

European 18 - Site visit report - Nome - 25.10.2025

The site visit on the European 18 competition in Nome was conducted on 25.10.2025.

Participants were taken on a bus tour to visit the four different sites that are part of the competition with a local guide, Tor Flom, explaining the geography and European Norway general secretary Bjørnar Haveland answering questions related to the competition. All questions related to the competition brief were deferred to the European 18 competition portal.

The tour was open both for interested locals and for European participants. A total of 27 people participated, 5 of whom are European participants.

These sites are the same that are evaluated by a study (Konsekvensutredning) of the consequences of the mining operations conducted by independent consultants on behalf of the municipality before the local council will decide on what site to choose. The study is not yet finished, and the report will be released this summer.

We visited Dagsrud, Kloppedalen and Nukedal by bus, stopping for about 15 min in each place at locations that provided vantage points to see and get an impression of the scope of each site. For Bærevann, the dirt road was not yet accessible (only accessible in summer months) and we did a hike into the forest to experience the area more first hand.

Before the release of this comparative study, little concrete information about the consequences of the project on different sites is available. This has led to some confusion among inhabitants of Nome about what will happen, and when, and how they can voice their concerns. Most of the discussions on the site visit was about clarifying aspects of the timeline of when information will be released and democratic procedure for participating and influencing the decision on where and if Nome should accept the mine.

One of the mining companies attended the tour with several representatives, and used the visit to argue their view of where the mineral park should be located. Their favorite is the Bærevann alternative because of topography, access to infrastructure like roads and electricity and the shorter distance to Skien and the ports. On the other hand, that site has a much higher number of different land owners as well as more valuable types of nature and red listed species. This mining company is negative of Dagsrud because of how visible it will be on top of a hill, and quite negative to the two other alternatives too because of the tunnels and access infrastructure that needs to be made.

European Norway and the municipality representative had to interject, and clarify for the participants that the independent and unbiased study that looks at all the different sites will be released this summer and that the tour is just to understand the scale and location of the different sites. The information given by the mining company might be correct, but impossible to verify and compare with other consequences before the study is released. The role of European

is not to give an opinion on what site is the best suited, but to give conceptual answers that can be relevant on several of the sites.

Attached are some maps and pictures that was prepared for the tour.

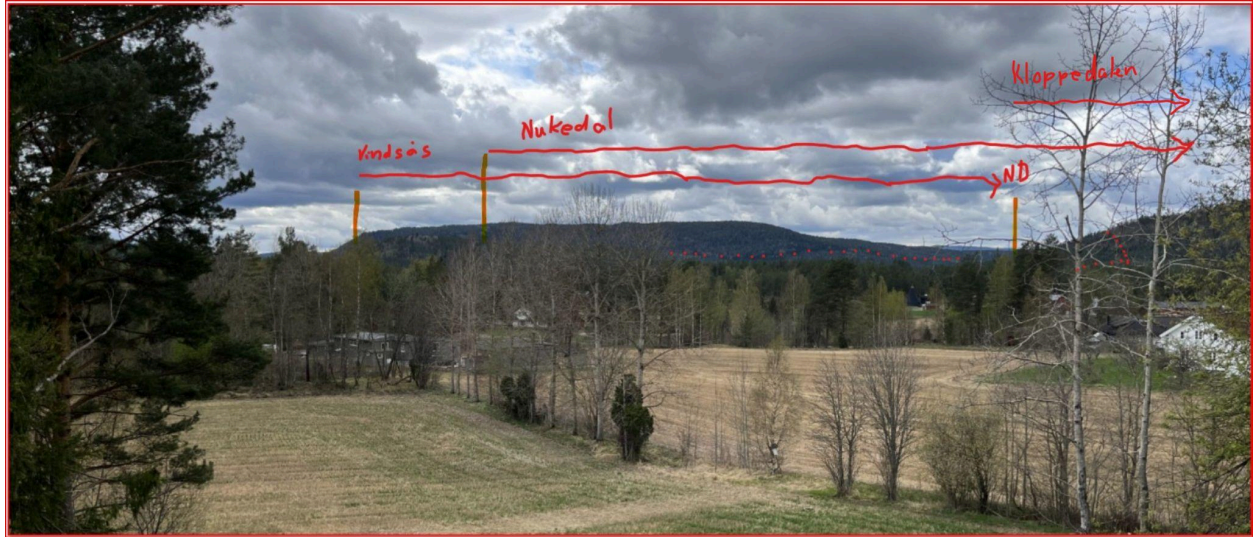
Pictures:

Dagsrud:



Nukedal:





Vindsås:





Bærevann:





Nome kommune, Samfunnsutviklingsetaten

