

The Junta looks into legalising the houses of Albox

and 'shielding' the land so that it doesn't happen again

"Will legalise if electricity, roads and water are gauranteed"

Translated from original article by ÁFRICA MATEO ALMERÍA, IDEAL, 25 November 2007

CALENDAR

The subregional plan of Levante.
Vehicle to legalise the situation.

> Status: Advance Plan to be published this month.

> Objections: Once published you have 2 months to file objections (alegaciones).

> Approval: When the objections are addressed, for the review comission and the Junta.

The Office of Public works of the Junta is not comfortable with the situation of illegal houses in Albox. In addition, the visit of the delegation of EU parliamentarians hearing denuncias from those affected, worsened, if possible, the situation. For that reason it has been working for months to find a good solution for those 500 families who have properties built on rustic land.

In principle, the planners from the Office of Public Works in Almeria thought that the situation of the houses could be regularized through the General Plan - PGOU -. But there are many houses and, worse, they are very far from the urban nucleus.

For this reason the residents (in the majority English) affected by the situation will have to hope that the Sub Regional Plan of Levante is approved. This regulation, governing the planning of the entire region, is superior to the General Plan (PGOU).

According to Luis Caparros, delegate of the Office of Public Works, these regional plans suggest that the PGOU is the one that resolves the situation of houses

that are unplanned.

According to details, it suggests that a 'corona' is drawn around all the houses that are completed and lived in. Anything outside this 'corona' is declared protected land (on which nothing can be built). From then on if anybody builds outside of the 'corona' they would have to answer to the penal courts.

The objective is to give a way out to existing constructions but not to allow any more. Yes, of course, to legalise the houses in Albox (not the only municipality in the region that has houses outside the urban nucleus in a rural zone), those that have constructed the houses or own them will have to pay for the services that many houses do not currently have - like light and water.