



AZAD GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF JAMMU & KASHMIR  
**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
MUZAFFARABAD



Ref. #: 178-80

Date: 07/03/2011

- a. Name & Address of Proponent: Associated Technology Pvt.Ltd. (ATL)
- b. Description of Project: Construction of 720 MW Karot Hydropower Project (KHPP)
- c. Location of Project: Hollaar, Tehsil Sehnsa District Kotli
- d. Date of Filing of Application: June 06, 2010

**CONDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL**

(Under Section-11 of AJK-Environmental Protection Act, 2000 read with IEE/EIA Regulations, 2000 PEPA)

In exercise of powers conferred under section 11 of the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Environmental Protection Act, 2000, the Director General AJK Environmental Protection Agency (AJK-EPA), after the review of Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) accords Conditional Environmental Approval for the implementation of 720 MW Karot Hydropower Project (KHPP) subject to the fulfillment of following conditions by the proponent;

- (i). Proponent shall ensure compliance to National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQSSs).
- (ii). Mitigation measures suggested in the EIA Report & Environmental Management Plan (EMP) shall be strictly adhered to ensure not to cast any negative impact on soil, ground water, ambient air quality, noise level, natural drainage, flooding, hill torrents and biological resources of the Project area. This should be indicated in the report as "**Commitment**". Institutional arrangements for implementation of **Environmental Management Plan** may be finalized well before the commissioning of project, so that proposed mechanism of environmental protection should be operative well in time.
- (iii). ATL shall furnish to the Agency a fresh inventory of wildlife species, their habitat & sanctuaries on left bank of River Jhelum up to the maximum upstream limit of Head Pond from the Diversion Weir at detailed design phase.
- (iv). ATL shall ensure the provision of "Fish Ladder" in the design of Weir.
- (v). As the Project envisages the relocation of Hollaar Bridge and allied road due to Weir & Power House construction and submergence of Azad Pattan Bridge and three other suspension & link bridges and allied roads due to creation of Head Pond. The ATL shall not start the commencement of the Project unless it submits the design & dimensions of said infrastructure entities along with execution commitment as an integral part of the Umbrella Project and gets Environmental Approval from the Agency.

Kashmir Plan House, Block # 5, New Civil Secretariat Complex, Muzaffarabad, AJ&K  
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- (vi). ATL shall incorporate a comprehensive **Community Development Plan** as an integral part of the project duly acknowledge & endorsed by the Agency prior to the commissioning of the Project.
- (vii). ATL shall constitute Environmental Monitoring Committee having the representatives of all concerned stakeholders. The reporting mechanism and TORs of the committee shall be finalized in consultation with AJK-EPA.
- (viii). Monitoring shall cover the entire period of the Project construction and operation. Monitoring reports shall be submitted to AJK-EPA on quarterly basis.
- (ix). The Proponent shall provide the copy of this approval and EIA report to the contractor for compliance.
- (x). Compensation shall be provided to inhabitants in case of loss of agricultural land, crops, property, usage right etc. in accordance with the rates that were agreed upon. All conflicting issues regarding compensation should be settled amicably sooner than later.
- (xi). Proponent shall ensure the adequate arrangements for addressing public grievances and implementation of Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) through Public Grievances Redress and Settlement Committee (PGRSC) without any delay.
- (xii). Blasting shall be avoided preferably; if inevitable, the controlled techniques in accordance with Pakistan Explosive Act, should be adopted in sliding and perspective sliding prone areas.
- (xiii). In case independent **Environment Specialist Companies** are to be hired, as a compulsory arrangement, to undertake measurements of different parameters critically important in determining water & air quality and assessing noise emission level either during construction phase or in both construction and operation phases of the proposed project, the findings of quality analysis on regular basis should positively be shared with AJK EPA.
- (xiv). The Proponent shall ensure that strict and efficient health and safety measures are in place for the protection of workers and passers-by backed by a comprehensive emergency response mechanism plan.
- (xv). As far as possible, employment should be provided to local people for all unskilled jobs. Preference may also be given to local people for all semi-skilled and skilled jobs. Employment record for all positions shall be provided to AJK-EPA positively.
- (xvi). In the case the articles of Archeological importance like artifacts, coins rock-arts and other archeological relics are discovered, the work at the site should immediately be stopped and the concerned department or agency should be consulted for the appropriate action.



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- (xvii). Proponent shall ensure all public utilities, such as water supply pipes, power/phone lines be not disturbed by the execution of the project. If it is inevitable then alternative may be provided to the people of the area before hand in consultation with respective agencies under intimation to AJK EPA.
- (xviii). Proponent shall take special safety measures while working close to settlements, towns, schools and hospitals etc for safety of the general public and livestock.
- (xix). Proponent/contractor shall make sure the safety & security of wild animals and their habitats at the project site and in its environs with the prior consultation and adhering to the guidelines of Forestry and Wildlife Departments strictly.
- (xx). During the excavation of tunnel; the spoil should be dumped at pre-identified location. Free roll down of excavated land shall be prohibited to avert damage to vegetation cover, water bodies, perennial & non-perennial drains, irrigation channels, communication routes and productive lands. Littering would be avoided strictly during transportation of materials.
- (xxi). The mechanized plants, machinery and other equipment must be fitted with noise abatement devices and should have the conformity to NEQS standards. The sites to install the asphalt plant and other machinery would be selected in consultation with the Agency (AJK-EPA). Special consideration must be given to critical installations like school, hospitals, mosques, community hall, etc while selecting temporary utility sites.
- (xxii). The proponent shall not setup labor camps near to habitations and develop independent services utilities to avoid intruding into local population privacy.
- (xxiii). The proponent shall manage scientifically all waste generated by construction activities and machinery, chemicals' spill, damage done to flora fauna and overall ecology etc.
- (xxiv). The proponent shall rehabilitate all sites to their natural conditions affected by temporary use during the construction phase.
- (xxv). The proponent shall be liable for the correctness and validity of the information furnished by the environmental consultant.
- (xxvi). Proponent shall be liable for compliance of regulations 13, 14, 17 & 18 of IEE/EIA Regulations 2000, which enunciate the conditions for approval, confirmation of compliance, entry, inspection and monitoring of the proposed project.
- (xxvii). Proponent would be responsible to facilitate EPA team for any visit for inspection/monitoring etc.
- (xxviii). Any change in the approved project shall be communicated to AJK-EPA and shall be commenced after obtaining the approval.

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- (xxix). This approval shall stand null and void if the proponent remains failed to take the effective remedial measures within stipulated time period of 30-days notice issued by the Agency in the wake of contravention by the proponent of any condition mentioned herein before.
- (xxx). This approval does not absolve the proponent of the duty to obtain any other approval or clearance that may be required under any law in force or by any competent forum/court of law.
- (xxxi). This Approval shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of its issue under Section 16 of IEE/EIA Regulation, 2009.
- (xxxii). This Approval can be withdrawn at any time without any prior notice if deemed necessary in the public interest.

  
(Iftikhar Naveed)  
Director General  
EPA-AJK

No. and Date even.

A copy is forwarded for information to;

1. **The Chief Executive Officer**, Karot Hydropower Project, 142-D, Model Town, Lahore
2. **The Secretary** Power & Hydroelectric Board, GoAJK, Muzaffarabad
- ✓ 3. Master File

  
(Director General, EPA-AJK)