



The Republic of Poland got involved in a scandalous "development" project affecting the Rospuda peat bog. Ecologists discuss its environmental damages. However, the absurdity of the project results from its economic inefficiency, while environmental disruption serves as a *red herring*. A badly needed beltline of Augustow can be built more wisely and cheaply. But the project proponents do not care for it!

Research carried out in Warsaw Ecological Economics Center at the Warsaw University confirms the very high economic value of the Rospuda peat bog. Nevertheless what is essential in this scandal is not a confrontation of an unnecessary environmental disruption with benefits from a beltline, but rather economic inefficiency of the variant advocated for by authorities. The money is going to be literally drowned in the swamp. More on that in *Aura* 9/2006 (in Polish only).