

Semi-Annual Safeguard Monitoring Report

Loan Number : 2823-IND

Reporting Period : April 2013 to Sept. 2013

National Power Grid Investment Program – Project 3

Prepared by : ESMD, CORPORATE CENTRE, POWERGRID

Implementing Agency : POWERGRID

Executing Agency : POWERGRID

Date : 14/10/2013

ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| ADB | – | Asian Development Bank |
| APs | – | Affected Persons |
| CTU | – | Central Transmission Utility |
| EA | – | Executing Agency |
| EIA | – | Environment Impact Assessment |
| ESPP | – | Environment and Social Policy & Procedures |
| EMF | – | Electro Magnetic Fields |
| EMP | – | Environmental Management Plan |
| EPS | – | Electric Power Survey |
| GIS | – | Gas Insulated Switchgear |
| GO | – | Government Order |
| GOI | – | Government of India |
| GRM | – | Grievances Redressal Mechanism |
| GRC | – | Grievance Redressal Committee |
| IEE | – | Initial Environmental Examination |
| ISTS | – | Inter-State Transmission System |
| km | – | Kilometers |
| LILo | – | Loop-in Loop-out |
| MoEF | – | Ministry of Environment and Forests |
| PAPs | – | Project Affected Persons |
| POWERGRID | – | Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. |
| PMU | – | Project Management Unit |
| RoW | – | Right of Way |
| RAP | – | Rehabilitation Action Plan |
| S/s | – | Substation |
| NER | – | North Eastern Region |
| NR | – | Northern Region |
| UT DD | – | Union Territory of Daman & Diu |
| UT DNH | – | Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli |
| ESMD | – | Environment & Social Management Department |

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (POWERGRID), the Central Transmission Utility (CTU) of the country, is engaged in power transmission with the mandate for planning, co-ordination, supervision and control over complete Inter-State transmission system. It has been contributing significantly towards development of Indian power sector by undertaking coordinated development of power transmission network along with effective and transparent operation of regional grids and through continuous innovations in technical & managerial fields.

The present peak demand of Union Territory of Dadra & Nagar Haveli (UT DNH) is of the order of 500MW. As per the 17th Electric Power Survey (EPS), projected peak demand is about 780MW by the end of 11th Plan. Presently, UT DNH is connected to Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) network through Vapi – Kharadpada 220kV D/C line and the demand is met through this line as well as through interconnection at Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited (GETCO) network. Considering the long-term requirement to meet projected demand of UT DNH with reliability and security, an interconnection with ISTS network at 400kV level is required. Towards this, establishment of a 400/220kV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) with 2x315MVA capacity near Kala, a load centre in UT DNH, is proposed. In order to interconnect the proposed 400kV substation, Loop-in Loop-out (LILO) of Vapi-Navi Mumbai 400 kV D/C line at Kala is proposed.

Similarly The Union Territory of Daman & Diu (UT DD) does not have its own power generation and is getting only an average of 140 -150 MW as a daily power schedule. The present Peak demand of UT DD in Western Region is about 280MW and the 17th EPS had projected a peak demand of about 550MW by the end of XI plan. Presently, the demand is met from drawl through 220kV ISTS/STU network. However, to meet the increased demand of UT DD, interconnection of UT DD network with ISTS network at 400kV level is required. Accordingly, it was proposed to establish a 400/220kV S/s at a suitable location in UT DD and agreed in the 29th meeting of Standing Committee on Power System Planning in Western Region (WR) held on 10.09.2009. Towards this, establishment of a 400/220kV substation with 2x315MVA capacity near Magarwada, a major load centre in UT DD, is proposed. Further, this substation is proposed as GIS grid substation keeping in view the non-availability of adequate land for establishment of GIS S/s. In order to interconnect the proposed 400 kV substation, LILO of Navsari-Boisar 400kV D/C line at Magarwada is proposed.

To meet the funding requirement, ADB has accepted POWERGRID proposal to finance the above subprojects under Loan No. 2823-IND, National Power Grid Development Investment Programme- Project 3. The loan was signed on 30th March 2012 and became effective from 7th May 2012. The loan closing date is 31st March 2015.

1.1 OVERALL PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The National Power Grid Development Program Project-3 covered under Loan No. 2823-IND includes following transmission lines and substations:

- (i) Establishment of 400/220 kV GIS Substation at Kala along with LILO of Vapi-Navi Mumbai 400 kV D/C line at Kala in UT DNH.
- (ii) Establishment of 400/220 kV GIS Substation at Magarwada along with LILO of Navsari-Boisar 400 kV D/C line at Magarwada in UT DD.

1.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to cater the long term power transfer requirement to meet projected power demand of UT DNH & UT DD with reliability and security.

1.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORY

As per the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) classification of project on the basis of potential environmental impacts, the National Power Grid Development Investment Programme- Project 3 is classified as Environmental Category 'B'.

1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR:

The following parameters considered as key indicators for this project need to be monitored to evaluate the environmental performance.

1. Selection of optimum route which has least environment impact on environment and also avoid protected area/ecological sensitive area/ historical or cultural monuments
2. Compliance to all applicable statutory requirements
3. Compliance with Environment Management Plan

1.5 OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS, AGREED MILESTONES & IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULES

| Name of sub project | Project Details | Progress as on Sept. 2013 | Completion Schedule |
|---------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| Sub Project -1 | <p>Transmission Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LILO of 400kV D/C Vapi-Navi Mumbai line at Kala Substation (multi-circuit tower) - 9 km <p>Substation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of 400/220 kV GIS Substation at Kala in UT DNH | <p>All foundation, erection and stringing work have been completed</p> <p>Under construction</p> | July' 2013 |
| Sub Project -2 | <p>Transmission Line</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LILO of 400kV D/C Navsari - Boisar line at Magarwada Substation (multi-circuit tower) - 16 km <p>Substation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of 400/220 kV GIS Substation at Magarwada in UT DD | <p>Out of total 52 nos. of Towers, about 51 nos. of foundation, 25 nos. tower erection completed so far. Stringing to be started shortly.</p> <p>Boundary wall under construction.</p> | July' 2013 |

SECTION 2 : COMPLIANCE STATUS WITH APPLICABLE STATUTORY ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS :

| S. No. | Legal Requirements | Applicable Attributes | POWERGRID's Compliance Status |
|--------|--|--|---|
| 1. | Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 | This Act is applicable whenever a transmission line traverses through forest area. Prior approval from Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), Govt. of India has to be obtained before construction of line in forest areas | The project involve a total of 0.46 km (2.1 ha.) of forest land in two transmission lines covered under the subject loan. POWERGRID has submitted forest diversion proposals to State/UT for obtaining clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest. Details of forest involved and status of forest clearance is presented below in Table-1. |
| 2. | Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001 | As per the Rule, Bulk consumers shall have the responsibility to dispose all used batteries to dealers, manufacturer, registered recycler, reconditioners or at the designated collection centres only. Half-yearly return (Form-8) for the same is to be submitted to the concerned State Pollution Control Board. | Since projects are under implementation phase, no used batteries have been replaced so far. |
| 3. | Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Amendment Rules, 2008 | As per Rules, used mineral oil (Schedule I, category – 5.1) is categorized as hazardous waste and require proper handling, storage and disposed only to authorised disposal facility (registered recyclers/ reprocessors). Half-yearly return (Form -13) for the same is to be submitted to the concerned State Pollution Control Board. | Transformer oil is changed only after 10-15 years of operation Since projects are under implementation phase, oil change/ replacement is not envisaged at present. |
| 4. | Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 | Controls and regulations specified on manufacturing, import, export, and use of CFC compound. | Necessary provisions have been made in contract document for restricting the use CFC compound. |

Table – 1 : Details of Forest Involvement and Forest Clearance Status

| Sl. No. | Transmission line section | Forest stretch involved (in km) | Forest area (in Ha.) | Name of the State/ UT | Status |
|---------|---|---------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1. | LILO of 400kV D/C Vapi-Navi Mumbai line at Kala Substation (multi-circuit tower) - 9 km | 0.36 | 1.64 | UT | Forest proposals pertain to road/railway/canal crossing. Forest proposal submitted to Forest Authorities on 22 nd November, 2012.. Proposal forwarded to RMoEF, Bhopal on 26 th July, 2013. RMoEF asked for some clarification which has been replied by POWERGRID |
| 2. | LILO of 400kV D/C Navsari - Boisar line at Magarwada Substation- 16 km | 0.10 | 0.46 | Gujarat | Forest proposal submitted to Forest Authorities on 22 nd November, 2012. Proposal forwarded by DFO, Valsad to Conservator of Forest (CF), Baruch on 25 th Sept. 2013 |

SECTION 3 : COMPLIANCE STATUS WITH MAJOR LOAN COVENANTS

POWERGRID has complied with various environmental and social safeguards as agreed in the loan covenants. The point wise compliance status is presented in the table below.

| Project Specific Covenants | Reference | Status of Compliance |
|---|---------------------|---|
| The Borrower shall ensure that the Project and Project facilities are assessed, designed, implemented, constructed, operated, maintained, and monitored in accordance with all applicable environmental laws, rules, and regulations of the Guarantor, relevant States, and ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), as set out in the EARF, the ESPP, IEE, (or environmental impact assessment, if applicable). | LA, Sch. 5, para. 4 | Being complied with. |
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure that :</p> <p>(i) the EMP and the mitigation measures included therein, as specified in the IEE, (or environmental impact assessment, if applicable), and EARF, as applicable, are properly and promptly implemented;</p> <p>(ii) the EMP and mitigation measures included therein are updated at the engineering design stage and incorporated into the bidding documents and civil works/supply contracts;</p> <p>(iii) any adverse impact on the environment that may arise from Project implementation is promptly mitigated or minimized in accordance with the EMP;</p> <p>(iv) any major accidents, including safety breaches, violation of environmental standards, and corrective measures taken in respect thereof, are reported forthwith to ADB;</p> <p>(v) reports on the implementation of the EMP are submitted to ADB at least semi-annually, and that ADB is allowed to conduct annual environmental reviews; and</p> <p>(vi) reports and information are provided to ADB on request to enable it to verify that the goods and services financed out of the proceeds of the Loan have been produced in a responsible manner with a view to resource efficiency, waste minimization, and other environmental considerations.</p> | LA, Sch. 5, para. 5 | <p>Complied Approved EMP and the mitigation measures as included in IEE are being implemented.</p> <p>Approved EMP and the mitigation measures are part of contract/ bidding documents</p> <p>Being complied</p> <p>Being complied</p> <p>Being complied. Status of EMP implementation report is part of semi-annual safeguard monitoring report Being complied</p> |
| The Borrower shall ensure that the Project and/or Project facilities are not located within national parks, forests, and wildlife sanctuaries, unless prior environmental clearances are obtained from the relevant government agencies, and that the monuments of cultural or historical importance are avoided. | LA, Sch. 5, para. 6 | Being complied |

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| <p>The Borrower shall, subject to compliance with RF, and RP, as agreed with ADB, and in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and policies of the Guarantor, and the relevant State, acquire or make available the land and rights to land free from any encumbrances, and clear the utilities, trees and any other obstruction from such land by providing adequate compensation and assistance required for commencement of construction activities in accordance with the schedule agreed under the related civil works contracts.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 7</p> | <p>Complied</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure that land acquisition and resettlement is undertaken in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and policies of the Guarantor, the relevant State, ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), as set out in the RF, ESPP, as well as in accordance with the RF, and RP for the Project.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 8</p> | <p>Complied</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall</p> <p>(i) prepare and implement RP for the Project if it entails permanent or temporary losses, and update these after detailed design; and</p> <p>(ii) disclose the RP to affected persons in a form and language easily comprehended by the affected persons prior to submission to ADB for review.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 9</p> | <p>Being complied</p> <p>Complied</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure that prior to commencement of civil works under the Project,</p> <p>(i) full compensation in accordance with the related RP is paid to the affected persons such that their living standards are not adversely affected; and</p> <p>(ii) resettlement assistance, grievance redress mechanisms, and monitoring systems are fully implemented. The Borrower shall implement additional activities, such as income generating programs, within eighteen (18) months of the commencement of civil works.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 10</p> | <p>Being complied</p> <p>Being complied</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall submit progress and completion reports on land acquisition and resettlement, if undertaken, under the quarterly progress reports for the Project. In addition, the Borrower shall forward external monitoring report to ADB on a semi-annual basis for review.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 11</p> | <p>QPR are being submitted regularly</p> |
| <p>Prior to any land acquisition and resettlement, if any, for the Project, the Borrower shall ensure that RP, including its updates, based on consultation with the affected persons are submitted to ADB for its approval and uploading on ADB's website.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 12</p> | <p>Complied</p> |
| <p>In the event irrigation supplies are disrupted and affected farmers experience losses, the Borrower shall ensure that a provision will be made for independent valuation of the losses and timely compensation in respect thereof.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 13</p> | <p>Complied</p> |

| | | |
|---|----------------------|---|
| The Borrower shall ensure timely provision of budget for land acquisition, resettlement, and other activities outlined in the RP, and shall meet any unforeseen obligations in excess of the RP budget estimate in order to satisfy the requirements of the RP. | LA, Sch. 5, para. 14 | Complied |
| Within three (3) months of the Effective Date, the Borrower shall establish a grievance redress committee with representation from all the stakeholders to address any grievances from affected persons concerning resettlement and other social issues in a timely manner. | LA, Sch. 5, para. 15 | Complied Grievances Redressal Committee has been established |
| In the event of any significant or related impacts on indigenous peoples, the Borrower shall prepare and implement an indigenous peoples plan in accordance with IPDF, and ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), as set out in the IPPF, the applicable law, regulation, and policy of the Guarantor, and the relevant State. In the event of non-significant impact on indigenous peoples, the Borrower shall comply with the requirements set out in the RP. | LA, Sch. 5, para. 16 | No Indigenous people involved/impacted |
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure effective implementation of following activities, including as required, that all bidding documents and contracts for Works contain provisions that require contractors to:</p> <p>(a)comply with the measures relevant to the contractor set forth in the IEE, the EMP, and the RP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report;</p> <p>(b)make available a budget for all such environmental and social measures;</p> <p>(c)provide the Borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated environmental, resettlement or indigenous peoples risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation the Project that were not considered in the IEE, the EMP, and the RP;</p> <p>(d)adequately record the condition of roads, and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; and</p> <p>(e) reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction.</p> | LA, Sch. 5, para. 17 | Complied |
| The Borrower shall ensure that essential public infrastructure, which may be affected by land acquisition and resettlement, if any, is replaced as appropriate in an expeditious manner in accordance with the RP. | LA, Sch. 5, para. 18 | Complied |

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure that construction contracts contain binding requirements for contractors upon completion of construction to fully reinstate pathways, other local infrastructures, and agricultural land to at least their pre-Project condition; and a provision is made for adequate recording of the condition of roads, agricultural land and other infrastructure prior to transport of material and commencement of construction.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 19</p> | <p>Being complied.</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall do the following:</p> <p>(a) submit semi-annual Safeguards Monitoring Reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission;</p> <p>(b) if any unanticipated environmental and/or social risks and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the IEE, the EMP and the RP, promptly inform ADB of the occurrence of such risks or impacts, with detailed description of the event and proposed corrective action plan; and</p> <p>(c) report any breach of compliance with the measures and requirements set forth in the EMP or the RP promptly after becoming aware of the breach.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 20</p> | <p>Being complied.</p> <p>No such issues come across till date.</p> <p>Will be complied incase of any breach. But till date no such breach reported.</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall ensure that subsequent to award of civil works contract in respect of the Project, no civil works are started by the contractor unless the applicable provisions of the RF, RP, EARF and EMP, as approved by ADB, have been complied with.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 21</p> | <p>Compliance ensured.</p> |
| <p>The Borrower shall cause the contractors to undertake detailed survey of the affected persons during transmission line alignment finalization under the Project. The Borrower shall prepare/update RP which meet ADB's requirements, based upon the detailed design information during the survey carried out by civil work contractors. The Borrower shall submit to ADB for approval revised RP progressively during the implementation of the related civil work.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 22</p> | <p>Compliance ensured.</p> |
| <p>Any changes to the location, land alignment, or environment impacts on account of detailed designs of the Project shall be subject to prior approval by ADB in accordance with the Project, selection criteria and procedures included in Schedule 4 of the FFA, before commencement of civil works for transmission lines under the Project.</p> | <p>LA, Sch. 5, para. 23</p> | <p>Not applicable as no such deviation reported.</p> |

SECTION: 4 COMPLIANCE STATUS WITH ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN STIPULATED IN IEER AND AS AGRRED WITH ADB

The subprojects are being implemented as per approved IEE and EMP and in accordance with applicable laws & ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). POWERGRID has prepared Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) reports including Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and mitigation measures to ensure that all the anticipated environment impacts due to the project activities are minimized wherever possible. The EMP describes a detailed site-specific mitigation measures and monitoring plans anticipated during different stages of the proposed project i.e. pre-construction, construction, and operation & maintenance phase. A summary of monitoring requirements has also been included which identifies when and where the parameter will be monitored, how often and against what aspect. For proper implementation of EMP and other mitigation measures separate fund has been allocated in the project cost.

Monitoring the implementation of environmental mitigation measures is required to ensure that these are undertaken in accordance with the EMP, and to enable mitigation to be adapted and refined as required. A summary of the environmental mitigation measures and monitoring requirements vis-a vis to compliance status by POWRGRID's is given below in **Table 2**.

POWERGRID follows the principle of Avoidance, Minimization and Mitigation in the construction of line in agricultural field having crop due to inherent flexibility in phasing the construction activity and tries to defer construction in cropped area to facilitate crop harvesting. However, if it is unavoidable and is likely to affect project schedule, compensation is given at market rate for standing crops. The process tree/crop compensation is depicted in **Figure 1**. All efforts are also taken to minimize the crop damage to the extent possible in such cases. In the instant project also POWERGRID is taking all possible measures to avoid damages to crop/trees by taking up the construction activities during lean period or post-harvest season. As per the prevailing norms farming activity allowed after the construction work is completed. However, compensation for the loss of crops/trees/any structure etc. paid to Affected Persons(APs) for the area of damaged to mitigate the impacts probably 3 times i.e. during foundation work, tower erection & stringing as per the prevailing situation. The details of compensation paid in the instant subprojects till Sept.' 2013 are presented below.

| Sl. No. | Name of the Subproject | No.of Affected Persons | Affected Land Area (in Ha.) | Nos. of Tree affected | Compensation Paid for Crop damages (Rs. Lakh) | | | Compensation Paid for Tree damages (Rs. Lakh) | | |
|---------|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------|---|---|-----------|---|
| | | | | | Foundat ion | Erection | Stringing | Foundat ion | Erectio n | Stringing |
| 1. | LILO of 400kV D/C Vapi-Navi Mumbai line at Kala | 321 | 52.05 | 1546 | 58.37 | 25.81 | Notices issued. Payment to be disbursed shortly | 9.58 | 0.07 | Notices issued. Payment to be disbursed shortly |
| 2. | LILO of 400kV D/C Navsari - Boisar line at Magarwada | 146 | 27.0 | 3669 | 58.14 | 13.49 | Stringing work not started yet | 243.00 | 16.35 | Stringing work not started yet |

Figure 1 : TREE / CROP COMPENSATION PROCESS

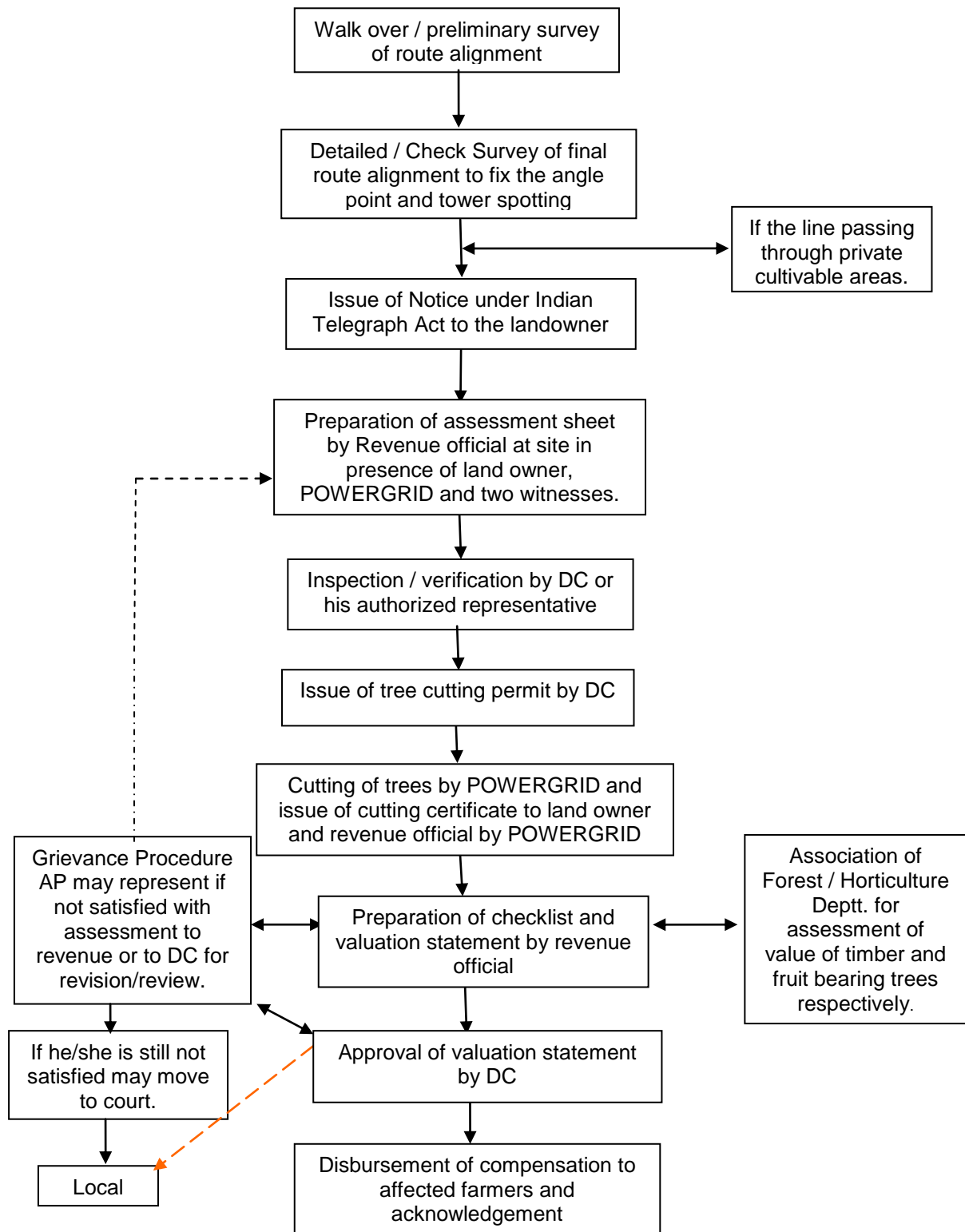


TABLE – 2 : ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--|--|---|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|
| Pre-construction | | | | | | | |
| Location of transmission towers and transmission line alignment and design | Exposure to safety related risks | Setback of dwellings to overhead line route designed in accordance with permitted level of power frequency and the regulation of supervision at sites. | Tower location and line alignment selection with respect to nearest dwellings | Setback distances to nearest houses - once | POWERGRID | Part of tower siting survey and detailed alignment survey and design | Complied during survey. Route alignment criterion is part of survey contract. |
| Equipment specifications and design parameters | Release of chemicals and gases in receptors (air, water, land) | PCBs not used in substation transformers or other project facilities or equipment. | Transformer design | Exclusion of PCBs in transformers stated in tender specification - once | POWERGRID | Part of tender specifications for the equipment | Complied. As per technical specification PCB is not used or it should not be detectable (i.e less than 2mg/kg) as per IEC 61619 or ASTM D4059 |
| | | Processes, equipment and systems not to use chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), including halon, and their use, if any, in existing processes and systems should be phased out and to be disposed of in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Government | Process, equipment and system design | Exclusion of CFCs stated in tender specification – Phase out schedule to be prepared in case still in use – once | POWERGRID | Part of tender specifications for the equipment Part of equipment and process design | Complied Complied |
| Transmission line design | Exposure to electromagnetic interference | Transmission line design to comply with the limits of electromagnetic interference from overhead power lines | Electromagnetic field strength for proposed line design | Line design compliance with relevant standards - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed alignment survey and design | Complied. Designed as per guidelines of ICNIRP and ACGIH and checked by CPRI and M/s PTI, USA |
| Substation location and design | Exposure to noise | Design of plant enclosures to comply with noise regulations. | Expected noise emissions based on substation design | Compliance with regulations - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed siting survey and design | Complied |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--|--|--|---|---|------------------------------|--|---|
| Location of transmission towers and transmission line alignment and design | Impact on water bodies and land | Consideration of tower location at where they could be located to avoid water bodies or agricultural land. | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to water and/or agricultural land) | Consultation with local authorities and land owners - once | POWERGRID | Part of tower siting survey and detailed alignment survey and design | Complied during survey. Route alignment criterion is part of survey contract. |
| | Social inequities | Careful route selection to avoid existing settlements | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to nearest dwellings or social institutions) | Consultation with local authorities and land owners - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed tower siting and alignment survey and design | |
| | | Minimise need to acquire agricultural land | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to agricultural land) | Consultation with local authorities and land owners - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed tower siting and alignment survey and design | |
| Involuntary resettlement or land acquisition | Social inequities | Compensation paid for temporary/permanent loss of productive land as per LAA and its process | RAP implementation | Consultation with affected parties –once in a quarter | POWERGRID | Prior to construction phase | Progressive social entitlement framework is part of policy and implemented in true spirit |
| Encroachment into precious ecological areas | Loss of precious ecological values/ damage to precious species | Avoid encroachment by careful site and alignment selection | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to nearest designated ecological protection area) | Consultation with local forest authorities - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed siting and alignment survey /design | Complied during survey. Route alignment criterion is part of survey contract. |
| Transmission line through forestland | Deforestation and loss of biodiversity | Avoid encroachment by careful site and alignment selection | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to nearest protected or reserved forest) | Consultation with local authorities - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed siting and alignment survey/design | Complied. Route alignment finalised by taking consideration of minimum impact on forest area after consultation with concerned authorities. |
| | | Minimise the need by using existing towers, tall towers and RoW, wherever possible | | Consultation with local authorities and design engineers - once | | | |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--|--|--|---|---|------------------------------|---|--|
| | | Obtain statutory clearances from the Government | Statutory approvals from Government | Compliance with regulations – once for each subproject | | | Forest Clearance from MoEF under progress |
| Encroachment into farmland | Loss of agricultural productivity | Use existing tower footings/towers wherever possible | Tower location and line alignment selection | Consultation with local authorities and design engineers - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed alignment survey and design | Complied during survey which is part of survey contract. However, as per law of land no land is acquired for transmission line tower but all damages are compensated as per provision of Electricity Act, 2003 and Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. |
| | | Avoid siting new towers on farmland wherever feasible | Tower location and line alignment selection | Consultation with local authorities and design engineers - once | | Part of detailed siting and alignment survey /design | |
| | | Farmers compensated for any permanent loss of productive land | Design of Implementation of Crop Compensation (based on affected area) | Consultation with affected parties – once in a quarter | | Prior to construction phase | |
| | | Farmers/landowners compensated for significant trees that need to be trimmed/ removed along RoW. | Design of Implementation of Tree compensation (estimated area to be trimmed/ removed) | Consultation with affected parties – once in a quarter | | Part of detailed siting and alignment survey /design | |
| | | | Statutory approvals for tree trimming /removal | Compliance with regulations – once for each subproject | | Forest Clearance from MoEF under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is in progress | |
| Noise related | Nuisance to neighbouring properties | Substations sited and designed to ensure noise will not be a nuisance. | Noise levels | Noise levels to be specified in tender documents – once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed equipment design | Proper monitoring of noise level at regular interval (maximum noise limit is 80 (dB)A as per technical specification for transformer- Cl. 6.0.20) |
| Interference with drainage patterns/Irrigation on channels | Flooding hazards/loss of agricultural production | Appropriate siting of towers to avoid channel interference | Tower location and line alignment selection (distance to nearest flood zone) | Consultation with local authorities and design engineers - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed alignment survey and design | Complied during survey. Route alignment criterion is part of survey contract. |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| Escape of polluting materials | Environmental pollution | Transformers designed with oil spill containment systems, and purpose-built oil, lubricant and fuel storage system, complete with spill cleanup equipment. | Equipment specifications with respect to potential pollutants | Tender document to mention specifications - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed equipment design /drawings | Complied. Oil sump of sufficient capacity (200% by volume of oil tank in transformer) is provided for every transformer. |
| | | Substations to include drainage and sewage disposal systems to avoid offsite land and water pollution. | Substation sewage design | Tender document to mention detailed specifications - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed substation layout and design /drawings | Complied. Provision of soak pit is part of design where sewage line is not present. |
| Explosions /Fire | Hazards to life | Design of substations to include modern fire control systems/ firewalls. | Substation design compliance with fire prevention and control codes | Tender document to mention detailed specifications - once | POWERGRID | Part of detailed substation layout and design /drawings | Complied. Fire fighting equipments are integral part of Substation design |
| | | Provision of fire fighting equipment to be located close to transformers. | | | | | |
| Construction | | | | | | | |
| Equipment layout and installation | Noise and vibrations | Construction techniques and machinery selection seeking to minimize ground disturbance. | Construction techniques and machinery | Construction techniques and machinery creating minimal ground disturbance- once at the start of each construction phase | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec- VII, 44.7) | Construction period | Complied. Low noise producing machineries/ equipments are being used. |
| Physical construction | Disturbed farming activity | Construction activities on cropping land timed to avoid disturbance of field crops (within one month of harvest wherever possible). | Timing of start of construction | Crop disturbance –Post harvest as soon as possible but before next crop - once per site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.5) | Construction period | Construction on farm land undertaken mostly during post harvest period. Where ever crop loss occurs compensation paid to farm owners |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|-------------------------|--|
| Mechanized construction | Noise, vibration and operator safety, efficient | Construction equipment to be well maintained. | Construction equipment – estimated noise emissions | Complaints received by local authorities - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-VIII, | Construction period | No complaints received so far |
| | Noise, vibration, equipment wear and tear | Turning off plant not in use. | Construction equipment – estimated noise emissions and operating schedules | Complaints received by local authorities - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-VIII, 44.7) | Construction period | |
| Construction of roads for accessibility | Increase in airborne dust particles | Existing roads and tracks used for construction and maintenance access to the line wherever | Access roads, routes (length and width of new access roads to be constructed) | Use of established roads wherever possible - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.8) | Construction period | Most Sites are easily accessible and existing road are used for construction activity. |
| | Increased land requirement for temporary accessibility | New access ways restricted to a single carriageway width within the RoW. | Access width (meters) | Access restricted to single carriage - way width within RoW - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.8) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| Temporary blockage of utilities | Overflows, reduced discharge | Temporary placement of fill in drains/canals not permitted. | Temporary fill placement (m ³) | Absence of fill in sensitive drainage areas - every 4 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.6) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| Site clearance | Vegetation | Marking of vegetation to be removed prior to clearance, and strict control on clearing activities to ensure minimal clearance. | Vegetation marking and clearance control (area in m ²) | Clearance strictly limited to target vegetation - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-VIII, 43.5 & Sec. II, 2.6) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|-------------------------|---|
| Trimming /cutting of trees within RoW | Fire hazards | Trees allowed growing up to a height within the RoW by maintaining adequate clearance between the top of tree and the conductor as per the regulations. | Species-specific tree retention as approved by statutory authorities (average and maximum tree height at maturity, in meters) | Presence of target species in RoW following vegetation clearance – once per site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | Regulated felling of tree in RoW is carried out with permission of owner & revenue authority keeping required electrical clearance as per design. |
| | Loss of vegetation and deforestation | Trees that can survive pruning to comply should be pruned instead of cleared. | Species-specific tree retention as approved by statutory authorities | Presence of target species in RoW following vegetation clearance – once per site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| | | Felled trees and other cleared or pruned vegetation to be disposed of as authorized by the statutory bodies. | Disposal of cleared vegetation as approved by the statutory authorities (area cleared in m ²) | Use or intended use of vegetation as approved by the statutory authorities – once per site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | All felled trees are handed over to owner for disposal. POWERGRID has no role in storage and disposal of felled tree/wood. |
| Wood/ vegetation harvesting | Loss of vegetation and deforestation | Construction workers prohibited from harvesting wood in the project area during their employment, (apart from locally employed staff continuing current legal activities) | Illegal wood /vegetation harvesting (area in m ² , number of incidents reported) | Complaints by local people or other evidence of illegal harvesting - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.3) | Construction period | No complaints received on illegal harvesting |
| Surplus earthwork/soil | Runoff to cause water pollution, solid waste disposal | Soil excavated from tower footings disposed of by placement along roadsides, or at nearby house blocks if requested by landowners | Soil disposal locations and volume (m ³) | Acceptable soil disposal sites - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-VIII, 43.5 & Sec-II, 2.6) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|-------------------------|---|
| Site clearance | Vegetation | Tree clearances for easement establishment to only involve cutting trees off at ground level or pruning as appropriate, with tree stumps and roots left in place and ground cover left undisturbed | Ground disturbance during vegetation clearance (area, m ²) | Amount of ground disturbance - every 4 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | Regulated felling of tree in RoW is carried out with permission of owner & revenue authority keeping required electrical clearance as per design. All felled trees are handed over to owner for disposal. |
| | | | Statutory approvals | Statutory approvals for tree clearances – once for each site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | |
| Tower construction – disposal of surplus earthwork/fill | Waste disposal | Excess fill from tower foundation excavation disposed of next to roads or around houses, in agreement with the local community or landowner | Location and amount (m ³)of fill disposal | Appropriate fill disposal locations - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.6 & Sec-VIII, 43.5) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| Storage of chemicals and materials | Contamination of receptors (land, water, air) | Fuel and other hazardous materials securely stored above high flood level. | Location of hazardous material storage; spill reports (type of material spilled, amount (kg or m ³) and action taken to control and clean up spill) | Fuel storage in appropriate locations and receptacles - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | Stored at designated place only. |
| Construction schedules | Noise nuisance to neighbouring properties | Construction activities only undertaken during the day and local communities informed of the construction schedule. | Timing of construction (noise emissions, [dB(A)]) | Daytime construction only - every 2 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-VIII, 44.7) | Construction period | Construction activity restricted to day time only |
| Provision of facilities for construction workers | Contamination of receptors (land, water, air) | Construction workforce facilities to include proper sanitation, water supply and waste disposal facilities. | Amenities for Workforce facilities | Presence of proper sanitation, water supply and waste disposal facilities - once each new facility | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | No complaints received |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|-------------------------|--|
| Encroachment into farmland | Loss of agricultural productivity | Use existing access roads wherever possible | Usage of existing utilities | Complaints received by local people /authorities - every 4 weeks | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.8) Sec-II, 2.5 & Sec-II, 2.7 | Construction period | Being complied. No complaints received from local peoples/ authorities |
| | | Ensure existing irrigation facilities are maintained in working | Status of existing facilities | | | | |
| | | Protect /preserve topsoil and reinstate after construction | Status of facilities (earthwork in m ³) | | | | |
| | | Repair /reinstate damaged bunds etc after construction | Status of facilities (earthwork in m ³) | | | | |
| | Social inequities | Compensation for temporary loss in agricultural production | Implementation of Crop compensation (amount paid, dates, etc.) | Consultation with affected parties – once in a quarter | POWERGRID | Prior to construction | Tried to minimise the loss. But if there is any damage to tree/crop then damages are compensated |
| Uncontrolled erosion/silt runoff | Soil loss, downstream siltation | Need for access tracks minimised, use of existing roads. | Design basis and construction procedures (suspended solids in receiving waters; area re-vegetated in m ² ; amount of bunds constructed [length in meter, area in m ² , or volume in m ³]) | Incorporating good design and construction management practices – once for each site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.8) As per Sec-II, 2.6 | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| | | Limit site clearing to work areas | | | | | |
| | | Regeneration of vegetation to stabilise works areas on completion (where applicable) | | | | | |
| | | Avoidance of excavation in wet season | | | | | |
| | | Water courses protected from siltation through use of bunds and sediment ponds | | | | | |
| Nuisance to nearby properties | Losses to neighbouring land uses/ values | Contract clauses specifying careful construction practices. | Contract clauses | Incorporating good construction management practices – once for each site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provision as per | Construction period | No complaints received |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|-------------------------|---|
| | | As much as possible existing access ways will be used | Design basis and layout | Incorporating good design engineering practices– once for each site | Sec-II, 2.8) | | Complied/ Being Complied |
| | | Productive land will be reinstated following completion of construction | Reinstatement of land status (area affected, m ²) | Consultation with affected parties – twice – immediately after completion of construction and after the first harvest | | | No complaints received |
| | Social inequities | Compensation will be paid for loss of production, if any. | Implementation of Tree/Crop compensation (amount paid) | Consultation with affected parties – once in a quarter | POWERGRID | Prior to construction | Compensation provided as per POWERGRID's procedure for tree/crop compensation |
| Inadequate siting of borrow areas | Loss of land values | Existing borrow sites will be used to source aggregates, therefore, no need to develop new sources of aggregates | Contract clauses | Incorporating good construction management practices – once for each site | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| Health and safety | Injury and sickness of workers and members of the public | Contract provisions specifying minimum requirements for construction camps | Contract clauses (number of incidents and total lost-work days caused by injuries and sickness) | Contract clauses compliance – once every quarter | POWERGRID (Contractor through contract provisions as per Sec-II, 2.2 (v,vii,viii) and also Safety precautions in Special Contract Condition 43.2) | Construction period | Complied/ Being Complied |
| | | Contractor to prepare and implement a health and safety plan. | | | | | |
| | | Contractor to arrange for health and safety training sessions | | | | | |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--|--|--|---|---|------------------------------|--|---|
| Inadequate construction stage monitoring | Likely to maximise damages | Training of POWERGRID environmental monitoring personnel | Training schedules | Number of programs attended by each person – once a year | POWERGRID | Routinely throughout construction period | Provides proper training and have very good environmental monitoring process. Appropriate clause incorporated in contact provision for EMP implementation. Site managers review the implementation on daily basis. |
| | | Implementation of effective environmental monitoring and reporting system using checklist of all contractual environmental requirements | Respective contract checklists and remedial actions taken thereof. | Submission of duly completed checklists of all contracts for each site - once | | | |
| | | Appropriate contact clauses to ensure satisfactory implementation of contractual environmental mitigation measures. | Compliance report related to environmental aspects for the contract | Submission of duly completed compliance report for each contract - once | | | |
| Operation and Maintenance | | | | | | | |
| Location of transmission towers and transmission line alignment and design | Exposure to safety related risks | Setback of dwellings to overhead line route designed in accordance with permitted level of power frequency and the regulation of supervision at sites. | Compliance with setback distances (“as-built” diagrams) | Setback distances to nearest houses – once in quarter | POWERGRID | During operations | Designed as per guidelines of ICNIRP and ACGIH and checked by CPRI and M/s PTI, USA |
| Equipment submerged under flood | Contamination of receptors (land, water) | Equipment installed above the high flood level (HFL) by raising the foundation pad. | Substation design to account for HFL (“as-built” diagrams) | Base height as per flood design - once | POWERGRID | During operations | Safety margin of 300 mm above the HFL is part of all foundation design. |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|---|---|---|--|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Oil spillage | Contamination of land/nearby water bodies | Substation transformers located within secure and impervious sump areas with a storage capacity of at least 100% of the capacity of oil in transformers and associated reserve tanks. | Substation bunding (Oil sump) ("as-built" diagrams) | Bunding (Oil sump) capacity and permeability - once | POWERGRID | During operations | Oil sump of sufficient capacity (200% by volume of oil tank in transformer) is provided for every transformer. |
| Inadequate provision of staff/workers health and safety during operations | Injury and sickness of staff /workers | Careful design using appropriate technologies to minimise hazards | Usage of appropriate technologies (lost work days due to illness and injuries) | Preparedness level for using these technologies in crisis – once each year | POWERGRID | Design and operation | In design and operation standards of safety procedure followed. Proper safety training to all workers and primary safety kits/PPEs are provided in every site. Regular mock drills on fire and other occupational hazards are organised. |
| | | Safety awareness raising for staff. | Training/awareness programs and mock drills | Number of programs and percent of staff /workers covered – once each year | | | |
| | | Preparation of fire emergency action plan and training given to staff on implementing emergency action plan | | | | | |
| | | Provide adequate sanitation and water supply facilities | Provision of facilities | Complaints received from staff /workers every 2 weeks | | | |
| Electric Shock Hazards | Injury/ mortality to staff and public | Careful design using appropriate technologies to minimise hazards | Usage of appropriate technologies (number of injury incidents, lost work days) | Preparedness level for using these techn. in crisis – once a month | POWERGRID | Design and Operation | Used of technology which trip the line in fraction of seconds to prevent hazards |
| | | Security fences around substations | Maintenance of fences | Report on maintenance – | | | Security fences will be maintained at every substation. |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| | | Barriers to prevent climbing on/dismantling of transmission towers | Maintenance of barriers | every 2 weeks | | | Sufficient barriers will be maintained |
| | | Appropriate warning signs on facilities | Maintenance of warning signs | | | | Warning system will be maintained for alarm |
| | | Electricity safety awareness raising in project areas | Training /awareness programs and mock drills for all concerned parties | Number of programs and percent of total persons covered –once each year | | | Regular mock drills on electric and other occupational hazard will be organised |
| Operations and maintenance staff skills less than acceptable | Unnecessary environmental losses of various types | Adequate training in O&M to all relevant staff of substations & transmission line maintenance crews. Preparation and training in the use of O&M manuals and standard operating procedures | Training/awareness programs and mock drills for all relevant staff | Number of programs and percent of staff covered – once each year | POWERGRID | Operation | Training will be imparted regular interval |
| Inadequate periodic environmental monitoring. | Diminished ecological and social values. | Power Grid staff to receive training in environmental monitoring of project operations and maintenance activities. | Training/awareness programs and mock drills for all relevant staff | Number of programs and percent of staff covered – once each year | POWERGRID | Operation | Training will be imparted regular interval |
| Equipment specifications and design parameters | Release of chemicals and gases in receptors (air, water, land) | Processes, equipment and systems using cholofluorocarbons (CFCs), including halon, should be phased out and to be disposed of in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Govt. | Process, equipment and system design | Phase out schedule to be prepared in case still in use – once in a quarter | POWERGRID | Operations | Will be complied |

| Project activity /stage | Potential impact | Proposed mitigation measure | Parameter to be monitored | Measurement & frequency | Institutional responsibility | Implementation schedule | Compliance Status |
|--------------------------------|--|--|------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Transmission line maintenance | Exposure to electromagnetic interference | Transmission line design to comply with the limits of electromagnetic interference from overhead power lines | Required ground clearance (meters) | Ground clearance - once | POWERGRID | Operations | Designed as per guidelines of ICNIRP and ACGIH and checked by CPRI and M/s PTI, USA. |
| Noise related | Nuisance to neighbouring properties | Substations sited and designed to ensure noise will not be a nuisance. | Noise levels (dB(A)) | Noise levels at boundary nearest to properties and consultation with affected parties if any - once | POWERGRID | Operations | Will be complied |

SECTION: 5 APPROACH AND METHODOLOGY ENGAGED FOR ENVIRONMENT MONITORING OF THE PROJECT

Environmental monitoring is a continuous process through out the Project life cycle starting from site selection to construction and maintenance state. A Project Management Unit (PMU) has been set up headed by Executive Director (Corporate Planning) at headquarters to coordinate and implement all environment and social issues with the assistance of functional department like Environment & Social Management Deptt., Engineering etc. Apart from site managers review the progress on daily basis and regular project review meetings held at least on monthly basis, chaired by the Executive Director of the region wherein the environmental aspects of the projects are discussed and remedial measures taken wherever required. The exceptions of these meetings will be submitted to the Directors and Chairman and Managing Director (CMD).

POWERGRID has a separate monitoring department which carry out real time monitoring of all parameters of project implementation including the environment and social issues. Such issues are discussed in detail during every quarter in the Project Review Meeting (PRM) Chaired by Director (Project). CMD also takes periodic review of project implementation

A summarized environmental monitoring plan with implementation schedule at different stage of subprojects implementation is presented in the table below

| Environmental Monitoring Tasks | Implementation Responsibility | Implementation Schedule |
|--|--|--|
| Pre-Construction Phase | | |
| Monitor contractor’s detailed alignment survey to ensure relevant environmental mitigation measures in EMP have been included. | POWERGRID with assistance of project implementation unit | Prior to POWERGRID approval of contractor’s detailed alignment survey. |
| Construction Phase | | |
| Regular monitoring and reporting of contractor’s compliance with contractual environmental mitigation measures. | POWERGRID with assistance of project implementation unit | Continuous as per IEER and EMP throughout construction period. |
| Operation and Maintenance Phase | | |
| Observations during routine maintenance inspections of substations and transmission lines RoWs. Inspections will include monitoring implementation status of mitigation measures specified in EMP. | POWERGRID | As per POWERGRID inspection schedules and EMP provisions. |

SECTION: 6 MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL RECEPTORS/ ATTRIBUTES

It is evident that environmental impacts associated with power transmission project are not far reaching as these developmental activities are non polluting in nature and do not involve any disposal of solid waste, effluents and hazardous substances on land, air and water. Although, there are some localized impacts on natural resources like forest whenever transmission line passes through forest area, however, it can be avoided or minimized through careful route and site selection.

By adopting careful route selection by using modern technique like GPS, GIS, remote sensing etc. the total forest involvement was restricted to only 1.84 % i.e. 0.46 km of total line length of 25 km transmission system which is insignificant. Besides this protected area like national parks, sanctuaries, eco-sensitive zones, tiger reserves and biosphere reserves etc were completely avoided. Hence, impact on wildlife and its habitat too is not anticipated.

The proposed project doesn't have much anticipated impact on environmental attributes like air, water, soil etc. and are mostly concentrated to construction stage. Air quality impact is restricted to the construction phase only as no emissions to air during ordinary operations transmission lines. Impacts on air quality due to airborne dust in the vicinity of the work sites (at points along the route of the transmission line where towers are located) mainly result from excavation and construction activities and tail gases from construction equipments and vehicles. Since all the proposed alignments are accessible, no construction of access roads is envisaged thereby avoiding any airborne dust pollution in the vicinity. The construction activities are small scale and of a temporary nature. Moreover, the activities are not localized to any residential area and are widely dispersed that provide adequate buffering to air environment. Therefore, impacts on air quality from construction activities are considered insignificant. No liquid effluent is generated due to project activity. However, small quantities of domestic sewage from staff quarters and construction camp is generated which is discharged in local soak pits. Construction of transmission tower foundation, stringing and other activities are mostly manual in nature and use heavy equipment or blasting is not envisaged. The main noise sources during the construction phase are from equipments and transportation vehicles. However, no significant noise level variation from construction related activities is anticipated.

SECTION: 7 ANY OTHER MONITORING OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS, IMPACTS OBSERVED DURING IMPLEMENTATION

Except the predicted impacts as mentioned in EMP, no other unanticipated impacts were observed during the implementation of subprojects.

SECTION: 8 DEATAILS OF GRIEVENCE REDRESS COMMITTEE AND COMPLANINT RECEIVED AND ACTION TAKEN

POWERGRID has a well establish Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) inbuilt in the process itself to receive complaints and grievances to facilitate concerns of project affected persons (PAPs). As a regular practice, wherever fresh land acquisition is involved, a committee is formed comprising of POWERGRID officials, representatives of local authorities, PAPs, Gram Panchayat and well-reputed person to address the grievances of the affected persons. In the instant project also a GRC has been constituted for Magarwada substation where private land measuring 9.55 acres has been acquired. But in case of Kala substation, no such committee is needed since the land is encroachment free govt. land and no person is getting affected.

In case of transmission line, the GRM process is in built in the tree & crop compensation process where affected persons are given a chance to place their grievances after issuance of notice by revenue officials on the basis of assessment of actual damages. Grievances received towards compensation are generally addressed in open forum and in the presence of many witnesses. Process of spot verification and random checking by the district collector also provides forum for raising the grievance towards any irregularity/complaint. Apart from this POWERGRID officials also listen to the complaints

of affected farmers and the same are forwarded to revenue official for doing the needful and, if required POWERGRID takes necessary action to mitigate the concern of the affected. Certain grievances of Project Affected Persons regarding compensation and community development works were received and same has been addressed as per the norms.

SECTION: 9 CONCLUSION

It is may be noted from above that the subprojects activities are non-polluting in nature and don't have significant adverse impacts on environment. However, some environmental impacts are anticipated, mostly during construction period which have been mitigated successfully by implementing the EMP. POWERGRID approach of project implementation involving selection of optimum route before design stage, proper implementation of EMP and monitoring mechanism through out project life cycle supported by strong institutional arrangement has considerably nullified the adverse impacts arising out of project activities. Besides this, direct or indirect benefits of the subprojects like the employment opportunity, improvement & uninterrupted power supply, improvement in infrastructure facilities, improved business opportunity will outweigh the negative impacts of the project.

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