

Lidzbark county to invest in thermal springs

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Lidzbark Warmiński presented a concept of a new investment which is to consist in constructing Warmia Thermal Springs i.e. a swimming pool complex with hot mineral water to be built by 2012 close to Krzyżowa Góra in the vicinity of national road 51.

The project has been approved by the Ministry of Economy. In the frame of a "Good Practices" contest the Ministry allocated 250 thousand PLN for the preparation of the thermal springs concept. The investment is to cost 35 million EUR. Half of the money will come from the Regional Operational Programme (ROP) for the Warmia-Mazury voivodship for the years 2007-2013. The Warmia Thermal Springs entered the list of key ROP projects for the region and thanks to an intention agreement with the voivodship's self-government 17.5 million EUR was earmarked for the purpose. The rest of the funds is expected to come from the emission of municipal bonds. However, due to the commune's little experience in realisation of this kind of investment and the scale of the project, the local government has been looking for a private partner who would take charge of the planning and construction works. After the project's completion the private partner becomes a co-shareholder of the company. In his interview for "Gazeta Olsztyńska" Marek Chyl, representing the Lidzbark administration, said that the authorities are open also to foreign investors.

The project's implementation is planned to start in the 3Q of 2009 and should be completed by December 2012. The complex is to be comprised of hot brine swimming pools (27-36 °C), a wellness centre, a hotel and restaurants as well as a sport centre. The energy needed for the thermal centre will come from renewable

sources that is why an alternative source of energy in the form of a bio-gasworks is planed to be constructed in the vicinity of the centre. (Lidzbark Warmiński, G azeta Olsztyńska)

A model of the Warmia Termal Spirngs. Source: Lidzbark Warmiński

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