

NHPC LIMITED
TEESTA LOW DAM STAGE-IV POWER STATION (4 x 40 = 160 MW)
SIX MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

PROGRESS FOR THE PERIOD: ENDING MARCH 2025

1.	Project Type	Hydroelectric Project									
2.	Name of the project	Teesta Low Dam Stage-IV Power Station (160 MW)									
3.	Clearance letter (s). OM No. & Dates a) Environment clearance b) Forest clearance	<p>a) Letter No. J-12011/46/2004-IA-I dated 31.03.2005</p> <p>b) Forest Clearance:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MoEF's letter Nos.</th><th>Date</th><th>Forest land (ha)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>F. No.-8-61/2004-FC</td><td>30.03.2006</td><td>338.05</td></tr> <tr> <td>F. No. 8-61/2004-FC</td><td>13.11.2007</td><td>4.90</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	MoEF's letter Nos.	Date	Forest land (ha)	F. No.-8-61/2004-FC	30.03.2006	338.05	F. No. 8-61/2004-FC	13.11.2007	4.90
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4.	Location a) District(s) b) State (s) c) Latitude d) Longitude	<p>Dam site: 18.3 km d/s of Teesta bridge near NH31A</p> <p>Darjeeling</p> <p>West Bengal</p> <p>26°55' 32" N to 28°07' N</p> <p>88°0' E to 88°53'E</p>									
5.	Address of Correspondence: a) Address of concerned Project Head (with pin code & telephone/ fax nos.) b) Address of concerned HOD in Corporate office.(with pin code & telephone/ fax no.	<p>Group General Manager TLD-IV Power Station, NHPC Limited, Rambi Bazar, P.O. - Reang, Distt. Darjeeling, West Bengal – 734008 Telephone No. 03552-261018 Mobile: 9564976688 Email: tldp-iv@nhpc.nic.in</p> <p>Executive Director, Environment & Diversity Management Division, Corporate Office, NHPC Ltd., Sector - 33, Faridabad, Haryana - 121 003. Telephone No. 0129-2250111 Email: envdivmgn-co@nhpc.nic.in</p>									
6.	Details of environmental management plan:	Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) are listed at Annexure-I									
7.	Break-up of the Project area: a) Submergence area: Forest area Non-forest b) Others	<p>a) Submergence area: 264.90 ha</p> <p>i. Forest land: 264.90 ha</p> <p>ii. Non-forest land: Nil</p> <p>b) Others: 88.95 ha</p> <p>i. Forest land: 78.05 ha</p> <p>ii. Govt. land: 10.90 ha non-forest land (Govt. land booked for colony under TLD-III PS).</p> <p>Total area: 342.95 ha</p>									

8.	<p>Break-up of the project affected population with enumeration of those losing houses / dwelling units only, agricultural land only, both dwelling units and agricultural land and landless labourers /artisans.</p> <p>a) SC / ST b) Others</p>	<p>No families are affected due to submergence. However, 11 families residing in 8 huts downstream of the dam axis were identified for resettlement, as these houses were falling under High Flood Level (HFL) as per EIA & EMP.</p> <p>Losing houses / private land only - Nil. SC: 11 (families living d/s of the dam axis) Others: Nil</p>
9.	<p>Financial details</p> <p>a) Project cost as originally planned and subsequent revised estimates and the years of price reference. b) Actual expenditure incurred on the project so far. c) Allocations made for environmental management plans. d) Actual expenditure incurred on the Environmental Management Plans so far</p>	<p>a) As per DPR, total cost: ₹ 998.36 crore (PL August 2003) and as per CCEA ₹ 1061.37 crore (PL March 2005). b) ₹ 1782.52 crores at sunset date 31.03.2019 (revised completion cost as recommended by MoP). a) ₹ 1689.21 lakh as per EMP at 2003 PL and increased to ₹ 3804.18 lakh during CCEA clearance at 2005 PL. d) ₹ 4873.75 lakh (as per Annexure-I).</p>
10.	<p>Forest Land requirements:</p> <p>a) Status of approval for diversion of forest land for non-forestry use. b) The status of clear felling in forest land</p>	<p>a) A total of 342.95 ha of forest land was diverted for construction of Project. b) Felling of trees on forest land was undertaken and completed by the West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Ltd. (WBFDC Ltd.) before reservoir filling.</p>
11.	<p>Status of construction</p> <p>a) Date of commencement (actual and / or planned) b) Date of completion (actual and/or planned).</p>	<p>a) 05.06.2006 (Actual) b) August 2016 (Actual)</p>
12.	Reasons for the delay. If the project is yet to start:	Not Applicable. Project has been commissioned.
13.	<p>Details of site visit</p> <p>a) By monitoring committee b) By Regional Office</p>	<p>a) The 6th and 7th Environmental Monitoring Committee meetings and site visit were held on 15.01.2018 and on 25.11.2019, respectively, at Kalijhora. The 8th EMC meeting was held on 18.06.2021 by video conferencing. b) Dy. Director (S) from Eastern Regional Office of MoEF&CC visited the project site on 15-16 Jan.' 2018 along with EMC members. Scientist-B from Regional Office-Bhubaneshwar, MoEF&CC visited the project site as part of EMC meeting on 25.11.2019. As per discussion held in EMC meeting on 18.06.2021, DFOs of Kalimpong and CCF Hill Circle jointly visited</p>

		the left bank area under the Kalimpong Forest Division on 24.07.2021.
14.	Brief note on the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated by MOEF.	As per Annexure-II .

**Expenditure incurred on Environmental Management Plans in respect of Teesta Low Dam-
IV Power Station (160 MW)**

S. No.	EMP	Allocation as per EMP at 2003 PL (₹ In lakh)	CCEA approved cost at Mar 2005 PL (₹ In lakh)	Expenditure (₹ In lakh)
1	Compensatory Afforestation	505.00	547.82	505.00
2	CAT Plan	491.00	532.63	491.00
3	Biodiversity Conservation plan including Fish Management Plan	50.00	54.24	49.95
4	Reservoir Rim Treatment	132.60	143.87	1026.92
5	Green Belt Development	50.00	54.24	30.86
6	Restoration of Borrow Areas, Quarry and Construction Sites	5.00	5.42	--
7	Muck Disposal plan	25.00	27.12	208.52
8	*Solid Waste Management (Contractor Clause)	40.00	43.39	38.00
9	*Fuel Arrangements (Contractor Clause)	16.00	19.53	202.18
10	Health Management	37.80	43.39	9.65 + By Contractor
11	Landscaping & Beautification Plan	20.00	21.7	--
12	Eco-tourism Development Plan	99.00	114.99	91.22
13	Disaster Management Plan	75.81	82.24	16.57
14	Env. Monitoring Programme	90.00	97.63	92.85
15	NPV for 338.05 ha forest land.	--	1960.69	1960.69
	B- land			
16	R&R Plan	52.00	55.28	78.25
	Sub-total	1689.21	3804.18	4801.66
	Others			
1	Additional NPV & CA for 4.9 ha forest land (2007 PL).	--	49.59	72.09
2	To protect 4.9 ha forest land from encroachment, as suggested in the forest proposal.	--	22.50	
	Total	1689.21	3876.27	4873.75

*Contractor clause: Cost of solid waste management & fuel management borne by contractor.

**A Brief Note on Status of Compliances of Conditions as Stipulated in
Environment Clearance (EC) Letter**

S. No.	Conditions stipulated in EC	Compliances of Conditions by Power Station
	Part A: Specific Conditions	
1	Catchment Area Treatment plan as proposed, should be completed in four years:	₹ 491 lakh was deposited to PCCF, West Bengal on 27.02.2007 for implementation of CAT as envisaged in EMP. The progress of CAT works and fund utilization was also discussed during the 8 th Environmental Monitoring Committee (EMC) meeting held on 18.06.2021 via video conferencing. The State Forest Department submitted the total utilization of ₹ 179.93 lakh up to 2020-21. The State Forest Department is being regularly pursued to complete the balance works as well as for submission of utilization reports for the entire fund released towards CAT plan, through various correspondences and meetings with the concerned State Forest Divisions.
2	For the socio-economic upliftment and safety of total 41 persons from 11 families living downstream of the dam axis should be rehabilitated as per R&R plan proposed in EMP report:	No habitation was getting affected due to submergence by Project. However, a total of 11 families were identified for relocation as per approved R&R Plan since they were residing in the high flood zone of project. After completion of all codal formalities, the compensation was made to nine PAFs as one of the PAF's was deceased long back with no legal heir and the other one has not claimed the compensation. The area vacated and cordoned-off by fencing and the site has been taken over by the Forest Department.
3	Though flow of Teesta River is very fast, but due to unforeseen situation the flow of river may slow down at certain points due to construction activities. This may give rise to breeding of mosquitoes. There are some malaria vectors which can breed in slow moving streams. This part of the river should be properly channelized so that no small pools and puddles are allowed to be formed.	TLD-IV PS is commissioned and is fully operational since August 2016. The project is run-of-the-river scheme as such there is no stagnation of water.
4	Tributaries to the Teesta River near Reang, form the preferred breeding sites for Mahaseer fish. To permit upstream mitigation of the fish for breeding a fish ladder has been	Fish ladder has provided across right non-over flow section of dam body for movement of fishes is under operation and the designated amount of water is being released through it to facilitate fish migration.

	proposed in the design of dam. For conservation of the migratory fishes Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Kolkata has suggested some measures in their report. These measures should be followed.	
5	The Mahananda Wildlife sanctuary is approximately 0.35 km downstream from the project. For minimizing disturbance to animals in Mahananda Sanctuary, only controlled blasting should be undertaken. The biodiversity Conservation plan for protection of flora and fauna proposed in the EMP, should be followed in toto.	Measures as suggested for minimizing disturbance to animals in Mahananda Sanctuary were duly implemented through State Wildlife Division during construction stage. Presently project is under operation and hence there are no blasting activities in Power Station. Further, Biodiversity Conservation plan proposed in EMP has been successfully implemented through Darjeeling Forest Division and North Bengal University.
6	Downstream of the dam, flood –zoning approach should be done. No settlement should be allowed within flood zone.	An inundation plan was incorporated in Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for monitoring and mitigating of any eventualities in case of high flood. EAP stands submitted to concerned authorities. Further, PAFs residing at high flood level zone have been suitably compensated and shifted. There is no habitation in the downstream flood zone of project.
7	For the restoration of dumping area, a proper care should be taken to avoid any spillover of muck into the riverbed and its flow into the river during the high discharge or flood or monsoon period. The area should be properly afforested with suitable plantation.	Dumping of muck during the construction phase was carried out at designated/ identified sites only. The same were protected suitably by providing retaining walls, crate work, etc. and the same are stabilized and restored through afforestation.
Part-B: General Conditions		
(i)	Adequate free fuel arrangement should be made for the labour force engaged in the construction work at project cost so that indiscriminate felling of trees is avoided.	The project has already been commissioned in August, 2016 and labourers engaged during construction works were demobilized. However, the same was duly complied during the construction stage.
(ii)	Fuel depot may be opened at the site to provide the fuel (kerosene/ wood/ LPG). Medical facilities as well as recreational facilities should also be provided to the labourers.	The project is in operation since 2016, as such, no labour population is residing at the project. However, free medical facilities are being extended to local villagers / labourers through the Power Station dispensary.
(iii)	All the labourers to be engaged for construction works should be thoroughly examined by health personnel and adequately treated before issuing them work permit.	The condition was complied with during the construction stage. The project is in operation since August, 2016, as such, no major labour population is engaged at site now.
(iv)	A monitoring committee for R&R should be constituted which must	R&R Monitoring Committee was constituted by the District Magistrate, Darjeeling under the

	include representatives of project affected persons from ST category and a woman beneficiary.	Chairmanship of Additional District Magistrate, Siliguri on 29.04.2008. The above conditions were duly complied with and the R&R plan stands implemented.
(v)	Restoration of construction area including dumping site of excavated materials should be ensured by leveling, filling up of burrow pits, landscaping etc. The area should be properly treated with suitable plantation.	Dumping of muck during the construction phase were carried out at designated / identified sites only. The sites were duly protected by providing suitable retaining walls, crate work, etc. and further stabilized and restored through voluntary afforestation.
(vi)	Financial provision should be made in the total budget of the project for implementation of the above suggested safeguard measures.	As per the EIA/EMP or other studies, necessary budget / contractor clause was kept in the total budget / contract document of the project for successful implementation of suggested measures.
(vii)	A Multidisciplinary committee should be constituted with representatives from various disciplines of forestry, ecology, wildlife, soil conservation, NGO etc. to oversee the effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures.	The multidisciplinary Environmental Monitoring Committee was constituted and the Committee has so far conducted eight meetings on 17.01.2008, 10.12.2008, 20-22.04.2010, 22.09.2011, 11.09.2015, 15.01.2018, 25.11.2019 and 18.06.2021, respectively.
(viii)	Six-monthly monitoring reports should be submitted to the Ministry and its Regional Office, Shillong for review.	Six-monthly monitoring reports are being submitted regularly to MoEF&CC, New Delhi and its Regional Office. The last progress report was submitted to IRO Kolkata, MoEF&CC vide letter dated 28.11.2024.
