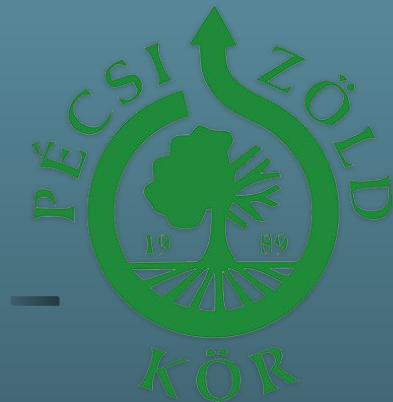


How a Green, Sustainable City Faces the Two Dirty Ends of the Nuclear Chain?

Uranium Mining and High-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal in Pécs ?

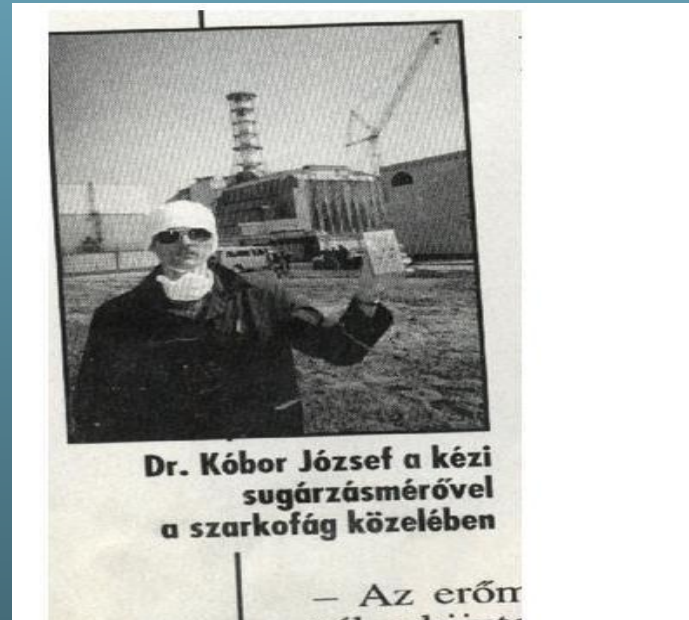


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The city of Pécs – with its 2,000-year-old Roman heritage and a population of 150,000 – once hosted a uranium mine operated under Soviet-Russian control, which was closed in 1997. At that time , the older coal mines have been closed , too.

Economic depression – effects still visible today, population slowly shrinks

- **Strategy pillars for the outbreak:**
- High value-added industry (energy efficiency, hydrogen, etc.)
- Higher education (full scale university education)
- Healthcare (medical –clinical center)
- Culture (genuine cultural heritage)
- Tourism

- Hungary has some uranium resources around the Mecsek deposit in the south of the country, but no present production.
- The Mecsek underground mine near Pécs operated from 1958 to 1997.
- from 1963 it was milled on site and the concentrate was exported to the Soviet Union. A total of about 21,000 tU was
- produced at an average recovery of 50-60%. Since 1997, the mine has been decommissioned and remediated at
- considerable expense (about €110 million).
- But until now the defense of the Pécs city water resources needs activities, for example, the use of ion exchange resins in waste rock leachate treatment, and continuous monitoring.

About 40 million tons of waste rock and ponds from the old uranium mines near to Pécs City border, and bordering with aquifer layer



- The main producer of radioactive waste and spent fuel is the Paks NPP with four VVER 440 type units.
- In the framework of an agreement between the Government of Hungary and the Government of the Russian Federation - promulgated in the Act II of 2014 - two VVER-1200 type nuclear power plant units are planned to be commissioned in 2025 and 2026 at the Paks site.

Interim fuel storage site of NPP Paks, Hungary



Deep repository research site, Boda aleurolit, Pécs, 2. deep research laboratory planned site



December 2019, Pécs City Council, two resolutions



- **Whereas, the City of Pécs is committed to safeguarding the health and well-being of its residents and to ensuring sustainable urban development in line with its long-term strategic objectives;**
- **Whereas, the opening of a new uranium mine within the territory of the city or in its vicinity would be incompatible with the city's development strategy, would expose the population to health risks, and would diminish the city's attractiveness;**
- **Whereas, the establishment of a high-level radioactive waste repository within the territory of the city or along its borders would likewise contradict the city's development objectives, endanger public health, and negatively impact the city's appeal and economic prospects;**
- **Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the General Assembly of the City of Pécs expressly rejects the opening of any new uranium mine and the establishment of any high-level radioactive waste repository within the city's territory or in its immediate vicinity.**



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PÉCS



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