

The Diploma thesis deals with the Czech energy policy in relation to the local ecological limits of the brown coal mining in Northern Bohemia. The local ecological limits are based on the government statement in 1991 and its purpose is to protect environment in this area. Nowadays we are the witnesses of the discussion about the abolition of these limits, mainly because of the shrinking resources of the brown coal.

The aim of this thesis is to analyze how the Czech energy policy deals with the public interest in relation to the local ecological limits. The thesis focuses not only on the public interest but also on the actors and the distribution of the power among these actors and on the future direction of the Czech energy policy mainly in relation to the sustainable development. The thesis is based on the theoretical knowledge of the business-state relationship and of the sustainable development.

The thesis shows that the public interest is not clearly defined in the Czech energy policy, although it is used very often. The conceptualization of the public interest can be derived from the acting and statements of the relevant actors. According to the relevant actors the public interest is the exploitation of these resources, which would lead to the conservation of the current structure of the energy industry, mainly the heating industry.