Minutes of Meeting

A review of progress on the Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project (BHP), was held between the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) mission, Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project, Department of Electricity Development (DoED) and the representatives from the consultant (SMEC-UDAY JV) on 18 November 2015 at Kathmandu, Nepal. The SFD mission was led by Chief Engineer Abdullah M. Al-Shoaibi, Regional Manager, Operations Department and the Nepalese team was led by Mr. Pravin Raj Aryal, Officiating Director General, DoED. The participation from the consultant was led by Mr. Mark Fox, Team Leader.

SFD mission members were as follows:
1. Chief Engineer Abdullah M. Al-Shoaibi, Regional Manager, Operations Department
2. Engineer Nasser M. Al-Kasabi, Projects Manager, Operations Department
3. Majed M. Al-Salamah, Accountant, Treasury Department

The members of the Nepalese team were as follows:
1. Mr. Pravin Raj Aryal, Officiating Director General, DoED
2. Mr. Madhu Prasad Bhetuwal, Deputy Director General, DoED
3. Mr. Chiranjeeewee Chautal, Deputy Director General, DoED
4. Mr. Sandip Kumar Dev, Superintending Engineer, DoED
5. Mr. Sanjeeb Baral, Project Manager, Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project
6. Mr. Saroj Acharya, Senior Divisional Engineer, BHP

The members of the consultant team were as follows:
1. Mr. Mark Fox, Team Leader, SMEC-UDAY JV
2. Mr. Udeep Lal Shrestha, Country Manager, SMEC

The SFD delegation paid courtesy call to Mr. Rajendra Kishore Kshatri, Secretary, Ministry of Energy, on 16 November 2015 and Mr. Pravin Aryal, Officiating Director General, Department of Electricity Development on 18 November 2015, discussed the bilateral cooperation between SFD and Government of Nepal and also about the status of Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project.

Mr. Pravin Raj Aryal, Head of the Nepalese team welcomed the SFD delegation to the review meeting of BHP at Project office meeting hall on 18 November 2015. Chief Eng. Abdullah M. Al-Shoaibi, Head of SFD delegation thanked the Nepalese team for the reception and arrangement made for the visit and commented on the good atmosphere of cooperation between Government of Nepal and the Saudi Fund. Mr. Mark Fox, Team Leader of the consultant presented about the present status of the Detailed Design and Environmental Study Works. Mr. Sanjeeb Baral, Project Manager of Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project, briefly presented the overview, progress and key issues of the project.

Both the SFD delegation and Nepalese team members agreed to expedite the project and complete the project on time. SFD mission urges its commitment for full cooperation and for the quick approval process required for the project.
Head of SFD delegation Eng. Alshaabi congratulate the project team for the significant achievement in the land acquisition works of the project as it is vital important for other project activities. The preconstruction activities such as access road and bridge and office building and detailed design of the project are very important for main construction activities of the project so stressed to expedite. The SFD delegation urges the consultant to immediately involve the international expatriates in field activity due to its importance in the outcome of the inception report which is due to be completed by 20th December 2015. Also stressed on the importance of the procurement of the vehicles since the approval has been granted from the project. The SFD delegation also raised the issue of preparation of a risk assessment for the selection of the contractors during the execution of the detailed design works by the consultant. SFD delegates also request the project to furnish within 7days full details of the current contracts for office buildings, bridge and access roads along with the timeframe for execution also for future works.

SFD delegation intends to conduct a field visit of Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project early of the second quarter 2016.

Detailed Design and Environmental Study of Upper Budhi Ganga Hydropower Project located in Bajura district is also ongoing under the budget allocated by Government of Nepal. Realizing the importance of optimization of the transmission line to be developed by the project, both parties realize the importance to develop the upper Budhi Ganga hydropower project with the present project. Head of the SFD delegates will present this issue to its management for further action for future cooperation in energy sector of Nepal.

The Nepalese delegation expressed their appreciation for the fruitful discussion and thanked the SFD for the generous cooperation.

The mission express their appreciation to the Energy Ministry, DoED and BHP for their cooperation and assistance and hospitality extended to the members of the mission.

For and on behalf of Government of Nepal

(Pravin Raj Aryal)
Officating Director General
Department of Electricity Development

18 November 2015, Kathmandu, Nepal

For and on behalf of Saudi Fund for Development

(Chief Eng. Abdullah M. Al-Shoaibi)
Regional Manager, Operations Department
Saudi Fund for Development