



Tanahu Hydropower Limited

(A subsidiary company of Nepal Electricity Authority)

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PRESENT STATUS

Bidding Process:

- Preliminary Draft of Price Bid Evaluation Report (PBER) of Package-1(Headworks) as prepared by the Bid Evaluation Committee of THL and PSC has been sent to the ADB on 02 March 2018 for their initial review and comments. Final PBER report has been prepared incorporating the comments received from ADB and subsequently sent to the ADB on 20 March 2018 for concurrence.
- THL has held two rounds of pre-award discussion with the Lowest Evaluated Bidder of Package-2. The Bidder submitted the clarification on the issues raised during pre-award discussion. THL is reviewing the clarification responses.
- THL is waiting for final concurrence from the ADB for Package-3(Transmission Line). ADB has requested THL to initiate the process of changing the implementing agency from NEA to THL.

Safeguard activities:

Environmental Safeguard:

Safeguard Awareness Program

An Environmental and Social Orientation Program was conducted by Environmental Monitoring Specialist and Social Safeguard Specialist (ESMU) on 20 March 2018 at Myagde Rural Municipality. The objective of the program was to aware local people on the existing environment of the project area, provide information on potential impacts on physical environment, biological environment and socio-economic and cultural environment due to project activities during construction and operation phase. Total 60 APs from 14 community forests of reservoir area were participated.

Air and Noise Quality data

Base line monitoring of air and noise quality in four locations (Dam site/Betini, Power house, Patan and Jhaputar) of the project were conducted during 26-28 February, 2018. Baseline data of total Suspended Particles (TSP), Particulate matter (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}), Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and noise levels were collected. High Volume Air Sampler was used to measure the TSP and PM₁₀ concentration present in the ambient air of the monitoring sites whereas Low Volume Air Sampler was used to measure the PM_{2.5} concentration. Active absorption method was used to



Environmental and Social Safety Seminar



Safeguard orientation program at Tharpu, Myagde

measure the concentration of SO₂ and NO₂ from the ambient atmosphere. The noise meter was used for record of noise level.

The key findings of air and noise survey data:

- The air quality of the project area is found satisfactory except for the TSP level that exceeds the National Standard at Jhaputar and Power house location. Measured Values of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂ and NO₂ are found within the limits specified by the National Standard.
- The noise levels detected from all locations are found below the National Standard.



Participants are raising queries on Environmental and Social Safeguard

Community Water Supply Project

THL has concluded an agreement with Water Supply and Sanitation Consumer Committee on 26 February 2018 for the construction of Jhaputar Water Supply Scheme for serving drinking water to Aps of Jhaputar, Risin Rural Municipality. From this scheme, about 300 affected families will be directly benefited.



Construction of Jhaputar Water Supply Project

Fish Biodiversity:

An Awareness workshop was organized on 22 March 2018 with fishers of Bhimad Municipality on conservation and sustainable utilization of aquatic biodiversity in Seti River within the project area of Tanahu Hydropower Project. Fifteen participants from Baghtar, Bhimad Municipality participated in the workshop. The main objective of the workshop is to educate the fishers about:

- Fish biodiversity in Seti River within Tanahu Hydropower Project area;
- Role of fish in food security, livelihood, human nutrition sport fishing/tourism industry;
- Role of fishes and other aquatic fauna and flora in balancing aquatic environment /aquatic

- ecosystem;
- Causes of fish population depletion in Seti river;
- Aquatic life protection Act and its regulation to conserve indigenous fish resources;
- Impact of Hydropower Dam on indigenous fish faunal diversity eventually on the livelihood of local fishers;
- Proposed mitigation measures such as establishment and operation of a fish hatchery, fish catch and haul and fish habitat rehabilitation to mitigate the adverse effects of dam on fish and eventually on local fishers were discussed.

Community Meeting: As recommended by the ADB Social Safeguards Mission (13-17 November 2017), community meetings with the stakeholders are being continued. Issues regarding social safeguard and environmental monitoring were discussed during these meetings.

Meeting of Local Consultative Forum (LCF)

As per provisions of Resettlement and Indigenous People Plan (RIPP)-2012, Local Consultative Forums (LCFs) have been established at project affected Rural Municipalities and Municipalities.

A consultation meeting has been held at the site office of Damauli on 15 Feb 2018 on the issues of acquiring/leasing the land of Betini area, project progress, grievances of APS in the presence Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Ward Chairperson, other members of LCF, THL and APS. The issues on compensation payment and use of land have been discussed. 39 applications from affected peoples has been collected and finalized for Livelihood Support and Income Generation Assistant and the assistant will be distributed from first week of April 2018.

Operation of Public Information Center (PIC)

The Public Information Center (PIC) has been established at Rising Rural Municipality.

Bridging Consultant

The Bridging Consultants comprising of Environmental, Fisheries and Social Safeguard Specialists have been engaged in the site to undertake all required preparatory measures as mentioned in Environment Management Plan (EMP) and to monitor pre-construction works as required until the Environment and Social Management Service Provider (ESMSP) is mobilized. During the reporting period baseline monitoring, compliance monitoring has been progressed on water quality sampling, forest and wildlife survey, downstream sensitivities survey.

Environment and Social Management Service Provider (ESMSP)

A notice for Expression of Interest (EOI) was published in national the newspaper "The Rising Nepal" as well as on website of ADB (<http://cms.adb.org>) for the recruitment of ESMSP. Evaluation of EOI Application is being carried out by the Evaluation Committee. It is expected that EOI evaluation report will be submitted to the ADB in first week of April 2018 for their review and approval.

Skill Development Training

The skill development training on Building Electrician and Plumbing (3 months) for 60 Aps has been completed by Tanahu Technical School, Bhimad. Also the closing program along with certificate distribution to the trainees was accomplished on 16 March 2018 in the presence of the Chief District Officer of Tanahu and Managing



Closing Program of Skill Development Training

Director of THL.

Grievance Registration and Readdress

The project site office and newly established LCFs have been registering grievances raised by affected as well as local people. The registered grievances so far focus mainly on following issues:

Summary of Grievance Registration

S.N.	Type of Grievance	Number	Remarks
1.	Missing of tree counting	15	12 nos. of registration are rechecked and evaluation is going on
2.	Missing of item in property valuation	4	All nos. of registration are rechecked and evaluation of missing properties is going on
3.	Land remaining less than 1 ropani	6	All registration has been addressed
4.	Low valuation of structure	4	It is on discussion
5.	Compensation of trees planting in public land near their registered land	6	All nos. of registration are rechecked and evaluation of tree is going on
6.	Request to THL to provide Identity Card to all Affected Families	1	Identity card to Affected Families has been already printed and distribution is going on.
Total		36	

The LCFs in coordination with the project site office are working continuously for addressing the registered grievances. The identity cards for the affected families have been printed and will be distributed shortly.

Project Preparatory Works:

Access Roads:

Access Road from Chapaghat to Dam Site Area (3,234)

The construction of access road from Chapagaht to the entry of the Dam Site has been completed. Track opening in the remaining section of the road towards the dam site will be initiated soon after the acquisition of some plots of private land along the alignment. Preliminary notice for the acquisition of land plots along the road alignment will be published during the first week of April.

Access Road from RCC Bridge to Powerhouse (3314m)

The construction of the access road from the RCC Bridge to the powerhouse has been completed with Double Bituminous Surface Treatment (DBST). The Contractor has to submit as-built drawing along with the final progress report.

Camp Facilities

All together 33 nos. of buildings (2 nos. of office buildings for employer and consultants, 2 nos. of residential building of type A, 12 nos. of residential building of type B, 10 nos. of residential building of type C, 2 Dormitories, 1 Guest house, 1 health post, 2 restaurants and 1 guard house) are to be constructed for camp facilities. Brickworks, plastering and other finishing works are being continued.



Construction Camp Facilities

As of March 2018, about 75% physical works and 60% of financial progress have been achieved in construction of camp facilities. It is expected that the Contractor will complete one office building and two other residential buildings by the end of May 2018.

Construction Power Sub-Station

Construction of power substation nearby the camp site has been completed and is in operation.

Power Purchase Agreement

THL has engaged a local legal firm to review the draft PPA and prepare a notary translation of draft PPA into English. NEA and THL have been discussing in details on the certain clauses of the draft PPA.

Upgrading of Generation License from 127MW to 140MW

After approval of SEIA report of Tanahu Hydropower Project by the Ministry of Population and Environment (MoPE) on 6 November 2017, THL submitted the application to the DoED for the upgrading of generation license to 140MW with the required documents and the license fees. Ministry of Energy (MoEn) has approved the upgrading of generation license to 140 MW on 28 December 2017.

SIEE for Proposed New Route Alignment of Damauli-New Bharatpur Transmission Line

Public notice has been published by the DOED for issuance for Construction License of Damauli-Bharatpur 220 kV Transmission Line. No complaints from concerned people have been received from the proposed Transmission Line till the last date of notice.

Licenses

- THL applied for the construction license of 220 kV Damauli-Bharatpur transmission line on 21 December 2017.
- THL has prepared a brief project report for 1.9 MW environmental flows generation plant and application will be submitted to DoED for the Survey License of Generation shortly.
- THL has received the survey license of generation of Lower Seti (Tanahu) Hydropower Project with the installed capacity to 104MW. ADB has agreed to provide the grant assistance of about 3.5 Million USD for the detailed design and tender documents preparation under Project Preparatory Facility for Energy (Grant 0361-NEP). THL is preparing the required documents for publishing the EoI notice of the same.

FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION:

TECHNICAL ACTION

Expression of Interest for ESMSP: After completion of evaluation of the Eols for ESMSP and the no objection from the ADB, THL will issue Request for Proposals (RFP) to the shortlisted consulting firms by the end of April 2018.

Award of Contracts for Main Packages: Pre-award discussion with the Lowest Evaluated Bidder for Package 2 will be continued after review of responses to the issues raised during the pre-award discussion. The draft Contract Documents are being prepared by THL with assistance from PSC.

Power Purchase Agreement: It is expected that draft PPA will be concluded with NEA by the end of April 2018. Upon approval from the respective Boards of NEA and THL, the formal PPA will be signed.

SAFEGUARD ACTION

Update of RIPP: Preparation of the draft updated RIPP is in the final stage with the support of PSC. It will be submitted to the ADB for their review.

Compensation Distribution: About 92% of total affected families have already received the compensation payments for land within the reservoir area. So far, about NRs. 999 Million has been distributed to the affected HHs. The compensation distribution activities will be continued as well as further land acquisition /lease for site establishment at Betini area will be initiated in April 2018.

Community Consultation: Community consultation is planned for once in a month at each LCF.

Preparation of Booklet and Leaflet: A leaflet of THL has been are being distributed to all stakeholders after printing. The texts of the leaflet mainly focus on introduction and salient features of the Project, FAQ part, progress status till date on pre-construction as well on safeguard works.

Local Media Mobilization for Information Dissemination: As scheduled, local media, both print and electronic, especially FM radios of Tanahu District are being mobilized to disseminate project related information

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