

**Opinion, February 29, 2016**

**"Erion Veliaj and Tirana"**

**Note: Erion Veliaj is the Mayor of Tirana**

**Robert Rakiplari is an analyst and a journalist**

*Min. 28.23*

**Robert Rakiplari:** IS the legal status of the park changing or not? Is the route being opened for new constructions or not? Will flats be built there?

**Veliaj:** No, no, no. There will be no change. There will be no construction at all. And I publicly invite you if you have this doubt.

**Robert Rakiplari:** Has the permit been granted and why has building activity started without permit?

**Veliaj:** I just explained. The site has been fenced. I know what happens

**Rakiplari:** The National Territory Council may not give the permit... are you sure that it will issue you with the permit?

**Veliaj:** I know what ... definitely yes and the site stops ... but it has to be fenced beforehand for security reasons.

**Rakiplari:** Will the trees be cut ... the site stops...

**Veliaj:** There is not a single tree cut...

**Rakiplari:** Yes, trees have been cut, because people have seen them.

**Veliaj:** There is not a single tree cut. ....

**Veliaj:** Now let me explain.. ..At the beginning there is a site permit and there is a building permit ... and that's exactly what has happened. The site permit is granted by the Municipality and its has exactly happened that the site has been fenced, the security perimeter has been established and the signage has been put up so that no suffers an accident and then comes the building permit and you tell me how do I know that the National Council will issue the permit.

You are saying that the Albanian government, which gave the money, which gave the project and, which enabled the detail and the environmental assessment plan will not give the permit. Now this is wordplay.

So as long as there is a permit, and it's legal, and, as long as there is a project, which has been approved project, now let me read elements of the project....