



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGIONAL OFFICE SWAT
Climate Change, Forestry, Environment & Wildlife Department
Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa



No. EPA/ROS/GEA/995 KW MMHPP Golghari /Upper Chitral/ 282-87

Date: 12/06/2024

To,

Chief Executive/ Project Director,
Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO),
Access to clean energy Programme (ACEP), PMU MMHPP Project House,
No. D13/1, Syed Jamal Uddin Afghani Road, University Town Peshawar,
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
Contact # 091-7252099/ 0348-5230238

Subject:

DECISION ON GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL (GEA)
REPORT OF 995 KW GOLGHARI OVEER DISTRICT UPPER
CHITRAL, MINI/MICRO HYDRO POWER PROJECT.

Kindly refer to the subject cited above and to enclose herewith Environmental Approval/ Decision Note on GEA Report of project titled "**995 KW GOLGHARI OVEER DISTRICT UPPER CHITRAL, MINI/MICRO HYDRO POWER PROJECT**" for your information and further implementation.

Moreover, Schedule-X (Copy enclosed) must be submitted to this office within one month on Stamp Paper as an undertaking for the compliance of terms and conditions as mentioned in the Environmental Approval as well as mitigation measures proposed in the General Environmental Approval (GEA) Report, please.

Director (Malakand)

Copy for information to the;

1. Deputy Commissioner, District Upper Chitral.
2. P.A to Director General, EPA, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- ✓ 3. Assistant Director (IT), EPA- Peshawar Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for uploading on EPA official website.
4. Manager (Environment Social and Gender Empowerment) MMHPPs, PEDO Peshawar.
5. Project Manager, 995 KW Golghari Oveer District Upper Chitral, Mini/Micro Hydro Power Project.

Faiz Abad Opposite Chinnar (Jamia Masjid Siddiqui) Saidu Sharif, Swat
Phone No. 0946-920098

SCHEDULE - IX

Decision on GEA

1. Name and address of the proponent:

The Project Director,
Pakhtunkhwa Energy Development Organization (PEDO),
Access to clean energy Project (ACEP), PMU MMHPP Project,
House No.D13/1, Syed Jamal Uddin Afghani Road, University
Town Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
Contact # 091-7252099

2. Description of project:

The proposed "995 KW Golghari Oveer District Upper Chitral, Mini/Micro Hydro Power Project " is situated on the left bank of Golghari nullah in Oveer valley of Upper Chitral District. It aims to generate 995 KW of clean, renewable energy by upgrading an existing local MHP. The current MHP is under capacity due to wear and tear in channels and machinery. The project seeks to fulfill community energy requirements by enhancing infrastructure, equipment, and operational aspects. Water will be returned to the same stream after generation, spanning around 1910 meters. This project falls under the "Access to Clean Energy Investment Programme (ACEIP)" an initiative by Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa with financial support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Its primary objective is to provide sustainable electricity to approximately 2000 households in this off-grid area. Utilizing a run-of-the-river system with a design discharge of 0.95 cumecs and a gross head of 138 meters, major components include a settling tank, intake structure, forebay tank, spillway, penstock/air vent pipe, turbine, powerhouse/trail race, control panel, and distribution lines. Following a participatory development approach, the project will be handed over to the community after completion, utilizing local labor and resources, and minimizing environmental impact.

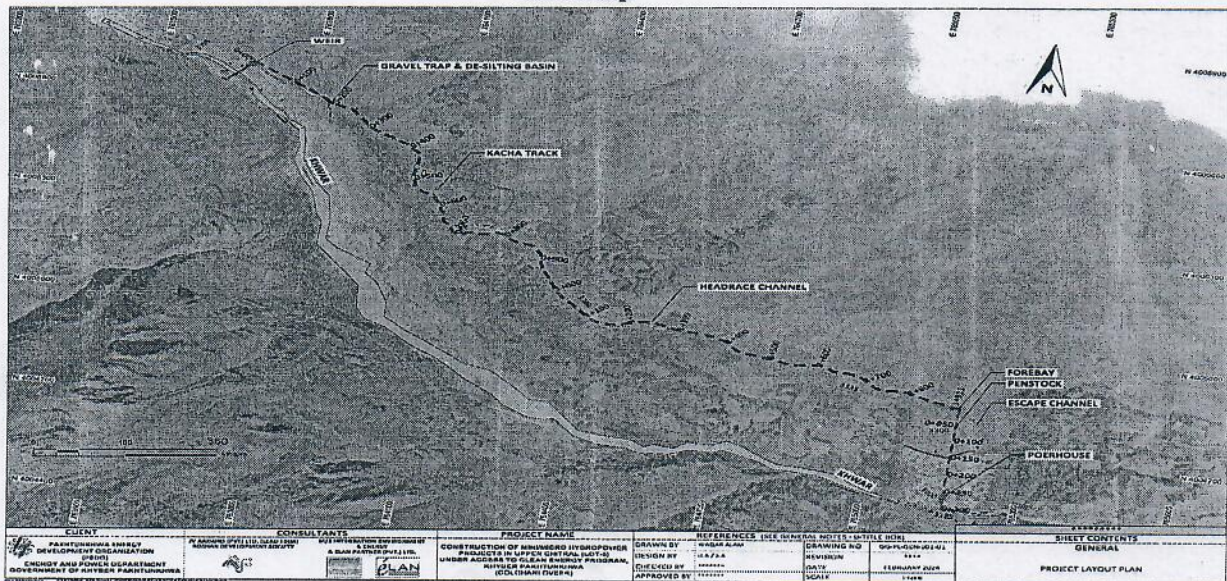
3. Location of project:

The project is located at Golghari nullah in Village Council Pakhtoori, Union Council Oveer, Tehsil Mulkhow, District Upper Chitral- Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

GPS Coordinates and GIS Map (As per KMZ file):

Intake structure : N 36.159937°, E 71.931095°
Power House Site : N 36.149813°, E 71.947245°

GIS Map



5. After careful review, the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Office, Swat Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, has decided to grant construction phase Environmental Approval for the General Environmental Approval (GEA) Report of the project titled **"995 KW Golghari Oveer District Upper Chitral, Mini/Micro Hydro Power Project "**. This decision is in accordance with the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014, and the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules, 2021 (KPEA Rules, 2021). The approval is subject to the following terms and conditions:

- a) The proponent shall adopt and implement all precautionary and mitigatory measures identified in GEA report and commitments made in subsequent correspondences as well as any unanticipated impacts during the construction and operation phase of the project.
- b) The project falls within Schedule-IV of the KPEA Rules, 2021, for which the approval decision is based on guidelines that are still not finalized. Therefore, this approval is provisional and serves as a stopgap arrangement, granted after observing stringent criteria in review. Once the EPA formulates the guidelines, they will be meticulously followed both in letter and in spirit by the proponent to ensure full compliance with environmental regulations.
- c) All effluents, emissions, and noise, if any, must remain within the permissible limits defined by the National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQS).
- d) Adhere to building by-laws and site plan, considering natural and man-made disasters during project design and implementation.
- e) The proponent must comply with national and provincial Climate Change Policies, including the implementation of proposed adaptation and mitigation measures.
- f) Prevent any disturbance to the public and environment due to noise, dust, odor, sedimentation or contamination during construction and operation of the project.
- g) Personal Protective Equipments shall be provided to all workers to ensure health and safety with first aid box for emergency medical use.
- h) Residential houses and agricultural land exist in the near surroundings where children and livestock are normally found. Therefore, safety mechanisms/measures like proper signage fencing, railings, safety barriers or equivalent protective measures are needed around structures such as the intake, gravel trap, sand trap, forebay, manholes, and any other relevant areas to prevent livestock and public access to the water ponds and machinery.
- i) The natural drainage pattern of the area must not be disrupted.
- j) Ensure proper disposal of soil and excavated material at designated sites, avoiding dumping on slopes, riverbanks, or water bodies. Implement stabilization measures including engineering techniques, proper plantation, and bioengineering.
- k) Proper mitigation measures shall be formulated and implemented to avoid soil erosion, land sliding and sedimentation to nearby water bodies or other properties.
- l) The proponent shall ensure site rehabilitation, including planting ten trees for every one tree cut during construction. Cash compensation and replanting will be provided when removal is necessary, and a tree record register must be maintained for each tree cut and replanted, with all affected sites restored to their natural condition at the end of the construction period.
- m) Conventional blasting is prohibited unless approved by the relevant authority. Alternative techniques shall be preferred.
- n) River bed mining shall not be conducted without prior approval of concerned Department and this Agency.
- o) The Right of Way (RoW) of streams and natural water sheds and roads shall not be disturbed. Moreover, ensure river/stream protection from project-related pollution.
- p) Proper flood protection and management plan shall be identified and site-specific mitigation measures shall be implemented during rainy flood, and flash flooding.
- q) An environmentalist along with team shall be hired for proper and effective implementation of Environmental Management Plan of GEA Report.
- r) The cultural values and social norms of the area shall be strictly followed.

- s) A minimum flow regime equivalent to 10-15% of the Mean Annual Flow (MAF), in conjunction with consideration for existing water usage within the bypass stretch, shall be released as needed to support the ecosystem and related requirements in each season and time.
 - t) Water rights of the existing beneficiaries for irrigation and other purposes shall be protected.
 - u) The proponent must obtain a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Irrigation Department or consult with them, and then submit it to the EPA before construction.
 - v) Any identified risks or concerns must be addressed promptly, including the suspension of construction and operations if necessary. In case of incidents or damages caused by the project activities, the proponent will be legally liable for compensation and restoration.
 - w) Provide local employment in non-technical jobs.
 - x) A copy of this approval and the GEA report shall be provided to the contractor/operator at the Project site for information and implementation. Additionally, a biannual (six-month) performance/compliance report shall be submitted to this agency.
6. The proponent shall be liable for the correctness and validity of the information provided to the EPA in the GEA report and subsequent correspondences.
 7. EPA will regularly visit the project site. The proponent must facilitate monitoring and comply with additional EPA conditions if required.
 8. The proponent shall be liable for the compliance of Rules 14(2), 15, 18, 19, and 20 of the KPEA Rules, 2021, regarding approval, confirmation of compliance, validity, entry, inspections, and monitoring.
 9. The proponent must inform the EPA office in writing about the construction/ installation start date and project operation for monitoring purposes.
 10. This approval is valid for the commencement of construction for a period of two (2) years from the date of issuance. If construction does not commence within this stipulated timeframe, the proponent must apply in writing for an extension of the validity period.
 11. This approval is accorded only for the installation/construction phase of the project. The proponent will also obtain approval for the operation phase in accordance with Rule 15 of the KPEA Rules, 2021.
 12. Any alteration/expansion of the approved project shall be communicated to the EPA and shall commence only after obtaining approval. Likewise, no other activities should be undertaken other than what is stipulated in the GEA Report.
 13. This approval shall be treated as null and void under Rule 21 of the KPEA Rules, 2021 mentioned above if all or any of the conditions mentioned above are not complied with.
 14. This approval shall not absolve the proponent of the duty to obtain any other approval or clearance that may be required under any law in force.
 15. There shall be no pending legal cases against the project.
 16. In exercise of the powers conferred upon the undersigned under Section 13 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014, the undersigned is pleased to have approved the GEA Report for the construction phase of the project with the above-mentioned terms and conditions.

Dated: Swat: 12/06/2024

Tracking/File. No. EPA/ROS/GEA/995 KW MMHPP Golghari /Upper Chitral/ 281

Tracking Code:



[Signature]
Director (Malakand)
EPA, Regional office Swat
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

<https://epakp.gov.pk/environmental-approvals/>