

Ingvil Smines Tybring-Gjedde to help Norway Mining co-location adaptation of mining



NEW POSITION: Ingvil Smines Tybring-Gjedde will be a board member of Norway Mining from 1 March. The rig in the picture is testing drilling for minerals at Åsen in Bjerkreim.

The former minister of community safety will become a new board member of Norge Mining.

Ingvil Smines Tybring-Gjedde joins on 1 March as a new board member of Norway Mining, the company hoping to start mining in the area between Helleland and Ualand. Tybring-Gjedde has previously served as Minister of Public Safety and Deputy Minister of Petroleum and Energy. She was until recently a special adviser at innovation Norway.

– What should be your duties on the board?

"My expertise and experience from Norway will be important for Norge Mining. First, it is important to mine resources in a good way, within the value base that Norge Mining has. And then it's about looking at the local adaptation, both in terms of those who live in the area, and considering that this will benefit the region," Tybring-Gjedde told Dalane Tidende.

– Any ideas on how to solve the last one there?

"That's what you have to get out along the way. The minerals will both be extracted and processed - there are many activities growing up around mining.

– You envision a local supplier industry?

- Yes, i'm sorry. Now it is the case that all industry and supplier industries must be competitive. But the oil sector has shown that we can be in Norway, not least with our innovation and technology development. There we have a very big advantage.

Kaø and open doors

Eigersund's mayor Odd Stangeland (Labour Party) has called for more involvement in the mining opportunities from national level. Tybring-Gjedde says that part of her tasks is precisely to work towards its political field.

– So now you're going to invite politicians to kaøe to talk about mining?

- Hehe. There are many ways to get in touch. I have sat on the other side of the table and seen how little one uses the open doors we have mostly in Norway, both at the ministry and local level. We're far too small from the access to government officials. There, my knowledge of the systems and processes can play a role.

– Norway's patriot, of course

"Some fear that this will be a project where foreign expertise and capital set up a business that sends most of its revenues out of the country. Some compare it to the wind farms owned by foreign investors. What do you think about that?"

"I'm a Norwegian patriot, of course. I want the best for Norway and it has Norge Mining set. I believe that the company shows corporate social responsibility by now creating an organization here. When it comes to foreign investors, I don't think you should be so afraid of it," says Tybring-Gjedde.

She points out that a large part of the minerals in question can be used in battery production.

"Then we have an advantage in the fact that battery manufacturers are already looking to Norway with great interest. It is thus that the minerals are both in Norway and can be used here in long value chains. We have renewable power extraction and battery production, and we have a competent population that can work in these industries. I think we are in an incredibly good position to get a new industry and industry out of this."