ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж» согласно Договору подряда №1-08/17 от 01.05.2017 г. продолжают выполнять Ликвидационные работы в соответствии с действующим Техническим проектом ликвидации;

2.1.4. Согласно Договору подряда №1-08/17 от 01.05.2017 г. расходы по оплате государственных пошлин, иных расходов, связанных с прекращением земельных участков в соответствии с настоящим Соглашением, включая вносимые платежи, обязательства по уплате которых могут возникнуть у ООО «Сибнортуголь», возлагаются на ООО «Иштактураление «Майское» и АО «Салеж».

[illegible]

Six plots in the Kiselevskaya mine field

The agreement of 20 September 2018, pages 2–3, lists the plots and the sequence of actions; the Russian OVOS materials show the Severny dump. Together the documents show six plots with a total stated area of 208.46 ha and separate requirements for the planned work. Sources: document N07, pages 2–3; document N06, page 2.

V04 · OBSERVED REALITY



V04. A large fissure in exposed ground. Kiselevskaya mine field, 13 August 2019. Frame from Natalia Zubkova's video `C0040.MP4`, timecode 00:00:16. Natalia attributed the location; the file contains no GPS data. The frame shows the condition of the surface but does not establish what caused the fissure.

The auction, licence and agreement connected the commercial interest in coal with an obligation to address the consequences of the old mine. Later physical processes here require site-specific attribution, but the liquidation of the past was itself incorporated into new development of the same land.

8. Fire After the Closure Date

GURSH's twenty-year report referred to 65 extinguished burning waste-rock dumps and seven underground fires.⁶ This is an important aggregate result. The visual archive answers a different question: what was visible in different years on specific sites in Kiselevsk, where smoking or steaming areas remained on the surface.

A photograph or video frame confirms the visible physical condition within the limits of its known attribution. Without measurements, it does not establish the chemical composition of a cloud, the depth of a source, the site's legal owner, or a connection to a particular state contract. It is enough to establish that boundary once. The images can then be read as a documentary sequence in time and space.

Kiselevskaya

V05 · OBSERVED REALITY



V05. A white cloud rises above disturbed ground. The video author identifies the place as the former Kiselevskaya mine and calls the phenomenon an endogenous fire. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 5 November 2017, timecode 00:01:36; the filming date has not been established. [Source video](#).

In the same visual sequence, the panorama from Goncharskaya Hill shows how close the industrial and residential landscapes are to one another. The frame showing the source is not linked here to a particular line in a contract or certificate. It answers a simpler question: after closure, did visible thermal processes remain within the urban area? At the time of publication, they did.

Krasny Kuzbass and Tugaisky Log: Different Years

V06 · OBSERVED REALITY



V06. Snow-covered disturbed ground; an extended white cloud is visible over dark areas. Krasny Kuzbass mine field, 9 December 2018. Frame from Natalia Zubkova's video `2018-12-09 15-22-22.MP4`, timecode 00:00:38; GPS 54.0297, 86.5490. Natalia attributed the site; the date and coordinates are confirmed by metadata.

V07 · OBSERVED REALITY



V07. A smoking or steaming area of technogenic terrain. The author identifies the place as Tugaisky Log. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 14 October 2020, timecode 00:01:31; the filming date has not been established. [Source video](#).

These are different points and dates, not one continuous fire. Together they show the recurrence of the visible phenomenon within the city's coal geography: the surface continued to smoke or steam.

Mine No. 12: Map and Surface

The project map of the Mine No. 12 field shows licence boundaries, old industrial sites and residential land. A 2019 video frame shows a physical feature that the video author calls the northern slope of the Mine No. 12 open-pit mine dump.

V08 · OBSERVED REALITY



V08. White mineral deposits and localised smoking or steaming on a dark surface. The author identifies the location as the northern slope of the Mine No. 12 open-pit mine dump. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 14 March 2019, timecode 00:02:55; the filming date has not been established. [Source video](#).

The map and the frame say more together than either does alone. The map explains the spatial arrangement of the land; the image restores its physical texture. A single frame cannot assess the overall result of reclamation or draw the boundary of a particular source.

One Later Example: Akchurlinsky Log

V09 · OBSERVED REALITY



V09. A dense white cloud emerges from dark rocky terrain. The author identifies Akchurlinsky Log and gives the coordinates 54.017515392062926, 86.6482653099438. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 16 March 2022, timecode 00:00:30; the filming date has not been established. [Source video](#).

Taken together, the frames form a spatial sequence: after the enterprises closed, smoking or steaming areas continued to form part of the urban territory. The reported number of extinguished sites must therefore be read together with a specific place and a specific date.

9. Malinnaya and Parnikovaya: A Recurring Problem of Place

The history of Malinnaya and Parnikovaya has been reconstructed from an archival collection covering 2008–2019: letters from Rostekhnadzor, inspection materials, laboratory reports, responses from the municipality and the enterprise, a cadastral report and a prosecutor's submission.^{11 12 13} It is a chronology of different points, recurring problems and interventions, not the record of a single continuous fire.

2008: Fissures and Carbon Monoxide

On 8 July 2008, Rostekhnadzor described the situation in the southern part of the designated mining allotment of the Kiselevskaya mine. It concerned the outcrops of seams II–II bis — Vnutrennie, which had been worked in 1974–1975 from crosscut no. 50 at the minus-220-metre level. Fissures appeared on the surface 80–100 metres from the houses at 18 Razdolnaya Street. The document gives a carbon-monoxide concentration of **0.18 per cent** and notes the spread of combustion products. Access was to be restricted and the hazardous area localised.¹¹

D05 — DOCUMENT FROM 2008

	
Управление по технологическому и экологическому надзору Ростехнадзора по Кемеровской области	Жителю улицы Раздольная, 18/2
Киселевский отдел горного надзора	Клейменову В.И.
652700 г. Киселевск, ул. Ленина, 28 тел. 2-08-97, факс: 6-22-78 e-mail: kisgo@ksi.kuzbass.net	
08.07.2008г. № 14-197 на № _____	
Уважаемый Виктор Иванович!	
В ответ на Ваше письмо от 30.06.2008г. по поводу жалобы жителей улиц Раздольная, Малинная, п/ка Малинный на выделения газа из горящих пластов шахты «Киселёвская», Киселёвский отдел горного надзора (начальник Киселёвского Отдела горного надзора Сербинович М.В.), совместно с представителями шахты (директор шахты Ляпин Ю.Ф. и зам.главного инженера Пахотин С.С) и ВГСЧ (пом.командира Прокопьевского ОБГСО Титов В.С.), провели проверку 07.07.2008г. Проверкой установлено, что в южной части горного отвода ООО «Шахта «Киселёвская», на выходах на поверхность пластов II-IIbis-Внутренних с квершлага №50 гор.+220м, отработанных в 1974-1975 годах (в 80-100 метрах от жилых домов ул.Раздольная д.18), на земной поверхности имеются трещины, из которых выделяется окись углерода CO=0,18% (в соответствии с извещением ВГСЧ). Продукты горения действительно распространяются по прилегающей территории. Киселёвским ОГН предписано руководителю шахты Ляпину Ю.Ф. <u>исключить нахождение посторонних лиц в районе выделения горючих газов и принять незамедлительные меры по локализации очагов выделения горючих газов.</u>	

Fissures, CO at 0.18%, and homes 80–100 metres away

Significant fragment of a letter from the Kiselevsk Mining Supervision Department dated 8 July 2008, no. 14-197. Source: archival collection Untitled.pdf, PDF page 8.

The 2008–2009 materials also include inspections of the basements at 11/2 and 18/2 Razdolnaya Street, where low concentrations of methane and carbon dioxide were recorded; cleaning the ventilation was recommended. These measurements must be read separately from the surface CO

concentration: they concern different gases, places and inspections.

2012: Earthworks and Air Beside a Home

Documents from 2012 described an old excavation and collapses 70–100 metres from homes. About 416 cubic metres of clay were brought in to isolate the area; another passage mentioned an earlier volume of about 400 cubic metres. A clay barrier was being formed, but during one inspection the fertile topsoil layer had not yet been restored. Monthly monitoring was envisaged.¹¹

On 26 December 2012, Rospotrebnadzor sent the results of air sampling by the house at 18/2 Razdolnaya Street. In one sample, formaldehyde measured **2 times the average daily maximum permissible concentration (MPC; Russian PDK)** and phenol **1.3 times the MPC**. These values relate to a specific protocol, date and sampling point. Other inspections from the period did not record signs of combustion or exceedances. The variation over time does not negate either result: it explains why a single site visit did not settle the question of the area.

D06 — DOCUMENTS FROM 2012



ФЕДЕРАЛЬНАЯ СЛУЖБА ПО НАДЗОРУ В СФЕРЕ ЗАЩИТЫ ПРАВ ПОТРЕБИТЕЛЕЙ
И БЛАГОПОЛУЧИЯ ЧЕЛОВЕКА

ТО Управления Федеральной службы по надзору
в сфере защиты прав потребителей и благополучия человека
по Кемеровской области в г.Киселевске

26.12.2012 № 1162-а-СО

В.И.Клейменову
г. Киселевск, ул. Раздольная, 18-2

Уважаемый Виктор Иванович!

На Ваше заявление на неудовлетворительные условия проживания, связанные с деятельностью угольных предприятий, в адрес Управления Президента РФ №706992 от 21.11.12 (акт № 994 от 11.12.12 в территориальный отдел Управления Роспотребнадзора по Кемеровской области в г.Киселевске) сообщаем следующее:

при проведении филиалом ФБУЗ «Центр гигиены и эпидемиологии в Кемеровской области» в г. Киселевске исследований атмосферного воздуха на территории жилой застройки по Раздольная, 18-2 на загрязняющие вещества (взвешенные вещества, углерод черный (сажа), азота диоксид, сера диоксид, углерода оксид, формальдегид, фенол) установлено, что концентрации загрязняющих веществ превышают ПДК среднесуточную по формальдегиду в 2раза, по фенолу в 1,3раза, что не соответствует требованиям СанПиН 2.1.6.1032-01 «Гигиенические требования к обеспечению качества атмосферного воздуха населенных мест», ГН 2.1.6.1338-03 «Предельно-допустимые концентрации загрязняющих веществ в атмосферном воздухе населенных мест» с «Изменениями и дополнениями» (ГН 2.1.6.1765-03, ГН 2.1.6.1985-06, ГН 2.1.6.2236-08, ГН 2.1.6.2416-08, ГН 2.1.6.2450-08, ГН 2.1.6.2498-09, ГН 2.1.6.2604-10). Протокол лабораторных испытаний филиала ФБУЗ «Центр гигиены и эпидемиологии в Кемеровской области» в г. Киселевске от 26.12.2012 № 1254. По факту нарушения санитарно-эпидемиологического законодательства в отношении УК «Кузбассразрезуголь» Краснобродский угольный разрез (Вахрушевское поле) в январе 2013г будет проводиться административное расследование, по окончании которого Вы будете дополнительно извещены о результатах дела.

По Вашему заявлению на неудовлетворительные условия проживания, связанные с деятельностью угольных предприятий, (акт № 90 от 27.08.2012) филиалом ФБУЗ «Центр гигиены и эпидемиологии в Кемеровской области» в г. Киселевске (04.09.2012 на придомовой территории по ул. Раздольная, 11, 18) были проведены лабораторные исследования атмосферного воздуха на соответствие ПДК среднесуточную по следующим загрязняющим веществам: взвешенные вещества, углерод (сажа), азота диоксид, фенол, оксид углерода.



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРИРОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ
И ЭКОЛОГИИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

ФЕДЕРАЛЬНАЯ СЛУЖБА
ПО НАДЗОРУ В СФЕРЕ
ПРИРОДОПОЛЬЗОВАНИЯ
(Росприроднадзор)

РУКОВОДИТЕЛЬ
ул. Б.Грушинская, д. 4/6
ГСП-5, 125995, Москва

Руководителю Управления
Росприроднадзора по Кемеровской
области
И.А.Климовской
копия:
В.И.Клейменову
ул. Раздольная, д.18-2, г.Киселевск,
Кемеровская область, 652700

17.12.12 № 36-04/01-83/1393/

на № _____ от _____

О рассмотрении обращения
Клейменова В.И.

Уважаемая Ирина Анатольевна!

Федеральная служба по надзору в сфере природопользования направляет для рассмотрения обращение Клейменова В.И. по вопросу неблагоприятной экологической обстановки, сложившейся в результате деятельности ООО «Шахта «Киселевская».

В пределах компетенции Росприроднадзора проведем проверку фактов, изложенных в обращении, примите предусмотренные законодательством меры и направьте ответ заявителю.

Результаты рассмотрения и копию ответа заявителю представьте в Росприроднадзор до 17.11.2012, предварительно направив их по электронной почте: sergeevaks@rpn.gov.ru.

Дополнительно сообщаем, что ООО «Шахта «Киселевская» входит в список конкретных объектов хозяйственной и иной деятельности по территории Кемеровской области, оказывающих негативное воздействие на окружающую среду и подлежащих федеральному государственному экологическому контролю, утвержденный приказом Минприроды России от 30.08.2011 № 709.

Приложение: на 2 л. в первый адрес

В.В.Кириллов



Генерал-майор Виктор Кириллов - 1961 г.р. 712.12.12

Earthworks and a separate air sample

The documents show the volume of earthworks, the absence of a restored fertile topsoil layer at the time of inspection, and an air report recording formaldehyde at twice and phenol at 1.3 times the average daily MPC in one sample. Source: archival collection

Untitled.pdf, PDF pages 15 and 33.

2019: Heating, Smoke and a Dispute Over the Explanation

In 2019, documents again recorded heating and smoking near a residential area. The enterprise reported excavating the heated area, removing material and covering the area with clay. According to the enterprise, initial tests for radon and indicator gases found no signs of an endogenous fire; a decision was then made to drill monitoring boreholes, take additional samples and conduct a comprehensive inspection. In official correspondence, this hot spot was explained as the result of the long-term dumping of household and ash-and-slag waste.¹²

Rostekhnadzor associated the specific surface heating observed in 2019 with many years of unauthorised dumping of household and ash-and-slag waste. According to its response, Krasnobrodsky Open-Pit Coal Mine and Sibenergougol jointly eliminated the site on 5 June; on 10 June, the authorities, Russia's emergency services and the VostNII research centre agreed on further inspection.

A laboratory report dated 26 July 2019 for three points — 2 and 12 Malinny Lane and 11/1 Razdolnaya Street — found no surface radiation anomalies; gamma-background and radon readings met the criteria used. The prosecutor's office later found that the enterprise had failed to provide a journalist with the document “Measures no. 37/9 of 2 July 2019,” had improperly refused to supply information and had missed the response deadline. On 7 February 2020, a formal prosecutorial submission was made to the director of OOO Shakhtoupravlenie Maiskoye.¹²

D07 — DOCUMENTS FROM 2019–2020



АДМИНИСТРАЦИЯ
КИСЕЛЕВСКОГО ГОРОДСКОГО
ОКРУГА

652700, г. Киселевск, ул. Ленина, 30
т. (38446) 2-16-35, факс 2-16-35
www.shakhtougl.ru
adm@shakhtougl.ru

Шестакову В.
пер. Малинный, 1
г. Киселевск

от С.В. Шишкин № 218/1
от 11.09.2019 от 18.07.2019

Уважаемый Виталий!

Ваше коллективное обращение, поступившее в администрацию Киселевского городского округа, в соответствии с Федеральным законом от 02.05.2006 № 59-ФЗ «О порядке рассмотрения обращений граждан Российской Федерации», рассмотрено.

Сообщаем, что согласно заключению СФ ОАО ВНИИ от 22.07.2014 №111 жилые дома, расположенные по улицам Малинная, Разрезовская, Парникова, Раздольная, пер. Малинный не находятся на подработанной территории ООО «Шакта Киселевская» и сносу не подлежат.

В настоящее время включить дома района Подземгаз, по выше перечисленным улицам, в какую либо из программ переселения нет правовых оснований.

Заместитель главы
Киселевского городского округа

 С.В. Шишкин

Ил. Т.И. Асеева
26.2.16/20



ФЕДЕРАЛЬНАЯ СЛУЖБА ПО НАДЗОРУ В СФЕРЕ ЗАЩИТЫ ПРАВ ПОТРЕБИТЕЛЕЙ
И БЛАГОПОЛУЧИЯ ЧЕЛОВЕКА

Управление Федеральной службы по надзору
в сфере защиты прав потребителей и благополучия человека
по Кемеровской области

Территориальный отдел Управления Федеральной службы по надзору в сфере защиты
прав потребителей и благополучия человека по Кемеровской области в городе
Киселевске, городе Прокопьевске и Прокопьевском районе

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06.08.2019г № 429/1

Шестаков В.
г. Киселевск
пер. Малинный, 1

Уважаемый Виталий Владимирович!

В адрес территориального отдела Управления Роспотребнадзора по Кемеровской области в городе Киселевске, городе Прокопьевске и Прокопьевском районе поступило Ваше коллективное обращение № 597 от 22.07.2019г на неудовлетворительные условия проживания (из скважин, из многочисленных разломов почвы идет дым с неприятным запахом, жар) связанные с подземным пожаром в г. Киселевске.

Территориальный отдел осуществляет свою деятельность в соответствии с Указом Президента РФ от 09.03.2004 № 214 «О системе и структуре федеральных органов исполнительной власти», Положением о Федеральной службе по надзору в сфере защиты прав потребителей и благополучия человека, утвержденным постановлением Правительства РФ от 30.06.2004 № 322 (далее - Положение от 30.06.2004 № 322). В соответствии с п. 1 Положения от 30.06.2004 № 322, Федеральная служба по надзору в сфере защиты прав потребителей и благополучия человека (Роспотребнадзор) является федеральным органом исполнительной власти, осуществляющим функции по выработке и реализации государственной политики и нормативно-правовому регулированию в сфере защиты прав потребителей, а также по организации и осуществлению федерального государственного санитарно-эпидемиологического надзора и федерального государственного надзора в области защиты прав потребителей.

На основании поручения № 542 от 24.07.2019г, выданном территориальным отделом филиалом ФБУЗ «Центр гигиены и эпидемиологии в Кемеровской области в городе Киселевске, городе Прокопьевске и Прокопьевском районе направлены лабораторные исследования атмосферного воздуха на территории жилой застройки, г. Киселевск, пер. Малинный 2; г. Киселевск, Малинный 12; г. Киселевск, ул. Раздольная 11-1.

Согласно протокола лабораторных исследований № 9916 от 29.07.2019г, установлено: 1,2-МЭД (гемма-эквивалент) в обследуемых помещениях жилых домов г. Киселевск, пер. Малинный 2, г. Киселевск, Малинный 12, г. Киселевск, ул. Раздольная 11-1 Киселевского городского округа не превышает МЭД на открытой местности более чем на 0,2 мкБк/ч, что

New inspections of the land

Source: archival collection Untitled.pdf, PDF pages 53 and 66. The documents concern separate stages of the inspections and are not treated here as one continuous fire.

461.98 Metres and the Programme's Legal Boundary

According to cadastral engineer Alexei Gerentsev's report, based on his inspection of the area on 26 April 2019, the minimum distance from the indicated toe of the dump to the outline of the house at 20 Malinnaya Street was **461.98 metres**.¹³ The Unified State Register of Real Estate extract describes the house as a wooden building constructed in 1961, with an area of 45.4 square metres; its cadastral value as of 25 June 2019 was RUB 361,706.79.

D08 — CADASTRAL ENGINEER'S REPORT

461.98 metres

Indicated toe of the dump →

461.98 m

→ outline of the house at 20 Malinnaya Street.

Source: diagram from cadastral engineer A. V. Gerentsev's report dated 3 July 2019 (N09). The diagram is schematic and not to scale; the figure reproduces the document's measurement. It does not mark a sanitary protection zone or the boundaries of underground mine workings.

Municipal responses cited VNIMI opinion no. 111 of 22 July 2014: the houses on Malinnaya, Razrezovskaya, Parnikovaya and Razdolnaya Streets and Malinny Lane were not in an undermined area and were not eligible for demolition under the programme.¹¹ The full text of opinion no. 111 is not in the body of material; what is available is its description in official responses.

V10 · OBSERVED REALITY



V10. Outlying housing and disturbed land in a single frame. The author identifies the location as Parnikovaya and dates the filming to May 2020. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 15 May 2020, timecode 00:00:56. [Source video.](#)

V11 · OBSERVED REALITY



V11. A residential street in the area the author calls Parnikovka. The filming is dated to May 2020. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 15 May 2020, timecode 00:04:21. [Source video.](#)

Two questions diverge especially clearly here. The first is whether a particular house meets the legal criteria of the state resettlement programme. The second is what happened to the surrounding land and air in different years. A negative answer to the first question does not in itself make the area safe; each house's entitlement to a payment was nevertheless determined by separate criteria.

10. The House Is Unsafe, the Person Is Ineligible: How Resettlement Works

The GURSH state social payment for resettlement (*sotsialnaya vyplata*) was not an individual purchase at market value of a house, land, outbuildings and all associated losses. It was state social assistance for acquiring housing, calculated using a prescribed payment rate. Entitlement depended not only on the house's physical condition, but also on legal circumstances:

- ownership and official residence registration;
- actual residence;
- the person's position as of the historically significant date of the mine's liquidation or bankruptcy;
- the absence of other suitable housing;
- the connection between the house and a specific enterprise undergoing closure;
- the inclusion of the house in technical inspections and lists.

Court cases show different ways in which a house's physical history and a person's legal history could diverge.

Kiselevsk: The Family Lived in the House but Registered Later

A family purchased a house on 2 June 2011 using the maternity (family) capital programme. According to the family and neighbours' testimony, they moved in immediately, but family members did not obtain official residence registration until August–September 2012 — after the Krasnokamenskaya mine was liquidated on 11 July 2012. In 2020, VNIMI classified the house as undermined and dilapidated. On 10 October 2025, the Kiselevsk City Court recognised the entitlement of all four family members to enter into an agreement on a social payment, accepting evidence of actual residence and the absence of other housing.¹⁴

This was a first-instance judgment; the preserved copy expressly states that it had not entered into legal force. It shows the court's reasoning, but does not support the conclusion that the money had already been paid and the family had moved.

Anzhero-Sudzhensk: Living There Since 1997, Ownership Since 2018

Two brothers had lived in a house since 1997, but acquired title under a deed of gift only in 2018. The Anzherskaya mine was declared bankrupt on 14 August 2014. On that date, the brothers had neither registered title nor residence registration at the address. On 25 June 2025, the court denied them a social payment.¹⁵

Their actual residence had been long-term. The court did not find that they had the legally significant status on the date fixed by the programme.

Zenkovskaya: One House, Different Rights Within One Family

The house was inspected in 2013. It was then found to be undermined but not dilapidated; physical depreciation was assessed at 39 per cent. The house later became unfit for habitation. In January 2026, a court recognised the entitlement of one woman who had lived and been registered there on the significant date and had no other housing. Her granddaughter and great-granddaughter, who lived in the same house, were refused because of their later registration and other housing circumstances.¹⁶

One physically unfit house produced different legal outcomes for members of the same family. The programme assessed not only the property, but each applicant's biography.

Baravlev: The Hazard Was Established Later

Nikolai Baravlev was not included in the original list. After a later inspection of his house, he pursued his entitlement through the courts. The court ordered that he be added to the list and that an agreement on a social payment be concluded; the appellate court upheld the judgment, and on 21 July 2026 the cassation court rejected the municipality's appeal.¹⁷

This case shows the significance of a subsequent inspection: the physical condition of a house develops over time, while the original lists did not always include people whose problem was established later.

11. Why Don't They Just Leave?

The question "why don't people just leave?" is raised in the introduction to this investigation. The documents that follow allow another aspect of it to be tested: how the mechanisms of assistance available to a person were structured, and what happened in specific court cases.

The documents do not support a general claim that all housing in undermined areas is impossible to sell or that every payment leaves a person in the same city. They show how assistance was structured and describe several specific court cases. The question "why don't they leave?" should

therefore begin not with an assumption that a person wants to stay, but with another question: did they have a real economic and legal opportunity to leave the area?

12. A Payment Is Not the Price of a Lost Place

Judicial decisions make it possible to see what the state payment gave a person — and what it did not value as an individual purchase.

Donskoy: The Rate for 72 Square Metres

In the Donskoy case, the social payment was **RUB 2,426,400**: 72 square metres at the prescribed rate of **RUB 33,700 per square metre**.¹⁸ The old house and the 1,435-square-metre land plot were to be transferred to the municipality without payment.

Element	What the judicial decision established
Prescribed size of replacement housing	72 m ²
Prescribed price	RUB 33,700/m ²
Social payment	RUB 2,426,400
Old house and plot	transferred to the municipality without payment
Market value of all property relinquished	not established in the decision

These figures cannot establish whether the payment was higher or lower than the market value of all the property. They prove something else: the calculation was based on a prescribed rate for new housing, not on an individual valuation of the old house, land and outbuildings.

Kiselevsk: New Housing and Transfer of the Old Property

In a 2019 case, the court recorded that a family had received a social payment, purchased a flat, vacated the old house and terminated its utility accounts. After the recipient's death, the court recognised municipal ownership of the former house and land.¹⁹ In the published decision, the payment amount and the address of the new flat are redacted, so it does not allow comparison between cities or districts. It shows the legal completion of the mechanism: new housing was acquired, and the old property passed to a public owner.

Four Prices for One House: Invest-NK

Olga Dubei’s dispute with OOO Invest-NK did not concern the GURSH programme, but a house that fell within the sanitary protection zone of an operating enterprise. During negotiations, however, the company used the size of the GURSH payment as a benchmark. The case therefore shows why different monetary figures cannot be combined into one “price of the house.”²⁰

Amount	What it represented
RUB 1,340,000	the company’s oral offer, based on the GURSH payment for one person
RUB 1,201,233	valuation of the residential building by an appraiser commissioned by the enterprise, excluding the land
RUB 5,244,978.28	the owner’s position in the dispute
RUB 1,048,680	the court-appointed valuation of the house, outbuildings and land plot

The first figure was a negotiating benchmark based on social assistance. The second related only to the house. The third was the owner’s claim. The fourth was the court-appointed expert appraisal of a broader set of property. This case does not support the claim that the company offered below market value: the oral offer of RUB 1.34 million was higher than the final court valuation of RUB 1.04868 million, and the property valued was not the same.

The court found that the enterprise had a duty to resettle residents from the sanitary protection zone, but there was no public decision on compulsory acquisition. Invest-NK asked the court to set a purchase price and order the owner to register the transfer of title. The owner sought a house in Kiselevsk of at least 59.7 square metres and a 674-square-metre plot outside sanitary, undermined and other harmful zones. The first-instance court denied both parties’ claims; on 18 April 2024, the appellate court upheld the judgment.²⁰

The true significance of the case does not lie in comparing one “correct” price with another. A GURSH social payment, a voluntary private transaction and public compulsory acquisition are different mechanisms. The company’s duty to resettle residents did not automatically give it the right to force a private sale of the house.

13. Resettled a Second Time

One court case explains the author’s phrase in the subtitle of this investigation.

In 2008, a family had already received a federal social payment in connection with the liquidation of the Kalinina mine. Two houses were purchased with the money. One of them later became the subject of a new court dispute.²¹

An earlier opinion placed the house within the designated mining allotment of the Krasnogorskaya mine and did not classify it as undermined or dilapidated. A court-appointed expert appraisal reached a different conclusion: the house lay in the area affected by old workings of the Voroshilova mine, had been undermined before 1970, and was already dilapidated by June 2013. Physical depreciation was assessed first at 71 per cent and then at 75 per cent; excessive horizontal deformation of the earth’s surface was identified as the principal cause of the damage.

On 26 August 2025, the first-instance court recognised the entitlement to inclusion on the list and to enter into a new agreement on a social payment. The decision confirms the first payment and the new entitlement. It does not confirm that the second payment was actually made or that the family actually moved.

This is not a statistic covering all resettlements. It is a documented possibility: assistance connected with one closed mine did not necessarily remove a family from the space affected by the legacy of old coal mining. A new address could be associated with another mine.

“**Resettled to the Other Edge of the Open-Pit Mine**” is Natalia’s authorial phrase. It does not mean that every family was literally moved across the same pit. It poses a question about the geography of assistance: did assistance remove a person from the space of coal-related risk, or did it sometimes relocate them within that space?

14. Zenkovskaya: A Project Through 2030

The Zenkovskaya mine reclamation design prepared in 2022 is important not only as a plan for future work. The new official design itself recorded that the previous documentary basis had been inadequate and that a large area remained disturbed.²²

The inventory covered **six disturbed plots with a total area of 363.1 hectares**. The design assigned **360.6784 hectares** to biological reclamation: 357.8477 hectares for agricultural use and 2.8307 hectares for forestry use. The surface had been disturbed by underground and open-pit mining; according to the design, the fertile topsoil layer was absent.

The work envisaged removing large fragments, filling collapses and workings, reducing slope gradients, rough and finish grading, forming a reclamation layer and completing the biological stage. The overall designed volume of fill was 1.7 million cubic metres of rock, or 1.904 million cubic metres using a bulking factor of 1.12. Plot no. 6 alone required approximately **1.5 million cubic metres** of fill.

Plots	Designed completion/handover date
Nos. 1–2	2026
Nos. 3–5	2027

Plots	Designed completion/handover date
No. 6	2030

The design called the previous 1997 design “**illegitimate**” and the volume of work previously envisaged insufficient. That wording belongs to the developer of the new design. It does not mean that no previous work had been carried out at all. It means that in 2022, official design documentation acknowledged the need for a new and substantially larger set of works.

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ООО «ПГПИ» 1068-ПЗ


 WE CREATE THAT YOU CREATED

Таблица 3.2.6 – Календарный план технического этапа рекультивации

№	Вид работ	Ед. изм.	Проведение работ по рекультивации					Итого
			2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Участок № 1								
1	Засыпка провалов и выработок	тыс. м³	200,0					200,0
2	Выполаживание откосов	тыс. м³	70,0					70,0
3	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	159,3					159,3
4	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	39,8					39,8
5	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³	239,0					239,0
6	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³	39,8					39,8
Участок № 2								
7	Выполаживание откосов	тыс. м³	2,0					2,0
8	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	21,7					21,7
9	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	5,4					5,4
10	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³	32,5					32,5
10	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³	5,4					5,4
Участок № 3								
11	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		2,3				2,3
12	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		0,6				0,6
13	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³		3,4				3,4
14	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³		0,6				0,6
Участок № 4								
15	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		1,1				1,1
16	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		0,3				0,3
17	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³		1,6				1,6
18	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³		0,3				0,3
Участок № 5								
19	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		4,0				4,0
20	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³		1,0				1,0
21	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³		6,0				6,0
22	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³		1,0				1,0
Участок № 6								
23	Засыпка провалов и выработок	тыс. м³	190,0	330,0	330,0	330,0	320,0	1 500,0
24	Выполаживание откосов	тыс. м³	100,0	186,0	186,0	186,0	192,0	850,0
25	Грубая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	150,0	280,0	280,0	280,0	294,6	1 284,6
26	Чистовая планировка поверхности	тыс. м³	35,0	70,0	70,0	70,0	76,1	321,1
27	Нанесение ПСП, ППП	тыс. м³	250,0	430,0	430,0	430,0	422,0	1 962,0
28	Чистовая планировка ПСП	тыс. м³	35,0	70,0	70,0	70,0	76,1	321,1
Оборудование								
29	T-25.01		1	1	1	1	1	
30	Погрузчик LONKING LG863N		1	1	1	1	1	
31	Hitachi ZX870		1	1	1	1	1	
32	БелАЗ 7555B		3	3	3	3	3	

Книга 1. Пояснительная записка.

17

V12. Schedule for the technical stage: plots nos. 1–2 through 2026, nos. 3–5 through 2027, and plot no. 6 through 2030. Source: reclamation design for the Zenkovskaya mine, ООО PGPI, 2022, PDF page 17. [Local document](#).

V13 · OBSERVED REALITY

ООО «ПГПИ» 1068-ПЗ



3.3 Биологический этап рекультивации

Биологический этап рекультивации включает в себя работы по посеву многолетних трав, посадке саженцев древесных пород, кустарников и начинается вслед за техническим этапом рекультивации. Биологический этап рекультивации планируется произвести на следующий год после окончания нанесения плодородного слоя.

Направление рекультивации нарушенных земель и виды их использования определяется с учетом стандартов ГОСТ 17.5.1.03-86. Настоящим проектом рекультивацию предусматривается проводить по сельскохозяйственному и лесохозяйственному направлению.

Проектные решения для проведения биологического этапа рекультивации приведены в таблице 3.3.1.

Таблица 3.3.1 – Проектные решения для проведения биологического этапа рекультивации

Показатель	Ед. изм.	Показатель, содержание
Земли, подлежащие биологическому этапу рекультивации после проведения технического этапа	га	360,6784
Направление биологического этапа рекультивации	га	Лесохозяйственное направление – 2,8307 Сельскохозяйственное направление – 357,8477

Для проведения биологического этапа рекультивации по лесохозяйственному направлению предусматривается проведение следующих мероприятий:

- нанесение на горизонтальные площадки рекультивируемых земель удобрений;
- на горизонтальные площадки производится посев многолетних трав;
- на наклонные площадки наносится удобрения и семена многолетних трав методом гидропосева.
- на горизонтальных площадках предусматривается посадка саженцев древесных пород и кустарников;
- на наклонных поверхностях производится посадка кустарников.

Для проведения биологического этапа рекультивации по сельскохозяйственному направлению предусматривается проведение следующих мероприятий:

- нанесение на всей площади рекультивируемых земель удобрений;
- на всей площади производится посев многолетних трав;
- на наклонных поверхностях нанесение удобрений и семян многолетних трав производится методом гидропосева.

Все работы биологического этапа рекультивации выполняются за счет предприятия, силами специализированных организаций.

Для посева многолетних трав применяется травосмесь бобовых и злаковых трав:

- овсяница луговая;

Книга 1. Пояснительная записка.
18

V13. Project table for the biological stage: 360.6784 ha, including agricultural and forestry use. Source: Zenkovskaya mine reclamation design, 2022, PDF page 18.

In 2025, the prosecutor's office went to court seeking an order that ООО Energiya-NK complete the technical stage. The company admitted the claim, cited financial difficulties and the absence of production activity, and asked for more time. It was not bankrupt. The court ordered the work to be performed; the enterprise also reported suspending open-pit operations at the Dzerzhinskogo block and preparing supplements to the design.

The body of material assembled does not contain a complete set of subsequent performance certificates, payments and final inspections for all six plots. The design therefore answers the question of what was considered necessary and within what time frame. It does not yet support the conclusion that the entire planned scope has been completed.

15. Old Damage and New Mining

The consequences of a closed mine and the actions of a new subsoil user can overlap on the same coal-producing land. If they are not separated, any contemporary damage can easily be attributed to GURSH — or, conversely, everything can be explained solely as a historical legacy.

Dalnie Gory and AO Lugovoye

In 2025, AO Lugovoye, a Russian joint-stock company, challenged orders issued by Rosprirodnadzor, the federal environmental oversight service. The Commercial Court of Kemerovo Region rejected the company's claim. The first-instance judgment records a failure to fulfil reclamation duties while developing the mine field from 2021, the placement of overburden on land whose ownership had not been demarcated, and operations beyond the boundaries of the plots made available. The court relied on an inspection, cadastral documents, mine-development plans, laboratory samples and satellite images.²³

The company referred to the earlier activities of the Kiselevskaya mine and OOO Dalnie Gory. The court compared this with materials concerning Lugovoye's own later operations.

V14 · OBSERVED REALITY



V14. Housing and a large technogenic slope in the same field of view. Open-pit mine in the Dalnie Gory field, 13 August 2019. Frame from Natalia Zubkova's video `C0050.MP4`, timecode 00:00:45. Natalia attributed the site; the file contains no GPS data.

D09 — JUDICIAL DECISION

Dalnie Gory: old terrain and new placement of rock

The court stated that visual inspection, analysis of the cadastral map and plans recorded operations extending beyond AO Lugovoye's plots, while laboratory studies confirmed that adjacent land had been covered with overburden. Source: Commercial Court of Kemerovo Region, judgment of 31 July 2025 in case no. A27-4646/2024. AO Lugovoye's claims were dismissed; the subsequent status of the decision has not been established in the body of material.

Houses in Belovo: Shares of the Impact

In one Belovo case, a VNIMI opinion divided the impact on damage to a house: 21 per cent was attributed to old workings of the Chertinskaya-Koksovaya mine, and 7.5 per cent to the current enterprise. The court awarded RUB 192,874 in damages and RUB 27,360 in costs against a claim of RUB 6.756 million.²⁴

In another dispute, the court refused to transfer liability for work carried out in 1958–1982 to present-day companies merely because they later obtained licences for neighbouring blocks. A further cassation case shows that the outcome of such disputes could change between instances: the first-instance court awarded about RUB 1.029 million, while the appellate court refused the claim; the published cassation material does not make it possible to reconstruct the entire causal chain.

These cases do not diminish the physical harm. They answer a different question: which share is connected to old mine workings, which to present-day operations, and who must compensate a particular loss. Old damage does not release a new user from responsibility for its own actions. A new licence does not make that user the legal successor to the entire history of the site.

16. How Land Was Made Available to Private Coal Mining Through a State Need

Mine closure and active extraction meet in the life of one person when their home or land becomes necessary to the coal industry. Three mechanisms must be distinguished here:

1. a state social payment connected with a mine undergoing closure;
2. a voluntary private transaction between an owner and an operating company;
3. compulsory acquisition for the needs of the Russian Federation in connection with subsoil use (Russian *iz'yatie*).

The last mechanism does not begin with the automatic loss of land. Its documentary chain is:

commercial subsoil user → application → territorial office of Rosnedra → order on compulsory acquisition for the needs of the Russian Federation in connection with subsoil use → valuation and negotiations at the subsoil user's expense → agreement or court → compensation → access to the land for operations authorised by the subsoil licence.

The three cases examined had three different outcomes.

Mencherep: The Mechanism Began, but the Land Was Not Acquired

In December 2016, Sibnedra, a territorial office of Rosnedra, issued four orders — nos. 650, 652, 653 and 651 — titled “On the Compulsory Acquisition of a Land Plot for the Needs of the Russian Federation in Connection with Subsoil Use.” Order no. 652 expressly referred to an application by OOO Stroipozhservis and licence KEM 01971 TE for open-pit coal mining.³³

D10 — ORDER ON COMPULSORY ACQUISITION



ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО НЕДРОПОЛЬЗОВАНИЮ

ДЕПАРТАМЕНТ
ПО НЕДРОПОЛЬЗОВАНИЮ
ПО СИБИРСКОМУ ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОМУ ОКРУГУ

П Р И К А З

г. Новосибирск

15.12.2016 № 652

Об изъятии земельного участка для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования

В соответствии с Главой VII.1 Земельного кодекса Российской Федерации от 25.10.2001 №136-ФЗ, Положением о Федеральном агентстве по недропользованию», утвержденным постановлением Правительства Российской Федерации от 17.06.2004 №293 (в ред. от 07.07.2016), приказом Федерального агентства по недропользованию от 07.04.2016 №255 «О распределении полномочий между Федеральным агентством по недропользованию, его территориальными органами и подведомственными организациями при принятии решений об изъятии земельных участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования (за исключением земельных участков, необходимых для ведения работ, связанных с использованием участками недр местного значения)», рекомендациями Комиссии по рассмотрению ходатайств об изъятии земельных участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования (за исключением земельных участков, необходимых для ведения работ, связанных с использованием участками недр местного значения), отнесенных к компетенции Департамента по недропользованию по Сибирскому федеральному округу (протокол от 08.12.2016 №2016-24-КЕМ), на основании ходатайства об изъятии земельных участков для государственных и муниципальных нужд Общества с ограниченной ответственностью «Стройпожсервис» (далее ООО «СПС») от 21.09.2016, лицензии на пользование недрами КЕМ 01971 ТЭ (дата государственной регистрации 12.09.2016), в целях реализации полномочий Федерального агентства по недропользованию по принятию решений об изъятии земельных участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования, приказываю:

Mencherep: a state need connected with subsoil use

First page of Sibnedra order no. 652 of 15 December 2016. The legal formula “for the needs of the Russian Federation” was used in a procedure initiated on the application of a commercial subsoil user. The body of material does not establish that compulsory acquisition actually took place under this order.

The owners challenged the orders. In April 2018, the first-instance court declared them unlawful, but that judgment was set aside and the case remitted for a new hearing. Before the dispute was decided again, the licence terminated, Sibnedra revoked the orders and the proceedings ended. The body of material contains no signed agreement, payment or transfer of land. The procedure began, but the acquisition did not take place.

Invest-NK: A Duty to Resettle Was Not Enough

There was no public acquisition order in the Invest-NK dispute. The company tried to secure the purchase through civil proceedings. The court did not convert the duty to resettle residents from the sanitary protection zone into a right to force a private sale. Both parties' claims were denied; the appellate court upheld the judgment.²⁰

State Need and Private Interest

The mechanism does not conceal the commercial user. On the contrary, the application, licence and duty to pay for valuation and compensation appear expressly in the documents. The state need is formulated as enabling work connected with subsoil use. The state body makes the public decision; the subsoil user receives the economic opportunity to conduct licensed development.

This is not a political slogan but the structure of the documents. It raises the question: what exactly did the state recognise as its need when the land was required by a private licence holder? The acts examined give a literal answer — operations connected with licensed subsoil use.

Active Mining: The Context of Resettlement

OOO Uchastok Koksovyi reported that since 2002 it had resettled 2,561 families — 4,411 people — and spent RUB 1.838 billion; the company later referred to more than 2,620 families receiving assistance outside the state programme.²⁵ This is corporate self-reporting, not a consolidated register of transactions. Court materials record separate disputes over night-time noise and the cadastral status of a house that no longer physically existed.²⁶ They matter to this investigation only as context: resettlement near active mining took place outside the GURSH mechanism and could involve different legal relationships.

V15 · OBSERVED REALITY



V15. Panorama of an open-pit working: benches, haul roads, machinery and adjacent forest. Koksovyi open-pit mine, 15 December 2018. Photograph by Natalia Zubkova, 2018-2. jpg ; the date is confirmed by EXIF metadata, and Natalia attributed the site. No GPS data are present.

17. Khakassia: The Initial Price and the Court Valuation

Order no. 216 of 15 March 2019, issued by TsentrSibnedra, a territorial office of Rosnedra, followed an application by OOO UK Razrez Mairykhsy and covered seven plots. Its wording was: **“for the needs of the Russian Federation for the purpose of carrying out work connected with subsoil use, at the expense of the subsoil user.”** The document cited licence ABN 16462 TE dated 17 July 2018.³⁴

D11 — ORDER ON COMPULSORY ACQUISITION

 ФЕДЕРАЛЬНОЕ АГЕНТСТВО ПО НЕДРОПОЛЬЗОВАНИЮ ДЕПАРТАМЕНТ ПО НЕДРОПОЛЬЗОВАНИЮ ПО ЦЕНТРАЛЬНО-СИБИРСКОМУ ОКРУГУ (Иркутск) П Р И К А З г. КРАСНОЯРСК № 4/16 Об изъятии земельных участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации с целью проведения работ, связанных с использованием недр на счет средств пользователя недр В соответствии с главой VII.1 Земельного кодекса Российской Федерации от 25.01.2001 года № 136-ФЗ, постановлением Правительства Российской Федерации от 17.06.2004 года № 293 «Об утверждении Положения о Федеральном агентстве по недропользованию», руководствуясь приказом Федерального агентства по недропользованию № 255 от 07.04.2016 года «О распределении полномочий между Федеральным агентством по недропользованию, его территориальными органами и подведомственными организациями при принятии решений об изъятии земельных участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования (за исключением земельных участков, необходимых для ведения работ, связанных с использованием участками недр местного значения)» (с изменениями, вступившими в силу с 07.04.2016 года, на основании приказа № 616 от 17.10.2016 г.), решением Комиссии по рассмотрению ходатайств об изъятии участков для государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования (за исключением земельных участков, необходимых для ведения работ, связанных с использованием участками недр местного значения), отнесенных к компетенции Департамента по недропользованию по Центрально-Сибирскому округу (ЦентрСибнедра), утвержденной приказом ЦентрСибнедра № 329 от 22.04.2016 года (Протокол от 14.12.2018 года), на основании ходатайства об изъятии земельных участков для государственных и муниципальных нужд поданного обществом с ограниченной ответственностью «Угольная компания «Разрез Майрыхский» (вх. № 11124 от 29.11.2018 г.), в целях реализации полномочий Федерального агентства по недропользованию по принятию решений об изъятии земельных участков для	государственных нужд Российской Федерации в связи с осуществлением недропользования, Приказываю: 1. Изъять для государственных и муниципальных нужд земельный участок с кадастровым номером 19:06:050702:2, расположенный по адресу: Республика Хакасия, Бейский район, в урочище Борек, принадлежащий на праве собственности Реннику Максиму Юрьевичу, номер и дата государственной регистрации: 19:19-08/004/2010-251 от 02.10.2010, с целью проведения работ связанных с использованием недр на основании лицензии АБН 16462 ТЭ от 17.07.2018 года предоставленной ООО «УК «Разрез Майрыхский»; 2. Изъять для государственных и муниципальных нужд земельный участок с кадастровым номером 19:06:050702:3, расположенный по адресу: Республика Хакасия, Бейский район, в 4,2 км северо-восточнее от северо-восточной окраины села Шалтинов, в урочище Маточная сопка, принадлежащий на праве собственности Покояковой Галине Михайловне, номер и дата государственной регистрации: 19:19-06/009/2007-138 от 10.03.2007, с целью проведения работ связанных с использованием недр на основании лицензии АБН 16462 ТЭ от 17.07.2018 года предоставленной ООО «УК «Разрез Майрыхский»; 3. Изъять для государственных и муниципальных нужд земельный участок с кадастровым номером 19:06:050702:8, расположенный по адресу: Республика Хакасия, Бейский район, в 6 км от села Шалтинов по направлению на северо-восток, принадлежащий на праве собственности Чаптыкову Владимиру Павловичу, номер и дата государственной регистрации: 19:19-03/018/2009-126 от 11.06.2009, с целью проведения работ связанных с использованием недр на основании лицензии АБН 16462 ТЭ от 17.07.2018 года предоставленной ООО «УК «Разрез Майрыхский»; 4. Изъять для государственных и муниципальных нужд земельный участок с кадастровым номером 19:06:050702:9, расположенный по адресу: Республика Хакасия, Бейский район, в 6 км от села Шалтинов по направлению на северо-восток, принадлежащий на праве собственности Чаптыкову Владимиру Павловичу, номер и дата государственной регистрации: 19:19-03/018/2009-128 от 11.06.2009, с целью проведения работ связанных с использованием недр на основании лицензии АБН 16462 ТЭ от 17.07.2018 года предоставленной ООО «УК «Разрез Майрыхский»; 5. Изъять для государственных и муниципальных нужд земельный участок с кадастровым номером 19:06:050702:10, расположенный по адресу: Республика Хакасия, Бейский район, в 6 км от села Шалтинов по направлению на
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Khakassia: “for the needs of the Russian Federation”

TsentrSibnedra order no. 216 of 15 March 2019, pages 1–2. The document connects the purpose to work under a licence, while making the subsoil user responsible for negotiations and expenditure.

In the case of owner V. P. Chaptykov, after the agreement was not received or signed, the company applied to court. On 29 September 2020, the Beisky District Court granted the claim for compulsory acquisition of the plot.³⁴ The published decision refers to an independent valuation, but the amount is redacted. The body of material does not establish that payment was subsequently made or the final appellate status.

In case no. A74-1427/2021, Razrez Mairykhsy sought compulsory acquisition of three agricultural plots from heads of peasant farms V. I. Mainagashev and O. P. Larionova. The court permitted the acquisition, but the court-appointed expert appraisal set substantially higher compensation:³⁵

Plot	Initial offer	Court valuation	Difference	Increase
1	RUB 1,598,000	RUB 2,432,000	RUB 834,000	+52.2%
2	RUB 1,256,000	RUB 2,670,000	RUB 1,414,000	+112.6%
3	RUB 238,000	RUB 912,000	RUB 674,000	+283.2%

A later ruling on legal costs reproduced the description of the initial offer as containing **“manifestly unfair terms of property compensation.”**³⁵ This judicial wording relates to the specific case and the specific offers. Three plots are not statistics for the entire industry. They show why price negotiations and a court-appointed expert appraisal can be decisive for an owner whose land is compulsorily acquired.

D12 — COURT VALUATION

Initial offer and court-appointed appraisal

RUB 1,598,000 → RUB 2,432,000 (

+52.2%

)

RUB 1,256,000 → RUB 2,670,000 (

+112.6%

)

RUB 238,000 → RUB 912,000 (

+283.2%

)

The court described the terms of the specific offer as “manifestly unfair terms of property compensation.” Source: case no. A74-1427/2021; appellate ruling on legal costs. The three plots in one case are not statistics for the entire industry.

18. Kazas: Another Resettlement Mechanism

Kazas was not part of the GURSH programme. The Russian side reported to international bodies that the obligation to resettle the residents of 28 houses had been included in OOO Razrez Yuzhny’s licence; official responses stated rates for the house, land and outbuildings.²⁷ The UN

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination recorded residents' complaints about the consent procedure, land valuation, access to the cemetery and fires at five houses in 2013–2014; no perpetrator of the fires was established.²⁸

The function of this example is limited to the mechanism: the word “resettlement” may refer to a federal social programme, a company’s licence obligation, a voluntary transaction or public compulsory acquisition. For the individual, each path means parting with a home, but the valuation of property, the procedure and the ability to refuse are different.

19. Moiseenkov: A Criminal Judgment Does Not Replace Investigation of a Site

On 29 September 2025, the Meshchansky District Court of Moscow convicted former GURSH director Andrei Moiseenkov under Article 210(1) of the Russian Criminal Code and on four counts of fraud under Article 159(4). The first-instance court sentenced him to seven years’ imprisonment in a high-security penal colony regime. The case was heard under the special summary procedure following a pre-trial cooperation agreement — to the extent reflected in the preserved body of material.²⁹

The official Moscow City Court case card shows that the appellate proceedings in case no. 10-4685/2026 were marked as completed on 6 April 2026. The full operative part of the appellate ruling is not in the body of material. The investigation therefore does not report whether the sentence was changed or in what form the criminal judgment entered into legal force.

The criminal case of one particular director does not replace investigation of specific sites. It does not prove that all GURSH designs, contracts and resettlements were fictitious. The RUB 99.5534 million contract matters not because a criminal judgment exists nearby, but because an audit body separately reconstructed a specific chain: submitted, approved, paid, and subsequently found not to have been performed.

20. What, in the End, Was Liquidated?

The documents do not produce either of two convenient narratives.

The first says that the state closed unprofitable mines, restored the land and resettled people, while later problems were rare exceptions. New projects covering hundreds of hectares, repeat inspections of homes, late court disputes, remaining mine workings, contracts at old sites and the documented control failure involving payment for work not performed contradict that narrative.

The second says that closure existed only on paper, all results were fictitious, and GURSH was solely a mechanism for theft. The body of material does not support that narrative either. The state created a large technical and social system. Judicial decisions show that families received payments and bought housing, while people identified later secured inclusion in the programme through the courts. One conviction and one failure of control do not turn thousands of measures into a fiction.

The factual picture is more complicated. GURSH managed a legacy that does not physically disappear with an enterprise. Behind aggregate reporting lies the fate of every plot and every house. A social payment helped people acquire housing, but it was not an individual purchase at market value of all the property they relinquished. Reclamation designs existed, but a new design could find the previous scope insufficient. Certificates and payments existed, but in one particular contract a subsequent audit found that the work submitted had not been performed.

V16 · OBSERVED REALITY



V16. Urban housing and large-scale technogenic terrain in a single panorama; a white plume of smoke or steam is visible in the distance. The author identifies the view as the western panorama of Kiselevsk. Zhizn na vulkane [Life on a Volcano] channel; published 4 November 2020, timecode 00:01:17; the filming date has not been established. [Source video.](#)

The state formalised the closure of enterprises and carried out individual mine-closure and liquidation measures, but the consequences of mining continued to require intervention underground, on the surface and in people's lives. Sometimes responsibility passed to a municipality or a new subsoil user. Sometimes it remained with the federal budget. Sometimes a person remained the owner of a damaged house but did not meet the programme's historical conditions. Sometimes a family that had already left the territory of one closed mine once again confronted the consequences of another.

In official reporting, a mine can become one line among 203 enterprises undergoing closure. On the ground, it remains a mine-dewatering facility, a dump, a collapse, heated ground, a deformed house or a new project extending to 2030. In a person's life, it can remain the boundary of their economic choice — even after the old address has been left behind.

This is what remained after Russian mines closed: the gap between the moment when a measure is declared complete on paper and the moment when the land genuinely ceases to require intervention.

EVIDENTIARY RECORD

Sources and Notes

1

A094 — appendix by the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation to the audit material; local record `67_СЧЕТНАЯ_ПАЛАТА_2025_КАРТОЧКА.md`. The audit material confirms the financial and documentary chain but is not a criminal judgment.

2

A123 — A. E. Agarov, “Итоги работы Государственного учреждения ‘ГУРШ’ по реализации программы ликвидации особо убыточных шахт и разрезов в 2007 году” [Results of the Work of the State Institution GURSH in Implementing the Programme for the Closure of Particularly Unprofitable Mines and Open-Pit Mines in 2007], *Уголь* [Coal], no. 3, 2008 [in Russian]. This is the institution’s industry self-reporting, not independent acceptance of every site.

3

A101 — Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation no. 1462 of 20 November 1997; A103 — available portion of Ministry of Fuel and Energy Order no. 408 of 29 November 1997; `01_ИСТОРИЯ_ГУРШ.md`.

4

A073 — Ministry of Energy Order no. 568 of 23 November 2010; A076 — charter of FGBU GURSH, approved by Order no. 447 of 23 May 2022; A069 and A071 — regulations governing the Kizel and Kuzbass branches.

5

A065 — state assignment for FGBU GURSH for 2025 and the 2026–2027 planning period. The indicator of 994 families is a plan, not a report.

6

A121 — A. V. Moiseenkov, “ФГБУ ‘ГУРШ’ — двадцать лет спустя” [FGBU GURSH — Twenty Years On], *Уголь* [Coal], 2018 [in Russian]; `61_МОИСЕЕНКОВ_2018_ПОЛНОЕ_ЧТЕНИЕ_СТАТЬИ.md`. The figures are GURSH’s reported results.

7

N08 — ruling of the Seventh Commercial Appellate Court dated 28 June 2011, no. 07AP-4402/11, in case no. A27-17934/2010; `60_КИСЕЛЕВСКАЯ_ПРОЧИТАННОЕ_ИЗ_АРХИВА_14_СЕНТЯБРЯ.md`.

8

A092 — Rosnedra notice dated 26 June 2014; A093 — Sibnedra Order no. 526 dated 18 September 2014; `44_ЛИЦЕНЗИИ_В_ОБМЕН_НА_ЛИКВИДАЦИЮ.md`.

9

N07 — agreement dated 20 September 2018 among ООО Sibenergougol, ООО Shakhtoupravlenie Maiskoye, АО Salek and ООО RudniK; file no. 60. The document’s stated total of 208.46 ha differs from the sum of its six rows, 208.45 ha.

10

N06 — responses to Lobarev’s comments and municipal technical conditions dated 6 December 2018; file no. 60. These are requirements, not a certificate of performance.

11

A001 — `Untitled.pdf`, archival collection of documents from 2008–2019; `54_UNTITLED_КИСЕЛЕВСКАЯ_РАЗДОЛЬНАЯ_МАЛИННЫЙ_ИЗУЧЕН.md`. The episodes relate to different dates and points.

12	N11 — response from OOO Shakhtoupravlenie Maiskoye dated 29 November 2019; N05 — prosecutorial submission dated 7 February 2020; A001 — related responses from Rostekhnadzor. The explanation of the source's cause is presented as the position of the document authors.
13	N09 — report by cadastral engineer A. V. Gerentsev dated 3 July 2019 concerning the house at 20 Malinnaya Street.
14	A116 — Kiselevsk City Court, case no. 2-1648/2025; 63_СУДЕБНЫЙ_КОРПУС_ФАКТИЧЕСКОЕ_ЧТЕНИЕ.md . First-instance judgment; the preserved copy states that it had not entered into legal force.
15	A118 — Anzhero-Sudzhensk City Court, case no. 2-848/2025; file no. 63. First-instance judgment; subsequent status has not been established.
16	A117 — Central District Court of Prokopyevsk, case no. 2-38/2026 (no. 2-1239/2025); file no. 63. First-instance judgment; subsequent status has not been established.
17	A108, A110 and A111 — the court history of N. A. Baravlev: case no. 2-1711/2025, appeal no. 33-1884/2026, cassation no. 8G-10604/2026; 23_КИСЕЛЕВСК_СУДЫ.md .
18	A127 — Donskoy City Court, case no. 2-70/2025. The market value of all property to be transferred is not established in the decision.
19	A128 — Kiselevsk City Court, case no. 2-124/2019. The decision confirms the purchase of a flat and the transfer of the former property, but does not make it possible to establish the amount or the geography of the choice.
20	Kiselevsk City Court, case no. 2-26/2024 (2-722/2023), judgment dated 10 January 2024; Kemerovo Regional Court, appellate ruling dated 18 April 2024. First instance ; appeal . Local copies are preserved in источники/судебные_акты/ .
21	A119 — Central District Court of Prokopyevsk, case no. 2-961/2025; file no. 63. The first-instance court recognised entitlement to inclusion on the list and to enter into an agreement; the decision does not confirm that a new payment was made or that an actual move took place.
22	A140 — Zenkovskaya mine reclamation design, 2022; 40_ШАХТА_ЗЕНКОВСКАЯ_РЕКУЛЬТИВАЦИЯ.md .
23	A078 — judgment of the Commercial Court of Kemerovo Region dated 31 July 2025 in case no. A27-4646/2024; 40_ЗЕМЛЯ_ЛИКВИДИРОВАННЫХ_ШАХТ.md . First-instance judgment; subsequent appeal status has not been established.
24	A129, A130 and A131 — Belovo cases nos. 2-117/2020 and 2-159/2020 and cassation publication no. 8G-18722/2020; file no. 63.
25	A134/A135 — <i>Глобус</i> [Globus] magazine, 2023, article concerning OOO Uchastok Koksovyi; A138 — company publication from 2025 [in Russian].
26	A136 — case no. 12-63/2024 concerning noise; A137 — case no. 2-1421/2020. The second document is a first-instance judgment; the published copy does not confirm that it entered into legal force.

27	A079, A082/A083, A084/A085 and A088 — official responses and statements by the Russian Federation before UN bodies; 68_КАЗАС_БУМАЖНАЯ_И_НАБЛЮДАЕМАЯ_РЕАЛЬНОСТЬ.md .
28	A086/A087 and A089/A090 — concluding observations and letter by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The documents record complaints and fires, but do not establish arson or identify a perpetrator as a matter of criminal fact.
29	A125 — incomplete publication of Moscow City Court appellate material no. 10-4685/2026; the official case card with the status “Completed” and date 6 April 2026 is preserved as источники/судебные_акты/Моисеенков_10-4685-2026_официальная_карточка_Мосгорсуд.html .
30	“Профиль здоровья жителей Киселёвского городского округа” [Health Profile of Residents of the Kiselevsk Urban District] [in Russian], local copy источники/историческая_география/Киселевский_городской_округ_профиль_здоровья.pdf ; study of the social sphere of Kiselevo [in Russian], local copy источники/историческая_география/Киселево_социальная_сфера_1930-е.html .
31	Russian OVOS environmental impact assessment materials for the Mine No. 12 field, local copy источники/историческая_география/Шахта_12_ОВОС_результаты.pdf ; ruling of the Seventh Commercial Appellate Court dated 28 June 2011, no. 07АП-4402/11; Malinnaya and Parnikovaya documents in 54_UNTITLED_КИСЕЛЕВСКАЯ_РАЗДОЛЬНАЯ_МАЛИННЫЙ_ИЗУЧЕН.md and 47_ПАРНИКОВАЯ_МАЛИННАЯ_ДОКУМЕНТЫ_ПЕРЕСЕЛЕНИЕ.md .
32	Resolution of the Government of Kemerovo Region — Kuzbass no. 758 dated 24 December 2025 [in Russian]. The estimate as of 1 January 2025 concerns the region’s entire population.
33	Sibnedra orders nos. 650, 652 and 653 dated 15 December 2016 and no. 651 dated 26 December 2016; Order no. 652 ; judgment of the Belovo District Court dated 13 April 2018 in case no. 2а-143/2018 and materials from the renewed proceedings. Actual compulsory acquisition under these orders has not been established.
34	TsentrSibnedra Order no. 216 dated 15 March 2019 ; judgment of the Beisky District Court dated 29 September 2020 in case no. 2-358/2020 . Local copies are preserved in источники/ . The ownership history was compared against reports by Interfax and Kommersant ; the article does not state exact ownership shares as of the order date.
35	Case no. A74-1427/2021; appellate ruling on legal costs , local copy источники/судебные_акты/Хакасия_Майрыхский_A74-1427-2021_апелляция_судрасходы.html .