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MINUTES OF THE SEAC MEETING (Feb 2014)

A meeting of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) was held from 17th to 19th February 2014 in the office of the PCCF, Department of Environment & Forests, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar. The agenda of the meeting included :

- i) Screening and scoping of the project proposal submitted by Indian Oil Corporation Limited, in respect of Revamping of existing Doimukh POL Depot
- ii) Observations on the request of validation of ToR for public hearing of Saskang Rong HEP (45 MW)
- iii) Screening and scoping of the project proposal submitted by M/S Saisudhir Soying Hydro Project (P) Ltd., in respect of –
 - a. Soying Korong HEP (48 MW)
 - b. Hirit Korong HEP (42 MW).
- iv) Any other matter.

The following members were present in the meeting:

Dr. Trilochan Singh	- Chairman
Shri P.K. Sen, IFS (Rtd.)	- Member
Prof A.K. Das	- Member
Dr. A Arunachalam	- Member
Shri N. Tam, IFS	- Member Secretary

Dr. Trilochan Singh, Chairman welcomed the members and after the brief introduction started the proceedings.

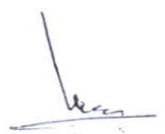
AGENDA NO. 1

Screening and scoping of the project proposal submitted by Indian Oil Corporation Limited, in respect of Revamping of existing Doimukh POL Depot

The project proposal submitted by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOL), for revamping of existing Doimukh POL Depot, was taken up for scoping.

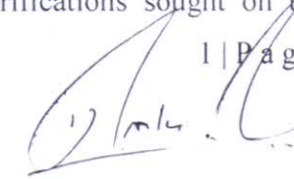
Mr Priobhash Dey, Executive Director, and Mr L.N. Phukan, Dy General Manager, both from NE Integrated State Office of the Indian Oil Corporation; and Mr Sonam Khirmey, Incharge of the Doimukh Depot of the IOL were present to represent the project proposal before the Committee. Mr Shashi Shankar Tiwari, and Dr Rajshekhar Ratti, both from the Projects and Development India Ltd (PDIL), who are the technical experts for the EIA/EMP studies.

The committee members debated on various issues of the project and their *pros* and *cons*. The members discussed and gave their opinion on the project proposal and raised a few queries that were considered carefully in the light of the guidelines given by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India. In response to the clarifications sought on the









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projects under the consideration, Mr Phukan, assisted by Dr Tiwari, gave a detailed power point presentation on various aspects of the project proposal and proposed the Terms of Reference (TOR) in respect to the project.

Later, in the afternoon, the committee visited the site to have first hand information with regard to the status of the site. The site proposed was found to be non-forest area, however, agricultural practices were found over the area. The committee was given to understand that the required area for the project has already been acquired through the Govt of Arunachal Pradesh by paying compensation, etc.

Based on the guidelines given in the pre-appraisal in EIA Manual, the project proposal has been considered under Category 'B' and recommended for detailed study on the expected environmental impact and hence classified as 'Category B-1'. Accordingly, required Terms of Reference (TOR) were framed for EIA studies for the project. While doing so, the TOR provided by IOL was also taken into consideration. Members deliberated on the proposed TOR and the Committee finalized the TOR for its environmental concerns and viability for the project on **Revamping of Existing Doimukh POL Depot**, which has been annexed as **Annexure I**.

AGENDA NO. 2

Observations on the request of validation of ToR for public hearing of Saskang Rong HEP (45 MW)

Mr Wang Tsering represented the Saskang Rong Energy Pvt Ltd to present the case before the Committee.

With respect to the letter no. For(Env)-10/2013/HKHEP/03, dt 12th Feb 2014, the committee has gone through the letter of Saskang Rong Energy Pvt Ltd, vide letter no. SEPL/201/02/01/202/635, dt 30/12/2013, and observed that there is no period of validity on record for the ToR. Further, the committee observed that the MoEF, Govt of India, vide their letter no. F.No. J-12011/9/2008 1A-1, dt. 22/3/2012, has no objection for increasing the capacity from 36 MW to 45 MW provided that all the other parameters remain unchanged and there is no additional impact on the environment. The MoEF has further advised for considering the EIA/EMP report prepared for the project and requisite public hearing be conducted.

After detailed discussion, the Committee observed that the parameters defined under the ToR for 36 MW remain unchanged for 45 MW and there is no additional impact on the environment.

As far as the validity of the ToR is concerned, as requested by Saskang Rong Energy Pvt Ltd vide their letter no. SEPL/201/02/01/202/635, dt 30/12/2013, there is no record as to the validity of the issued ToR. Moreover, the MoEF vide their aforesaid letter has already approved the capacity enhancement, etc.

Therefore, it is recommended that the project proponent may submit to the SEIAA/SEAC the final EIA/EMP reports as per the ToR within ONE YEAR from this date, i.e. 19th Feb 2014, after conducting the public hearing.

AGENDA NO. 3

The two project proposals submitted by M/s Saisudhir Soying Hydro Project (P) Ltd., one each for Soying Korong HEP (48 MW) and Hirit Korong HEP (42 MW), both in West Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh were taken up for scoping.

It may be noted that no one from M/s Saisudhir Soying Hydro Project (P) Ltd., was present in the meeting to represent their projects. The committee, however, considered the respective Terms of Reference (TOR) for each of the project proposed by the Company.

The Committee went through the application and debated on various issues of the projects and their *pros* and *cons*. Each of the members gave their opinion on the project proposal and discussed various points and considered carefully in the light of the guidelines given by the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India.

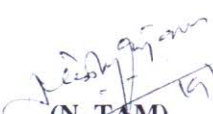
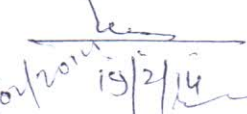


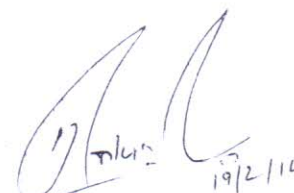
After detailed deliberations the Committee opined that both the projects are viable and shall contribute to the socio-economic development of the locality, in particular, and the State, in general.

Based on the guidelines given in the pre-appraisal in EIA Manual, the proposal has been considered under Category 'B' and recommended for detailed study on the expected environmental impact, and hence classified as 'Category B-1'. Accordingly, required TOR for each of the project, viz., Soying Korong HEP (48 MW) and Hirit Korong HEP (42 MW), was framed for EIA studies and EMP for their environmental concerns and viability. The ToR for Soying Korong HEP (48 MW) and Hirit Korong HEP (42 MW) have been enclosed, herewith, as **Annexure II and Annexure III**.

AGENDA NO. 4

The Committee felt the need for having an updated list of projects handled by this committee since inception to elucidate the status and activity of the schemes/projects. (Action: Member Secretary, SEAC-Arunachal)

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

				
(N. TAM) Member Secretary	(P.K. SEN) Member	(A. ARUNACHALAM) Member	(A.K. DAS) Member	(TRILOCHAN SINGH) Chairman