
In Altai Territory, three entrepreneurs found guilty of large-scale swindling and legalization through management of hazardous wastes

Evidence gathered by investigative bodies of the Investigative Committee of Russia in the Altai Territory was found by the court to be sufficient to sentence the Director General of Altai Construction Company LLC, as well as the founder of Utilservice LLC and her partner who is de facto one of the managers of the company. In accordance with their involvement, they were found guilty of offences under Part 4 of Article 159 (swindling committed on a large scale, by a group of persons in a preliminary conspiracy, by a person through his official position), Paragraph B of Part 4 of Article 174.1 (legalization (laundering) of amounts of money or other property acquired by a person as the result of an offence committed by him), and Part 2 of Article 247 (violation of the rules for dealing with environmentally hazardous substances and waste including transportation, storage, dumping, or any other circulation of chemical substances or waste, with the violation of fixed rules, if these acts have created a threat of infliction of substantial harm on the environment, which have involved contamination of the environment) of the Criminal Code of Russia.

The investigation and the court established that, in June 2016, the joint-stock company Biysk Production Association Sibpribormash had announced a tender for the dumping of hazardous wastes on a specialized site, which had been won by the Altai Construction Company LLC, with the signing of a respective contract. Unwilling to fulfill the terms of the contract, the Director of the company had found the Utilservice LLC which had had a license for utilization and deactivation of hazardous wastes. Heads of the two companies had entered into a conspiracy to produce fake documents on admission and utilization of hazardous wastes of the Sibpribormash enterprise on the Tomsk site. However, the wastes had been illegally unloaded and placed on a plot of land in Biysk which isn't registered as an object for storage and dumping of hazardous wastes. These actions inflicted substantial harm to the environment and its contamination. The money in the amount of 40.8 million rubles that Sibpribormash transferred to the account of the Altai Construction Company LLC to pay for the work had been spent by the entrepreneurs at their discretion.

The crime was detected by the officers of the Directorate of the Federal Security Service of Russia in the Altai Territory.

The entrepreneurs did not plead guilty during the preliminary investigation; however, the investigation gathered enough evidence of their involvement in the incriminated offences for the court to sentence them to 4-6.4 years of imprisonment, suspended with fines.

30 July 2019

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