

Minutes of Meeting (5.9.2017)

<i>Meeting Details</i>			
Project	Supplementary ESIA for Shwe Taung Cement (STC) Cement Plant & Associated Facilities in Myanmar		
Office/ Department/ Organization	Kalewa GAD office	Region/ State	Sagaing
	Township	Kalewa	Village
			-
Objectives	Township Level Meeting to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Share information about the Project “Expansion of a Cement Plant & Associated Facilities by the Shwe Taung Cement (STC) Company in Myanmar”. 2. Present findings of the draft Supplemental ESIA 3. Exchange views with interested and affected parties which will be taken into account for finalization of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report for the Project. 		
Date	5 September 2017 (Tuesday)		
Time	09:45 to 12:15		
Attendees’ List	Government Org. (59) Public (38) NGOs, CSOs (21) Media (3)		
Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Introduction of the Shwe Taung Group (STG) by U Aung Khaing Nyi, STG - 09:45 - 10:00 2) Explanation of public relationship by Daw Aye Mon Thu, STG - 10:00 - 10:10 3) Presentation of Project Details by U Ze Lum, STC - 10:10 - 11:05 4) Presentation of draft ESIA findings by Daw Myat Mon Swe, ERM - 11:05 - 11:45 5) Question and Answer Session (see below on detailed notes of discussion) - 11:45 - 12:15. 		

Detailed Note of Discussion

Q-1: Chairman (Kyaw Zin Group of Kalewa, Socio-economic Development Group)

- i. Our organization is involved in forest conservation and palm cultivation in Kalewa area since 2016. I would like to know the area of forest that will be impacted by Project.
- ii. How do you manage the replantation programme at the coal mine at the coal mine and how many acres of area are already replanted?

A-1: STC

- i. According to the contract commitment with Mining Department and Forest Department, impacts on forest by mining activities have to be minimized. Environmental Conservation Department also frequently examines any environmental impacts of our coal mine. Our coal concession area is greater than 3,000 acres, around 9 miles long and 6-7 furlongs wide.
- ii. The replantation area will be 20 % of our coal concession area. Replantation will not only be started following completion of production. Different plant species will be replanted in mine area during the process of coal extraction in the area. The top soil from coal extraction will be reused as the finishing layer of replantation. According to the mine rehabilitation plan and mine closure plan and mine closure plan as our commitment with Forest Department, we plan to replant teak and hedge.
- iii. The biodiversity impact assessment was already done by ERM as part of the ESIA Study. FFI (Flora and Fauna International) was commissioned to undertake the biodiversity surveys. The biodiversity survey data and impact assessment are disclosed in the draft ESIA Report. Biodiversity as well as other potential environmental impact will be mitigated as appropriate to address stakeholders' concerns.

Q-2: Upper Chindwin Youth Network

- i. What are the job opportunities from the Project for local people living in the eight (8) villages around the coal mine area and from Kalewa? The opportunities should not only be non-technical labour but also for technical staff with permanent position at coal mine which is really important.
- ii. We also consider that pollution of the Chindwin River by coal and wastewater discharge from the coal storage area and unplanned accident during coal transportation along the river should be properly managed.
- iii. Impacts from the Project to the forest and resources and associated resources should also be assessed.

A-2: STC

- i. Technical staffs are required for our mining activities. STC offers job opportunities to local people living around the mine according to their interest, and vocational training is provided to train them as technical staff. Four (4) technical staffs from Kalewa are working for the coal mine now. Five (5) non-technical staffs from Kalewa are working now as excavator driver and their salaries are up to 300,000 kyat, from 60,000 kyat when they are first hired. In Pyin Naung, vocational training center will be set up in next year.
- ii. To improve the living standards of local people, education is really important. We try to provide assistance to villages around the Project area to improve education level and health condition of the villagers. We provide scholarship for students who passed matriculation so that they can continue to higher education level.
- iii. We take the responsibilities and accountabilities for environmental and social impacts caused by the Project. Training is being provided to our staffs for health and safety and environmental conservation.
- iv. Coal transportation by barges along the Chindwin River is being managed systematically. For example, the coal is covered by sheet during transportation. Our coal storage areas have drainage system and wastewater is discharged to the settling ponds first to prevent coal sedimentation in the river.
- v. Soil erosion caused by mining or natural process may lead to river pollution. To prevent soil erosion from topsoil where vegetation is removed for the purpose of mining, we installed drainage system to divert the surface runoff to reduce erosion.
- vi. To prevent soil contamination in coal storage area, we will pave the area with concrete in next five years.
- vii. To prevent contamination of river water, there is drainage with engineering design to discharge natural rain water to the river directly, bypassing the coal storage area. Drains are constructed around the coal storage area which is connected with a settling pond to reduce sediment level before discharged. We will test the collected water and treat them as necessary before discharge to the river. To prevent impacts to the streams by access road construction, we will design and construct appropriate crossings across streams.
- viii. We spray water on our road to control dust emissions. In rainy season, we will maintain the access roads and conduct planting around the coal mine area with teak and other plant species.
- ix. As part of our CSR programme, we constructed access roads and provide donation for schools and health assistance. 110 million kyat was used for CSR.
- x. For job opportunities, many of our staffs are form Thit Chauk village. We have 77 employees in 2012- 2013 and 150 employees in 2017. Total payment for salary is 18.2 million kyat.

A-2: ERM

- i. In our ESIA Report, we have proposed mitigation measures to manage potential water quality impacts from the coal mining activities. Apart from the mitigation measures that STC just mentioned, there will also be Emergency Response Plan prepared for the Project which will be implemented in case of emergency, including accidental loss of coal during transportation by barges.
- ii. In terms of biodiversity impact of the Project, we have engaged experts from FFI to undertake biodiversity survey in January to March 2017 for the Project and in September 2017 ERM survey Bio specifics at the Limestone Mountain including the coal mine and the cement plant areas. In addition, a wet season survey was conducted in September 2017 at the limestone habitat within and in the vicinity of the limestone quarry of the STC cement plant. Critical habitat is identified which may be affected by the Project and mitigation measures are proposed in the ESIA Report, including biodiversity offset, to manage potential biodiversity impacts according to IFC PS. As part of our recommendation, we will assist STC to develop the biodiversity action plan and actions will be undertaken accordingly to mitigate biodiversity impacts.

Q-3: President of National Unity Party

- i. We expect that there will be more job opportunities to local people rather than people from outside the local area.
- ii. More health care facilities and staffs are required for the coal mine to respond to accidents and emergency cases.
- iii. On biodiversity, the Paluzawa stream as well as the nearby south and north streams are main fishing ground, however, there are less fish due to electrofishing. Barking deer are now rare in the area due to hunting by traps. So are there measures to prevent the above?
- iv. On replantation, we cultivated a teak nursery (120 x 45 feet) and planted 12 acres when I worked at Kokant Golden Dragon Kokant Golden Dragon in Chaungzon for about 10 months in 2013- 2014. However, these are now destructed. I would like to request to STC to maintain this teak area.
- v. I would like to visit to the site with other NGOs, political parties and government departments.
- vi. Please provide us information on the location of the second line of the cement plant and its capacity.

A-3: STC

- i. STC welcomes and expects more job applications from local peoples living around the mine area.
- ii. There is a clinic with a mid-wife in Ywerthar village group and one staff who worked for Kalewa Hospital before is now hired by us to manage the health care of our staffs. We provide healthcare assistance to the local people once a week. We help to send patient with emergency to the Kalewa Hospital. Also we provide test kit for malaria and all patients have to be sent to Kale or Kalewa Hospital for treatment. We will try to supply more healthcare facilities in the future.
- iii. It is difficult for STC to control illegal fishing such as by electrofishing. We can help to put up signboard to remind the public of prohibition of such illegal activities. We will restrict access of non-Project related trucks on our access road to prevent illegal logging and hunting.
- iv. We will try to maintain the teak plot of Kokant Golden Dragon and Mandalay Golden Friend Kokant Golden Dragon and Mandalay Golden Friend Company.
- v. We will plan for a site visit for NGOs, CSOs and other communities to our coal area and we welcome any advice, suggestion and comments on our activities.
- vi. The second line of the cement plant will be constructed in the existing cement plant area and its production is 4,000 tons of clinker and 5,500 tons of cement per day. The engineering procurement and foundation work and foundation work has started and construction will be completed by the end of 2018.

Q-4: Chindwin Myittha Resources Watch Group

- i. How do you manage water quality impacts to the Chindwin River due to coal storage near the river bank with other companies? Some coal mining projects by other companies are not being managed properly. We don't want to see any pollution in Chindwin River because it is the only water resources for us.

A-4: STC

- i. An environmental conservation committee is formed with all mining companies in Paluzawa which also include village leaders, officers from General Administration Department and Education Department as well as the public. To solve this problem, all companies need to participate and comply with the related regulation. We also invited all mining companies working in Paluzawa area to attend this public consultation meeting to discuss how to solve this problem together so that we can find the best way to control this impact together.

Q-5: Upper Chindwin Youth Network

- i. Please disclose the production period of STC coal mine in Paluzawa.

A-5: STC

There is 18 million tons of coal in our concession and we will mine down to 250 meters (above sea level) using the open pit method. After that underground mining will be employed for coal extraction. We will use underground mining method to reduce health and safety risk of our operation. Total coal production will depend on coal availability and method of mining. Our production period will be 30 years.

Q-6: Chindwin-Myitthar Development

- i. Firstly, I like to say thank you to STC on behalf of local people of Kale and Kalewa and we hope STC can continue supporting the community in the future.
- ii. I have visited the Project area under STC invitation. During the visit, I observed the health and safety practice, staff facilities, road construction and nursery for the replantation programme. When I accessed STG website, I found that STG has already donated 92 schools in Myanmar and try to support the facilities for students. Also local people can raise their living standard due to job opportunities provided by the Project.
- iii. I would like to know risk of auto-ignition of coal during transportation by barge and truck and how to manage that.

A-6: STC

- i. Risk of auto-ignition of coal can be reduced by controlling the height of coal stockpiles. At the coal storage area, we compact the coal with roller layer by layer to prevent auto-ignition.
- ii. We equipped our coal truck with fire extinguisher, which is checked regularly, to respond to auto-ignition of coal. Coal is also covered by sheet to prevent oxidation. On the barge, carbon dioxide fire extinguisher is used. Up to now, there is not any fire case on coal barge and there is only one case of capsizing of coal barge which happened long time ago (not related to STC coal mine).

Q-7: U San Hla Tun (Public)

- i. We welcome the cement plant expansion project which will provide more job opportunities. There is a historical milestone which is about 2 miles from Paluzawa. The milestone is broken and we would like to request STC to help repairing it.

A-7: STC

- 1) We noted and will follow-up accordingly.

Photos



Photos



Photos

