



Machines Czech in for micropiles

A €3M slope stabilisation project begun in February last year is continuing at the giant Bilina open-cast brown-coal mine in the rainswept and hilly Bohemia region of the Czech Republic, near the German border.

Micropiles and 400 anchors are being installed by Soletanche Czech

Republica to prevent slips in old waste material which has been deposited over the years on the edge of the deep pit. The mainly sandy clays and claystones rest on harder schists beneath and tend to slide, threatening the huge excavators which continue working below, says project manger Jan Libus.

Soletanche is using two Comacchio MC1200 machines to drill 160mm diameter holes between 15m and 40m deep, half in the waste and half into the bedrock. Concrete blocks made by another contractor are held by the anchors.

Mine owner SD – rekultivace is the client.