

The Choir to Sainshand Transmission Line Project ESIA report – Social baseline study plan

Date: 10 am to 11 am, 12 May 2020

Location: NPG Office, Office of Mr. Dashdavaa

Attendees:

1. Mr. Dashdavaa Deputy Director and Chief Engineer.
2. Mr. Ariunbold, Member of Working group
3. Mr. Batbayar, Bayasaltugs LLC Engineer; Mr. Ariunbold, Engineer from NPG,
4. Tserenkhand Gurbadam (SEA),
5. Tsalmegsaikhan Lkhagva (IRIM),
6. Yanjinpagma Nyamsuren (IRIM)

Meeting agenda and discussion:

#	Meeting agenda	Discussion
1	The social study team will introduce field plan and target stakeholders.	Briefly shared the observation of short site reconnaissance and introduced the upcoming Social baseline fieldwork plan.
2	Provide with social team with details of the Project (if any information is available at this stage, e.g. start date, workforce, etc.)	Mr. Dashdavaa: The decision to build TL has been made at the central government level. Two aimag governments have made decision to allocate the land for the project and now waiting for each soum Citizen's Representative Khural's formal decision within 15 May 2020. Hural meetings have not been convened due to restrictions on gathering (due to COVID) as well as busy season for herders (new livestock is born in early spring as well as high season for herders to collect cashmere), since in soums many herders are elected hural members. As of 12 th May 2020, four soums' decisions (Sainshand, Airag, Altanshiree and Dalanjargalan) have been made, two soums (Shiveegobi and Saikhandulaan) are going to make their decision during this week and the last one (Sumber) is expected to make the decision next week.
3	Confirm with NPG/WG what information about the project can be shared with stakeholders, and who is their contact if stakeholders have questions.	Need to consult the project overall process with the Mr. Enkhtaivan, Head of Strategy and Policy Planning Department at Ministry of Energy and Leader of WG.
4	Confirm with NPG/WG a "cut-off" date for resettlement compensation	Not clear. (note: to be addressed to WG)
5	Many officials at soum and bagh levels were unaware of the project, were letters sent out to them by the NPG/WG? Additionally, some bagh leaders stated they needed permission from the aimag official to share	The letter can be obtained from the Ministry of Energy through WG secretary Mr. Luvsantseren. Since all seven soums' CR Khural make formal decision on TL land use matter within 15 May 2020, it is expected that all local level officials and specialists

	information with the consultants. Would an additional letter from the WG facilitate this?	will comply with this official decision and will collaborate with any relevant stakeholder, including Social team.
6	Displacement and expectation issues with specific groups planned for engagement. Need agreement to approach from NPG/WG ◦ Ger owners closely residing to the TL (up to 3-5km that is potential pasture users of TL area) ◦ Businesses / industries underneath the TL where it enters into substations (Choir and Sainshand) ◦ HHs potentially affected in urban areas ◦ Aimags and local level	The company follows Mongolian legal requirement on the RoW, 25m. Also, company is OK with the 3 km zone on both sides of the line to meet the EBRD requirements. Bayasaltugs LLC developed the TL route map in 2013 and revised in 2020. In both visits to 2 aimags they confirmed that there are no overlapping herder households, herder's shelter or any objects, wells, businesses, industries and mining licensed areas in 25m of both side of the TL route. When allocating land permit for sub-stations and route, Aimag land departments verified for any overlapped land ownership and possession and mining licenses. In case of potential overlapping with mining licenses by the law the Government has the authority to appropriate land for state special purpose use (note: like roads).
7	Stakeholder management: ◦ Any engagement by the Company with local stakeholders (local government, businesses, communities, including herders) – dates, form of engagement ◦ Does the company have official grievance mechanism? ◦ Who within the Company will act as a contact person for the Project in case of information inquiries and/or grievances?	No engagement with local stakeholders by the Company, except meetings with Aimag land department. (note: need to be confirmed by Ariunbold) According to the Law on Energy, the Energy Regulatory Commission is the only responsible body for the any complaints and grievances. Each aimag has a branch of the commission with three members, and headed by the Aimag Deputy Governor. Mr. Dashdavaa is of the view that the Company will not appoint any person from within the company who will be responsible for Grievance mechanism given leading role by the Regulator.

8	Logistics: Based on recent experience the social team will need official letters to the Aimags, Aimag Police, Aimag Land Agency requesting the level governments to provide the required information on land use, providing support in data collection. A letter to Aimag State Emergency Agencies (in case of lockdown) by the Company or the WG requesting the Aimag State Emergency Agencies to provide support to the research team to get back to Ulaanbaatar with contact details from the Company/WG (томилолтоор явж байгааг баталгаажуулах албан бичиг)	The letter can be obtained from the Ministry of Energy through WG secretary Mr. Luvsantseren.
9	Katie's query - have they already surveyed within the Right of Way of the new line and can they confirm what buildings are located within it – especially within the two towns. - Are they planning to re-locate structures within the official ROW - Also, Candice mentioned something about one area/location having mining rights – worth following up on this with them to understand location and outstanding issues please.	See 6.

Additional comments:

negative impact – impact on human health, however current RoW is based on evidence-based scientific research of impact of electromagnetic field on human health

major negative impact – on migratory species; when birds approach to high voltage EL up to 2 meters, they are already hit by high voltage

crossing with roads – there are special safety regulations observed in this case;

PIU is expected to be established in the Ministry; the Company will monitor construction (to comply with safety regulations, land rehabilitation within RoW etc.)

Bayasaltugs LLC Engineer Mr. Batbayar – in 2013 and in 2020, there no herders or households within RoW, and there is no overlapping with mining licensed areas