

INFRASTRUCTURES

Sant Julià de Lòria landfill will cost around two million euros

Construction of these facilities is expected to be completed in early 2023

The government will transfer part of the plot to the municipality to facilitate the traffic of heavy vehicles

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Sant Julià de Lòria will have a new landfill in the middle of the year 2023, and its construction and execution will cost approximately two million euros, according to the Consul General of Sant Julià, Josep Majoral, in EL PERIÒDIC. In this sense, the Government and the municipality signed last Friday the agreement by which the Executive cedes a portion of a plot of its property, of exactly 35m², in order to be used for vehicles of large tonnage of the new landfill can be maneuvered with ease. Thanks to the benefit, Majoral said that «the cost will also be cheaper». In particular, it will save part of the excavation, facilitate access to the future landfill and gain interior space in the building. This property of the Government, which was handed over «more than 30 years ago», according to the Minister of Territory and Housing, Víctor Filloy, has been subdivided to delimit the

The transfer of the Government will save excavation costs, facilitate access to the landfill, and gain area

The minister says that the Portalada area, where the landslide took place, is «stabilized»

part of the Government, that of urban cession of the municipality and another area that is privately owned.

The need to build this new landfill is due to the fact that in 2019, the communal-owned warehouse was affected due to the landslide of the Portalada, on the CG-1. Subsequent technical reports have shown that the area cannot be permanently occupied as the danger remains active. However, the



► Josep Majoral and Víctor Filloy signed the agreement last Friday.

government continues to monitor the area with an infrared radar system, and Filloy noted that «it is currently stabilized». That is why «the obligation of the municipality is to build new facilities in good condition, both technically

and for the people who work there», said the Consul General of Laurieda. Currently, the incident in La Portalada is being prosecuted, and in this line, Majoral indicated that «it goes a long way».

On the other hand, the signing

of the agreement was carried out taking advantage of the fact that the General Council approved the new Public Procurement Law this Thursday, which is necessary to be able to obtain a concession for the construction and operation of the

Filloy is in favor of maintaining the measures in rents

► The Minister of Territory and Housing, Víctor Filloy, assessed in the signing of the transfer of a plot of land to Sant Julià de Lòria, that «it is clear that there is still a situation of tension in the market, and therefore, we must maintain a certain protection of individuals and families. The statement came after the Andorran Business Confederation (CEA) called on Thursday to eliminate the freeze on rents. In addition, the management has proposed a series of changes to remove the interventionist measures and allow rent to rise, as long as the amount does not exceed one third of the family income. All in all, Filloy said that maintaining the measures does not mean that this protection can be negotiated with «flexibility», although what needs to be decided now is with what «depth» the protection must continue. Finally, the Minister also considered that these proposals should be articulated through the National Housing Commission, which is «technically assessing these issues».

new landfill. Therefore, the procedure has been advanced. What will follow at last Friday's meeting will be to submit the project to a public tender, wait 20 days, and then the comparisons and awards will be made. Therefore, the calculations show that construction should begin early next year. «I am confident that the new landfill will help lauredians to have a better infrastructure in terms of recycling and reuse of all the elements that the parish collects on the road», said Filloy.

Finally, the Municipality of Sant Julià de Lòria will have to continue using, for now, rental warehouses that will temporarily replace the old landfill, as «there is no other solution», said Majoral. ≡

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ENTREPRISE

The new foreign investment law will allow companies to be created in 15 days

The text removes the pre-ministerial control process and proposes a posteriori review of activities

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The new law on foreign investment promoted by the Ministry of Economy will speed up the process of creating companies to the point of reducing the time required for their operation by a total of 15 days. This was announced last Friday by the head of the portfolio, Jordi Gallardo, who stated that «until now, companies had to go through a process that lasted several months due to the requests and controls of the initial Administration». With this amendment to the law, the Government intends to facilitate the registration of trademarks and speed up the implementation of business activities to make the country more attractive when investing from abroad and generate more wealth, which, until now, was widened by around 98 days on average in order to be able to give the go-ahead to foreign firms. If the text ends up being applied, companies will only need to apply for initial authorization and declare the investment to begin.

One of the points that was highlighted during the presentation organized by Andorra Business was the abolition of the control prior to the creation of the companies that, until now, has been carried out by the Ministry of Economy and Business. In this sense, the new legislative text provides for a posteriori review of the business activities of the new companies in order to check whether the pre-established statutes are being complied with and to find out if the declared investments materialize and what job offer they generate, among other things. This shows that, so far, the government has not established any method for discerning whether foreign investment is working properly or not. However, the Minister stated that to make this paradigm shift a reality, «it will be necessary to provide more resources to the Department of Economic and Legal Registries and make an investment in human and technological resources».

The law also provides for the ministry to impose precautionary measures «in order to reverse or suspend, if necessary, the initial in-



► The Minister of the Presidency, Economy and Business, Jordi Gallardo, during the presentation of the amendment to the Foreign Investment Law.

vestments in order to comply with the guidelines in case of shortcomings», Gallardo said. Thus, the head of Economy described the directive with the term «controlled liberalization» which will favor, mainly, those countries that have signed an agreement with Andorra that rules out double taxation

The Ministry may withdraw or suspend actions that do not comply with the new clauses

or an agreement on the permissibility of exchange of investments. In these cases, it will apply the acceleration of the creation of companies in 15 days. With regard to those countries where such agreements do not exist, the procedure will be the same as at present, also replacing the previous revision



Jordi Gallardo
MINISTER OF ECONOMY

«It will be necessary to provide more human and technological resources to the Department of Economic and Legal Registers»

«[The law] will allow some activities that were not previously authorized to be carried out now»

with the subsequent one «without the possibility of creating a company by the fast track», according to Gallardo.

Going into the details of the aspects that refer to the safeguard clause of the text, the head of Economy stated that «the transformation of the criteria of foreign investors has led to the need for more legal certainty when carrying out these operations». He also added that this legislative action «will make it possible to make public what types of investments are limited to the country» because the aim is to facilitate the entry of capital that in no case endangers critical infrastructures in the Principality or aspects that counter energy sovereignty, public order and security, which «are one of the main national assets to be maintained». Thus, the Minister reiterated that this measure of «revision» will not stop foreign investment, but «will allow some of the activities that were not previously authorized, now, to do so for subsequent monitoring». ≡

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