

Semi-annual Social Monitoring Report

**Project No. 37113-013
June 2020**

**Power System Efficiency Improvement Project Part A –
Ashuganj 450 MW (North) Combined Cycle Power Plant**

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Social Safeguard Monitoring Report

12th Semi Annual (January– June, 2020) Report



**ASHUGANJ 450 MW (NORTH) COMBINED CYCLE POWER
PLANT PROJECT (CCPP)
at Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria**



Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited (APSCCL)

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Social Safeguard and Monitoring Report
For ASHUGANJ 450 MW (NORTH) COMBINED CYCLE
POWER PLANT PROJECT (CCPP)
(Ashuganj, Brahmanbaria)

Period: 11th Semi Annual (January– June, 2020)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the period from January to June 2020 the plant is performing its full operation. During the reporting period, environmental issues (air pollution, noise, water pollution, spillage during loading and unloading, soil pollution, solid and liquid waste management etc.) were controlled immediately following good management practice and environment management plan. The environmental quality parameters are measured every month and describes that the plant is operating in a control manner to ensure good environmental quality.

This new plant is established on the existing site located beside Ashuganj 450 MW South Project; adjacent to Dhaka-Sylhet highway; covers an area of about 10.17 acres for which no land acquisition and development activities was not required. Therefore, there was no impacts on local people livelihood, land use pattern or land ownership problem. Because of the plant was built on APSCL's own land, so there was no need to resettle any people. The minimal disturbance to the social and environment during construction phase identified in EIA and other reports was managed by proper environmental management system following suggestive and recommended measures in the EIA, ADB Environmental Safeguard Policy 2009, IFC/World Bank Thermal Power Plant Guideline 2008 & 2017 and Department of Environment, Bangladesh guideline.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief Project Description

A Combined Cycle Power Plant of Total net 450±20% MW capacity at site condition (35 °C, 1.013 mbar, 98% R.H.) is installed by Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited inside the existing premises. The Power Station is connected with the Ashuganj 400 KV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Grid Sub- Station and also with Ashuganj 230 KV Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) Grid Sub-Station with necessary electrical equipment. The basic concept for the Ashuganj North project is a CCGT Plant based on one Gas Turbine Generator unit (GTG), one Unfired Heat Recovery Steam Generator and one Steam Turbine Generator unit (STG). Water-steam cycle is of three pressure levels (HP, IP and LP) with reheat. The Ashuganj 450 Mw (North) Combined Cycle Power Plant Project complex is located on the Southern bank of Meghna river, just outside and to the East of Bhairab Bridge. The power plant is located in Ashuganj under Ashuganj Upazilla. The entire power plant is completely enclosed,

covers an area of about 10.17 acres and is owned by the Ashuganj Power Station Company Limited (APSCL).

1.2 Project Progress Status

The basic concept for the Ashuganj north project is a CCGT Plant based on one Gas Turbine Generator unit (GTG), one Unfired Heat Recovery Steam Generator and one Steam Turbine Generator unit (STG). Water-steam cycle is of three pressure levels (HP, IP and LP) with reheat.

General components of the CCGT project include the following: (i) 450 MW CCGT unit complete with necessary auxiliaries including air intake filtration facilities, inlet and exhaust silencers, control systems, bypass stack with delivery damper, gas fuel treatment system, (ii) Power generator for the gas turbine unit with all auxiliaries including cooling system, control system, excitation system; (iii) one Steam turbine unit complete with necessary auxiliaries including heater, pumps, steam turbine bypass, control systems; (iv) Power generator for the steam turbine unit with all auxiliaries including cooling system, control system; (v) Heat Recovery Steam Generating system with auxiliaries including deaerators, pumps, exhaust stack, control system; (vi) Gas booster compressor system with all auxiliaries and control system; (vii) Cooling system (viii) Di-mineralized water system complete with pumps, tanks, control system (ix) Water treatment system with all auxiliaries including storage tanks, settling basins, pumps, chemical dosing system, control system; (x) Effluent treatment system with all auxiliaries including, chemical dosing systems, settling units, control system, pumps; (xi) Other essential plant equipment including air compressor, natural gas supply system with 600 m gas pipeline, circulating water system, cooling water pond, raw water intake structure, condensate system; (xii) Construction of internal roads. (xiii) Switch room (xiv) Emergency generator and transformer and finally, the plant has come in commercial operation from June 11, 2017.

1.3 Objective of the Report

The objective of the social safeguard management and monitoring is to record social impacts resulting from the project activities and to ensure implementation of the “mitigation measures” identified earlier in order to reduce adverse impacts and enhance positive impacts from specific project activities. Besides, it would also address any unexpected or unforeseen social impacts that may arise during construction and operation phases of the project.

The EMP (in the EIA) clearly lay out: (a) the measures to be taken during both construction and operation phases of the project to eliminate or offset adverse social impacts, or reduce them to acceptable levels; (b) the actions needed to implement these measures; and (c) a monitoring plan to assess the effectiveness of the mitigation measures employed. Social management and monitoring activities for the under-construction power plant project could be divided into management and monitoring: (a) during the construction phase, and (b) during the operation phase.

The application of this plan involved a social control and monitoring of the work by a technical team to verify compliance with all the indications, limitations or socio-environmental restrictions set forth in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP), EIA and the Project, with the minimise damage caused by work on the environment and society. The information obtained by the implementation of the Socio-environmental Action Plan is required to define preventive measures or define corrective actions. The information generated as a result of implementing the Socio-environmental Action Plan must be duly forwarded to the Department of Environment (DoE).

2.0 COMPLIANCE OF SOCIAL SAFEGUARD COVENANTS FROM THE ADB LOAN AGREEMENT

2.1 Covenants from the ADB Loan Agreement

Covenants	Reference	Compliance status
Resettlement		
<p>The Borrower shall ensure or cause each Project Executing Agency to ensure that all land and all rights-of-way required for the Project are made available to the Works contractor in accordance with the schedule agreed under the related Works contract and all land acquisition and resettlement activities are implemented in compliance with,</p> <p>(a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement;</p> <p>(b) the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards; and</p> <p>(c) all measures and requirements set forth in the RP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in the Safeguards Monitoring Report.</p>	<p>LA, Schedule 5, Para 5</p>	<p>These types of issues did not arise due to the project location. The project was carried out into APSCCL own land. So, there is no requirement of Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement safeguard and as well as resettlement plan.</p> <p>No evacuation line has been constructed under the Ashuganj 450MW CCPP (North) Project. However, the construction of 400kV GIS and Gantry Structure for 400kV overhead line was within the scope of the project which has been completed within the project construction period.</p> <p>FYI, the construction of 400kV transmission line was in the scope of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) under “Ashuganj-Bhulta 400kV Transmission line project”. There was some</p>

		obstacle during construction as it was planned to pass over a private land. But later the way of the line has been changed to avoid the disputed private land. Please see the figure-1 below as reference.
<p>Without limiting the application of the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards or the RP, the Borrower shall ensure or cause each Project Executing Agency to ensure that no involuntary physical or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Project until:</p> <p>(a) compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP; and</p> <p>(b) a comprehensive income and livelihood restoration program have been established in accordance with the RP.</p>	LA, Schedule 5, Para 6	These types of issues did not arise due to the project location. The project was carried out into APSCL own land. So, there is no requirement of Land Acquisition, physical and economic displacement and Involuntary Resettlement safeguard as well as resettlement plan.
Indigenous Peoples		
<p>The Borrower shall ensure that the Project does not have any indigenous people's impacts within the meaning of the SPS. In the event that the Project does have any such impact, the Borrower shall take or cause each Project Executing Agency to take all steps required to ensure that the Project complies with the applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower and with the SPS.</p>	LA, Schedule 5, Para 7	APSCL is aware about the physical, mental and social comfort of the indigenous human, animal and plant community. And operating its activity without compromising these issues. APSCL has its grievance redress mechanism and grievance forms are given each gate of the plant to collect community comments regarding the issues arise due to the plant operation. Till now no grievance is recorded and if found in future APSCL is committed to solve them immediately.

<p align="center">Safeguards – Related provisions in bidding documents and works contracts</p>		
<p>The borrower shall ensure, or cause each project executing agency to ensure, that all bidding documents and contracts for works contain provisions that require contractor to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Comply with the measures and requirements relevant to the contractor set forth in the EIA, IEE, the EMP, the RP and any small ethnic community peoples plan (to the extent they concern impacts on affected people during construction), and any corrective or preventive actions set out in a safeguard monitoring report; (b) Make available a budget for all such environmental and social measures; (c) Provide the borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated environmental, resettlement or small ethnic community people risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation of the project that were not considered in the EIA, the IEE, the EMP, the RP or any small ethnic community peoples plan; (d) Adequately record the condition of roads, agricultural and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; <p>Fully reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and agricultural land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction.</p>	<p>LA, Schedule 5, Para 9</p>	<p>The safeguards- related provisions in bidding documents and work contracts has been followed strictly and updated time to time for further requirements.</p>
<p align="center">Safeguards- Monitoring and Reporting</p>		
<p>The borrower shall do the following or shall cause APSCL to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Submit semiannual safeguards monitoring reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission; (b) If any unanticipated environmental and or social risks and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation 	<p>LA, Schedule 5, Para 10</p>	<p>The Safeguards monitoring have been carried out in all three phases i.e. pre-construction, during construction and post construction phase or operational phase. The project is now in operation phase and semiannual</p>

<p>of the project that were not considered in the EIA, the IEE, the EMP or the RP, promptly inform ADB of the occurrence of such risks or impacts, with detailed description of the event and proposed corrective action plan;</p> <p>(c) No later than the mobilization of the turnkey contractor for APSCL,s power plant, engage qualified and experienced external experts or qualified non-governmental organizations under a selection process and terms of reference acceptable to ADB, to verify information produced through the project monitoring process, and facilitated the carrying out of any verification by such external experts; and</p> <p>(d) Report any actual or potential 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>environmental and social monitoring reports are submitted to comply with ADB requirement.</p>
<p>Labor standards</p>		
<p>The borrower shall ensure that all works contract documents to be prepared under the project incorporate provisions and budget to the effect that contractors</p> <p>(a) Comply with all applicable labor laws and related international treaty obligations of the borrower and do not employ child labor as defined under Bangladesh law</p> <p>(b) Provide safe working conditions for male and female workers;</p> <p>(c) Carry out HIV/ AIDS and human trafficking prevention and awareness campaigns in the campsites and corridors of influence;</p> <p>(d) Engage women worker as wage laborers depending on their skill; and</p> <p>(e) Provide equal wages for equal work between men and women</p>	<p>LA, Schedule 5, Para 13</p>	<p>All the applicable labor standards are followed strictly.</p>



*---Abandoned side of the tower for avoiding the private building

**---New route of 400kV evacuation line

Figure 1: Existing Building on Private land and Tower for evacuation line

3.0 SAFEGUARD MONITORING RESULTS AND UNANTICIPATED IMPACTS

3.1 Safety assurance of the project site

Personal Safety Equipment (PSE): Use of proper safety materials is mandatory for all at project site. Workers are bound to use all appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), such as safety boots, helmet, safety jacket, safety belt, safety harness, gloves, protective clothing, goggles, grinding shield, welding shield, anti-dust mask, anti-gas mask and ear protection etc. Daily toolbox meeting before starting of work is conducted at the project site. So long as safety will not suffer due to this action. The target is that there will be no fatality and other casualty (Zero accident) and detail of safety issue are described in the HSE Statistics chart.

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FROM STAKEHOLDERS

4.1 Grievance Redress Mechanism and Disclosure

4.1.1 Grievance Redress Mechanism

Public participation, consultation and information disclosure undertaken as part of the local EIA process have discussed and addressed major community environmental concerns. Continued public participation and consultation has been emphasized as a key component of successful project implementation. As a result of this public participation during the initial stages of the project, major issues of grievance are not expected. During the operational phase of the project, the complaints that may be anticipated are mostly related to noise & vibration of the engines. However, unforeseen issues may occur. To settle such issues effectively, an effective and transparent channel for lodging complaints and grievances are established. The grievance redress mechanism should be scaled to the risks and adverse impacts of the project. It should address affected people's concerns and complaints promptly, using an understandable

and transparent process. It should also be readily accessible to all sections of the community at no cost and without retribution.

The Grievance Mechanism is implemented during this operational period of the project to ensure that all complaints from local communities are dealt with appropriately, with corrective actions being implemented, and the complainant being informed of the outcome. It will be applied to all complaints from affected parties.

The mechanism will be accessible to diverse members of the community, including more vulnerable groups such as women and youth. Multiple means of using this mechanism, including face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephone conversations are available. Confidentiality and privacy for complainants are honored where this is seen as necessary or important.

A grievance redress mechanism and procedures are setup to provide opportunity for project affected persons to settle their complaints and grievances amicably. The established grievances redress procedures and mechanism ensures that project affected persons are provided with the appropriate compensations and that all administrative measures are in line with the law. It also allows project affected persons not to lose time and resources from going through lengthy administrative and legal procedures. Grievances are first preferred to be settled amicably.

APSCL has set-up a grievance redress committee that will address any complaints during both the construction and operational period of the project. But yet no grievance is recorded regarding this project.

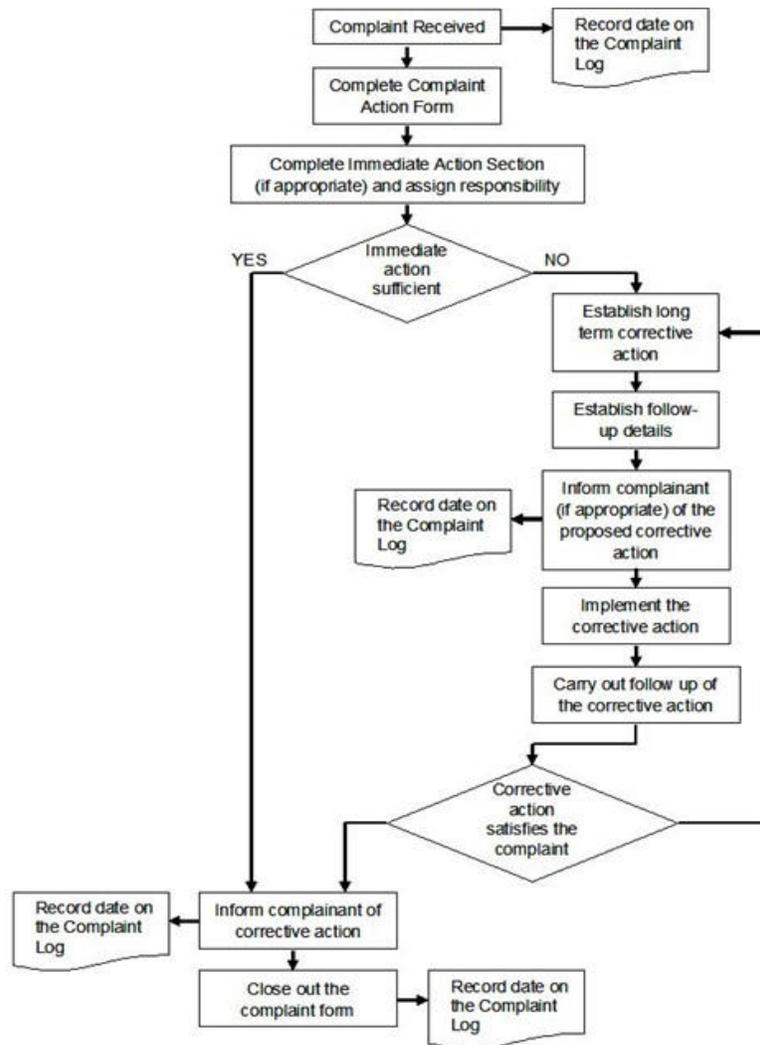
The representation in the committee makes project affected persons to have trust and build confidence in the system. The grievance redress committee reports its plan and activities to the Implementation committee. The following list presents members of the committee.

Table 1.1: Members of the Committee of Grievance Redress (GRC)

SI No	Designation
1.	Chief Engineer, 450 MW (North & South) Project, APSCL.
2.	Manager (HRM), APSCL.
3.	Manager (HS&E), APSCL.
4.	Deputy Manager (Security & Discipline), APSCL.
5.	Assistant Manager (Security & Discipline), APSCL.
6.	Assistant Manager (HS&E), APSCL.
7.	Chairman, Ashuganj Union Parishad, Member.

GRC is maintaining a Complaints Database, which contains all the information on complaints or grievances received from the communities or other stakeholders. This includes: the type of complaint, location, time, actions to address these complaints, and final outcome.

Flowchart of compliant /Grievance Procedure



The procedures to be followed and adopted by the grievance redress should be transparent and simple to understand or uniform process for registering complaints provide project affected persons with free access to the procedures. The response time between activating the procedure and reaching a resolution is as short as possible. An effective monitoring system will inform project management about the frequency and nature of grievances. GRC arranges half yearly meetings where the activities and the outcomes/asures taken according to the Complaints Database are to be monitored and reviewed by third party consultant to ensure the required transparency. In addition to the above, if there any grievances related to environmental or social management issues in the project area, the GRC will record these grievances and suggestions and pass it on to the relevant consultant for necessary action and follow-up.

GRC is responsible to response for the grievances within a time limit. The initial movement to identify the causes should be taken within 48 hours. The GRC does not take more than two weeks to take the final initiative.

In case a dispute is not resolved by arbitral tribunal, then if any of the Party disagrees, the aggrieved party has the right to appeal to the ordinary courts of law. However, the preferred option of dispute settlement ought to be the option of settling the dispute amicably because recourse to courts may take a very long-time even years before a final decision is made and therefore, should not be the preferred option for both parties.

Beside this as per Labor Law 2018 and Clause no 81 of Labor Rules 2015, APSCL has an active 'Safety Committee' to address and solve the internal grievance regarding Health, Safety and Environmental issues. APSCL has established and published 'Citizen's Charter' System to address any grievance related to it and to rectify the problem rapidly by proper system. The web link of this is: https://apscl.portal.gov.bd/site/view/citizen_charter/.

APSCL has also online Grievance Redress System. The useful links of these are: <http://apscl.gov.bd/site/page/929f626c-752c-4724-9680-845d0414883f/Process-Map> & <http://www.grs.gov.bd/>.

If anybody is affected by this 450 MW CCPP (North) power plant activities or any other power generating unit of APSCL can give complain here.

5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

The social safeguard monitoring report consists of 12th Semiannually social monitoring reporting based on identified social impacts resulting from the project activities and to ensure implementation of the "mitigation measures" identified earlier in order to reduce adverse impacts and enhance positive impacts from specific project activities. The plant is located into APSCL own land, therefore, there is no negative impact on livelihoods or income of any households or people. No issues are triggered under ADB safeguard policy and no population is be impacted by the project at this site. Although, APSCL has its own Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to address complain from the local people and other stockholders. During operational activities, all of the mitigation measures is taken following ADB Environmental Safeguard Policy 2009, IFC/World Bank Thermal Power Plant Guideline 2008 & 2017 and DoE, Bangladesh guideline and suggestive and recommended measures in the EIA.

Finally, it can be concluded that the project has no detrimental impact for short period on the social environment during the period from January to June, 2020.


01.07.2020
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