



DECC/EACD/Dzo-Zhemgang/4165/2023/151

February 14, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

In accordance with Section 34.1 of the Environmental Assessment Act 2000, this Environmental Clearance (EC) is hereby issued to **Bhutan Power Corporation Limited** for **construction of 7.69 km 132 kV double circuit power evacuation line for Burgangchhu Hydropower Plant** under Nangkhor and Trong Gewog, Zhemgang Dzongkhag with the following terms and conditions:

I. General

The holder shall:

1. Comply with provisions of the National Environment Protection Act 2007, Environmental Assessment (EA) Act 2000 and Regulation for Environmental Clearance of Projects (RECOP) 2016, Waste Prevention & Management Act of Bhutan 2009 and its Regulation 2012 (Amendment 2016), The Water Act of Bhutan 2011 and its Regulation 2014 and Revised Regulation on the Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and HFCs 2021;
2. Ensure that construction activity is in line with Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) form submitted for EC;
3. Ensure that local communities, properties and any religious, cultural, historic and ecologically important sites are not adversely affected by the construction activity;
4. Restore the damage of any public or private properties caused by the construction activity;
5. Inform DECC and any other relevant authorities of any unanticipated or unforeseen chance-find of any precious metals or minerals or articles, that have economic, cultural, religious, archeological, and/or ecological importance;
6. Erect a signboard at the take-off point of the main entry of the project sites stating the name of the project and contact address; and
7. Ensure that a copy of the environmental clearance is framed and displayed at the workplace at all times.

II. Environmental standards

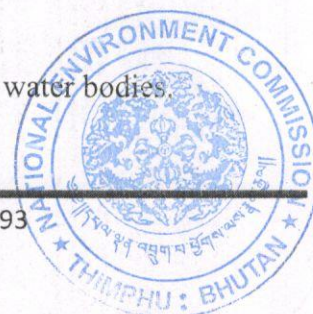
The holder shall comply with the Environmental Standards 2020.

III. Import and use of ODS

The holder shall import and use Ozone Depleting Substances and the Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) as per the Revised Regulation on the Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and HFCs 2021.

IV. Protection and management of water resources

The holder shall ensure that the construction activity does not pollute the water bodies.



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V. Waste prevention and management

The holder shall:

1. Manage wastes generated from the construction activity with the application of 4R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Responsibility) principle and other environmentally friendly methods of waste management;
2. Ensure that adequate sanitation facilities are provided for the workers and employees;
3. Ensure that import and use of hazardous wastes are strictly prohibited; and
4. Ensure that the wastes are stored properly in designated sheds prior to disposal/dispatch.

VI. Management of excavated materials and run-off

The holder shall:

1. Ensure that muck/excavated materials generated during the construction activity is back filled in the tower base as per the information provided in the document; and
2. Put appropriate measures to avoid erosion and landslides.

VII. Management of construction materials

The holder shall ensure appropriate measures are put in place for handling and storage of construction materials to avoid fugitive emissions.

VIII. Monitoring and reporting

The holder shall:

1. Ensure that the effective day-to-day monitoring of the EC terms and conditions are carried out by the environmental unit or designated environment focal person;
2. Maintain proper records on wastes generated and its management – stating types (hazardous and general wastes), quantities and characteristic and submit to DECC annually; and
3. Maintain records on the water used at the project sites (separately for domestic consumption and dust suppression), amount discharged and submit to DECC annually.

IX. Implementation plan

The holder shall prepare a detailed implementation plan focusing on the implementation of terms and conditions of this EC and submit to DECC within three (03) months from the date of issue of this EC as per the reporting format attached herewith.

X. Renewal and modification

The holder shall:

1. Ensure that renewal of this EC is processed at least three (3) months prior to its expiry along with a copy of EC, a report on the implementation of its terms and conditions as per the format attached and payment of prescribed renewal application fee failing to which the applicant shall be liable for penalty as per the RECOP 2016; and
2. Obtain prior approval from DECC for any modification to the existing proposal/application including, but not limited to, increase in production capacity, change in location of the project, change in ownerships, etc.

Reservation

1. The DECC may stop the activity or impose additional terms and conditions, as may be deemed necessary; and,



2. The EC shall be subject to periodic review and modifications as per Article 25 of the EA Act 2000, without any liability on the part of the Royal Government.

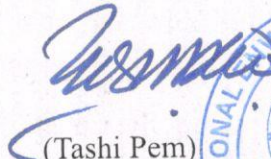
The holder may adopt best practices in executing these terms and conditions to avoid adverse environmental impacts.

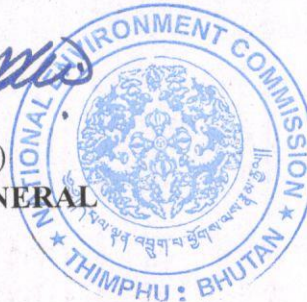
Failure to comply with any of the above terms and conditions shall constitute an offense and the proponent shall be liable in accordance with the EA Act 2000 and/or existing environmental laws.

Validity:

This EC is issued with validity from **February 14, 2023** until **February 13, 2026** only for **construction of 7.69 km 132 kV double circuit power evacuation line for Burgangchhu Hydropower Plant** under Nangkhor and Trong Gewog, Zhemgang Dzongkhag.

This EC is issued solely pursuant to the EA Act, 2000 and its Regulations and in no way intends to overrule or alter the provisions of any law or rules in force. The Holder of this EC shall be responsible to adhere to the requirements under other laws and the issuing authority assumes no liability resulting from non-compliance or omission of any laws or rules.


(Tashi Pem)
DIRECTOR GENERAL



The Chief Executive Officer
Bhutan Power Corporation Limited
Post Box no. 580
Thimphu

Copy to:

1. Chairman/Dasho Dzongdag, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Dzongkhag Administration, Zhemgang Dzongkhag for kind information and to depute the Dzongkhag Environment Officer for necessary action;
2. Guard file (DECC/EACD/Dzo-Zhemgang/4165/2023), DECC, MoENR for record.