

Dalane Tidende web, 22.04.22 21:15

Norway Minerals presented the facts at a public meeting: People in Helleland are waiting, and more people are wondering what will happen to their village



HASN'T TURNED THEIR BACKS ON PLANS: Around 100 people received the information from Norway Minerals at the public meeting on Friday evening. People are mostly waiting. Many will wait to decide for or against the mining plans until they know more. Photo: Sylvie Assersen Skadberg

Open share buttons for the article

[Sylvie Assersen Skadberg](#)

"I think a lot about the fact that there could be mining here. I still feel that we know too little about what a mine can lead to, but right now I hope that this will not happen," says Turid Egeland Gystøl after the meeting on Friday evening.

For subscribers

Egeland Gystøl has weighty reasons for his scepticism. A mine could hit the family farm. It is only a couple of years since the farm was taken over by the younger generation. At the same time, larger investments were made.

"And then I ask myself whether mining with an open mine is compatible with Helleland being an attractive place to live," says Egeland Gystøl.

Ståle Svalestad also wonders what it will be like to live in Helleland if there is mining here.

"I'm a little skeptical, but also curious about what happens in the future. We still know too little about what a possible mine would mean for the village. If there is talk of open mining, I feel that I am skeptical that there may be both noise and dust problems. But I have not yet landed on whether I am for or against," says Svalestad.



SKEPTICISM: Turid Egeland Gystøl (left) and Ingfrid Hyggen are both skeptical about mining. They are concerned that Helleland will be a good place to live in the future. Photo: Sylvie Assersen Skadberg

More facts

Håvard Tamburstuen, head of Helleland well and rural development, is also very concerned that more facts and answers need to be put on the table before one can conclude whether mining is good for Helleland.

"It is a relevant question to wonder what it will be like to live here with a potential mine. The mineral deposits here are significantly larger than those found in Sokndal," he says.

Tamburstuen can also see that a mine can bring something positive.

"For example, I think about increased business development. But it is still too early to conclude. We need more facts," tamburstuen says.



WANTED: "The dialogue between well-made and Norway Minerals is good," says Håvard Tamburstuen, head of the charity. More information about the mining plans was requested on the Facebook page of the charity. On Friday evening, around 100 people attended a public meeting at Grendehuset.

Soon the answers will come

It was an informative meeting Norway Minerals had planned. Acting GENERAL MANAGER, Monika Øksnes, told about the whole process, from the start in 2019 to where the work stands today.

"We had hoped to finish the scope study during the first quarter of this year, but we have not been able to do that. Now the plan is to be finished by the summer. The scope study will give us an answer as to whether there are grounds for moving forward with the project, and whether there can be mining here. Scope study is a kind of summary response," she says.



SOON ANSWER: "As soon as the scope study is peaceful, we know if there are grounds for mining," says Monika Øksnes. Norway Minerals is planning a new public meeting in September. Then the Hedland arch will have an answer as to whether there can be mining in the village, or not. Photo: Sylvie Assersen Skadberg

Norway Minerals is planning a new information meeting in September.

"I am very excited about the results of the scope study. The results will be presented at the September meeting, but should there be big news before then, we will publish these on an ongoing basis, Øksnes said.