

**SIX MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORTS OF UMIAM STAGE –IV HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT (2 X 30 MW), IN RI-BHOI DISTRICT, MEGHALAYA ENDING 30TH NOV, 2011
NO. 3/9/78-HCT/ENV. DT. 22ND JANUARY, 1979**

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS	STATUS OF COMPLIANCE
i) Fuel depots should be opened by the Forest Department to provide fuel wood to the labour force, free of cost during the construction period so that indiscriminate of providing fuel wood should be charged to the project for which adequate provision should be made in the project estimates.	i) As the project area is within the vicinity of the Nongkhylllem Reserved Forest, Ri Bhoi District, due care for the stipulation had already been taken during the construction stage. The project had been completed since 1992 and except for O & M staff in the colony and electricity is used for cooking purposes, the area is almost uninhabited. Therefore, continuation of the condition does not arise.
ii) To minimize soil erosion and consequent silting of the reservoir cultivation/deforestation/grazing in the vicinity of the reservoir should be permitted. Comprehensive Afforestation programme should be launched by the Department, in collaboration with the Soil Conservation and Agriculture Department, so that sedimentation flow can be reduced.	ii) Afforestation programme has been taken up with the Range Officer, Social Forestry, Umiam and tree samplings were planted during the month of July 2008. Further Comprehensive Afforestation Programme, with the concerned Departments mentioned wherever possible will be taken up after physical verification of the areas for afforestation from the NESAC land use/cover map of the reservoir area based on 2006-07 satellite data on 1:50,000 scale procured recently.
iii) Large reservoir created by this project to be utilized as a tourist spot by providing facilities for water supports, angling and other tourist attractions.	iii) As the reservoir is inside the Nongkhylllem reserve forest land and away from the Guwahati - Shillong Road, therefore it does not attract tourist.
iv) Restoration of land in the construction may be ensured to prevent erosion.	iv) Restoration of land in the construction areas have been restored and green covers have developed around those sites. Hence the condition is complied with.
v) It should be ensured that the construction of colonies for the project involves minimum possible deforestation; compensator Afforestation and social forestry should be undertaken.	v) The Small colonies have been built for essential maintenance staff at Dam site and Power House with R.C.C Buildings and electricity has been used for cooking purposes. Moreover, there are green vegetative covers all around these colonies. Hence, the condition is complied with
vi) A monitoring group should be formed by the State Government, in consultation with the NCEPC, so that the suggested safeguards are implemented effectively and flow up action taken as and when necessary.	vi) The matter has been taken up and reminded vide No. CE/C/HP&SH/T-34/2007/15 dated 31 st June, 2009 with the Monitoring Group formed by the Meghalaya State Government for monitoring these issues also.