

**NEPAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**  
**(GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL UNDERTAKING)**  
**DISTRIBUTION AND CONSUMER SERVICES DIRECTORATE**  
**GRID SOLAR AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROJECT**



Nepal Electricity Authority  
Nepal

**Environmental and Social screenings Report of 11kV Distribution System  
Expansion in  
Ramechhap District**

**Project:** GSEEP/W/ICB-03 Design, Supply, Installation/Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 11/0.4 KV Distribution System.

**Submitted by:** Grid Solar Energy Efficiency project (GSEEP/W/ICB-03)

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## 1. Background

This project involving Design, Supply, Installation/Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 11/0.4 kilo Voltage (kV) Distribution System in Ramechhap is a project under the Grid Solar and Energy Efficiency Project (GSEEP) implemented through Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA). This project is extending new power supply lines in three districts, i.e. Dolakha, Ramechhap and Sindhuli. The Project covers 347 km high tension line (HT) and 928 KM low tension line (LT) in total. The scope also includes installing 220 nos. distribution transformers. This project plans to electrify 9 Wards of three (3) Rural Municipality of Dolakha, 31 wards of two (2) municipality and four (4) Rural municipality of Ramechhap and 9 wards of two (2) Rural Municipality and some parts of one (1) Municipality of Sindhuli. The project will use covered type conductor (All Aluminum Alloy Conductor (AAAC) and Aluminum conductor steel reinforced (ACSR) conductor for 11 kV lines and for 0.4 kV lines, Arial Bundled Cable (ABC) will be used. Both conductors AAAC and ABC cable being covered type, the safety factor is high. In addition, these conductors help reduce the non-technical losses and also enhance the efficiency and reliability of the power supply in the project area. These covered conductors avoid to felling of the trees along its alignment. Hence, these conductors can be used in forest areas and also in a dense settlement where ROW (Right of Way) is less. This screening report is prepared based on the findings of environment and social screening carried out in 12 sections of Ramechhap district.

## 2. Objectives

**Environmental and Social Screening and its objectives:** The site screening report has been prepared following the ESMF of the GSEEP project that mentions the requirement of the Environment and Social screening for project with low impacts. The 11 kV and 0.4 kV distribution lines have no significant adverse impacts to human settlements, people and surrounding environments. Based on the screening findings, the environmental and social screening reports will help identify any adverse impacts caused by power supply lines as well as recommend appropriate mitigation measures.

The specific objectives of Screenings are:

- To identify potential environmental and social issues/risks caused by the 11 kV/ 0.4 kV lines in the project area and take appropriate mitigation measures for their management,
- To establish the need to carry out any further investigation/survey/ assessment for preparation of safeguard plans like Environment and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Vulnerable Community Development Plans (VCDP) etc.

## 3. Methodology

The environmental and social screening checklist (see Annex 3) was used to collect the information from the site. The team visited the sites, consulted the site engineer from the

contractor side, site in charge of NEA and jointly completed the data collection for the preparation of the summary report. The team also consulted local communities and Gauri Shanker Conservation Area Program (GCAP) manager.

#### 4. Site Description

This project in Ramechhap district consists of Installation/Erection of 11kV and 0.4kV line across the different area of district. The activities consist of 72.45 km, 11kV line and 171.15 km 0.4 kV line. The number of poles is 1450 and altogether 61 transformers will be installed in this project. The project consists of new line alignment only and almost all the lines are designed to pass through the existing right of way of the national/rural roads in order to avoid the forest and private lands. Nevertheless, some sections of the line pass through the Gauri Sankher Conservation Area (GCA) and private agricultural land. New transformers will be installed at new load centers. Brief description of line alignment is listed below.

Table 1: Description of line alignments in Ramechhap district

S N	Site Location	Length(k m)	Feeder	Rural Municipality (RM)/Conservation Area
1	Balakhi – Health post danda	10.95	Those Feeder	Umakunda RM (Gari Shanker Conservation Area)
2	Bamti Bhndar - Yarsa	23.45	From new feeder	Umakunda RM (Gauri Shanker Conservation Area)
3	Chayaduli Bazar – Chauki	7.5	Those Feeder	Umakunda RM (Gauri Shanker Conservation Area)
4	Danda kharka– Jitu	2.4	Those Feeder	Umakunda RM (Gauri Shanker Conservation Area)
5	Dharapani – Kolghari	5.8	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM
6	Goganpani Danda – Dhalkako pipal	4.4	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM
7	Goganpani danda – Tarkeshwor school	2.6	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM
8	Jhalmale - Kvare	9.1	Pakarbas Feeder	Umakunda RM
9	Milanchowk – Pingghat	0.95	Pakarbas Feeder	Sunapati RM
10	Pipal tar – Kotape	2.0	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM
11	Yes danda to Temo	2.35	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM

1	Temo - Chasingtar	0.95	Pakarbas Feeder	Khanda Devi RM
2	Total	72.45		

## 5. Findings

The project activity works in Ramechhap district consists of 12 different stretches where 11 kV distribution expansion works are proposed to carry out.. The site visits and consultation with survey design engineer was revealed that most of the construction sites (stretches) are located in existing accessible areas and road sides within ROW and construction works will be accomplished avoiding environmental and social issues. The environmental and social issues are briefly highlighted below.

### 5.1 Environmental Screening: Key Issues and Findings

The screening findings indicate that there were no significant adverse environmental impacts in 11 stretches out of 12 stretches. But the remaining 1 (one) stretch lies in Gauri Sankahar Conservation Area which is passing through Umakunda Rural Municipality –Gumdel 3. It requires some attention and due diligence during 11 kV distribution line construction activities. The environmental issues needing attention are briefly highlighted below.

- A. Bhamtibhandar – Yarsa (23.45km): This segment starts from Bamtibhandar where 33/11kv new sub-station is under construction and follow the local roads up to Gumdel (Yarsa). However, the line alignment is along the road, the most part of this stretches cover Gumdel-3, Umakunda Rural Municipality which lies in the Gauri Shankar Conservation area. This stretch consists of some forest (poor wood species).

The proposed construction works of 11kV/0.4kV lines will pass through the Intensive Use Zone/ Utility zone of GCA. Intensive Use zone generally includes-private and common property resources nearby the settlement where resources have already been highly impacted due to the human activities such as intensive farming, livestock practices, fodder/firewood collection, and community development activities. The field observation noticed that the area already has a number of roads under construction. In the given context, potential adverse impacts on the conservation area and environment will be none or minimal if: the electricity lines follow existing road's right of way, and covered type conductor (such as ABC cable) is used. The covered conductors can be safely used in forest areas and also in a dense settlement where Right of Way is less. The project/ NEA, to the extent as possible, will use the Road Right of Way for installation of electric poles and lines as well as for transformers, and covered cables will be used.

During the construction period, the project (NEA) has agreed that to extent no tree felling will be done in order to avoid impacts in conservation area (Annex-4).

## 5.2 Social Screening: Key Issues and Findings

Social screening reveals that the installation of 11 kV and 0.4 kV poles and lines in the district do not cause major adverse impacts to the households of the project sites. The distribution line will either electrify villages with no means of electricity or replace the solar power or micro hydro power which provides electricity from 6:00 pm onwards only. Followings are some issues identified by social screening requiring due attention of the Project staff and contractors during the construction period.

- Social screening of the 11kV/ 0.4 kV lines in different stretches reveals that limited sections of four stretches (Goganpani Danda to Dhalkako Pipal, Goganpani Danda to Tarkeshwor School, Dharampani to Kolghari and Jhalmale to Kavre) in Ramechhap district pass through private agricultural land. It is important for the Project staff and construction workers to take full precaution while installing the poles and stringing the lines to avoid the potential crop damages and land loss.
- During site visit in October 2019, the team observed the site (poling of HT and LT poles) in villages viz Kutursa, Aapchaur and Gichad of Bhirpani, Khadadadevi Rural Municipality of Ramechhap District. The team noted that the communities were happy with the lines which will supply reliable electricity 24 hours and will open doors for micro enterprises /cottage industries contributing to new employment opportunities and income.
- The team observed poling of LT and HT poles and load center in Bhirpani Ward-3 of the Municipality which will benefit a total of about 200 HHs. The team also observed the ongoing work and instructed the project to rectify some of the poles that were erected improperly. The project team agreed to comply and further clarified that the issues on pole installation will be corrected during the time of conductor stringing. .
- Most of the poles and distribution lines are designed to pass through the road sides/RoW and trails. In case of poles falling in the private /agricultural land, the owners will be consulted, and the poles will be installed along the edges/ bonds and borders of the parcels to avoid the potential loss of land value.
- The communities in the project areas are largely of mixed social/ethnic groups. Some sections have the presence of Indigenous Peoples. Screening indicates that the IP community will not be affected due to construction of the TL. They are the beneficiaries of the TL.
- In areas inhabited by indigenous groups, the project will require to comply with Bank's Free Prior Informed consultation. Such consultations should be documented properly.

## 6. Consultation with the GCAP office and local communities

The Project team had consultation with Project Manager of Gauri Sankher Conservation Area (GCA) and the local communities in Bhirpani-3, Rammechhap.

Gauri Sankhar Conservation Area Project (GCAP) is managed by the National Trust for Nature conservation (NTNC), following principles of participatory management, and within the framework of integrated conservation and development approach. GCA has its own Conservation Area Master Plan (2013-2017), which is planned to be updated. GCA Management Plan has divided GCA into three zones -Intensive Use zone, Semi Intensive use zone, and Wilderness zone. The Management Plan for the Intensive Use Zone includes interventions such as - plantation, improvement of natural forest management practices, restricting illegal hunting, alternative resources and income generating activities. The tourism and other infrastructure construction activities are allowed in this zone. Environmental and social consequences need to be assessed and restoration activities should be carried out if significant issues occur (source: GCA- Management Plan). Strategies of the Management Plan also address development needs of the local communities. For example, strategy IX says: Promote alternative energy technologies (promote use of environmentally clean alternative energy promotion), and strategy VII says: implement environmental safeguard measures to minimize adverse impact on tourism (promote, alternative technologies such as- **micro hydro**).

The proposed construction of 11kV/0.4kV lines will pass through the Intensive Use Zone/ Utility zone. Intensive Use zone generally includes-private and common property resources nearby the settlement where resources have been highly impacted due to the human activities such as intensive farming, livestock practices, fodder and firewood collection.

Project/ NEA consulted with the GCA- Chief regarding the proposed electricity transmission lines and potential environmental impacts. The consultation concluded that potential adverse impacts on the conservation area will be none or minimal if:

- (i) the electricity lines follow existing road's right of way, and
- (ii) use covered cable (such as ABC).

The proposed activity is within the broad scope of the Management Plan and Strategy as explained in the previous paragraph. The electric line's alignment has been/ or will be chosen such that it will, avoid tree felling and, to the extent possible, also avoid and minimize trimming activities in conservation area. In cases where tree trimming may be required, project would consult with the representatives of Forest User Group, try to minimize trimming, and make proper agreement with user's group committee for periodic trimming in the sites. The project will use Arial Bundled Cable (ABC) in the 11/0.4 kV transmission line, and the poles of the transmission line will be adjusted to avoid the tree felling.

In view of the consultation with GCAP Manager (Mr. Satya Narayan Sah), distribution system expansion/electrification project in Umakund Rural Municipality, which lies in GCA, is a priority of the local communities, as there is strong demand from the communities for electrification of rural areas. Given the minimal environmental impact – low nature of risk with the distribution system expansion works using ABC, GCAP has plans to include explicit provisions for rural electrification in its upcoming revision of Periodic Development Plan of Umakunda Rural Municipality. GCAP Manager also agreed to review the screening report and provide suggestion if needed.

The construction of 11 kV/0.4 kV lines is an important rural electrification activity benefiting the local people directly. It will enhance lively hood of local people to meet the objectives of GCA- Management Plan.

The project (NEA-PIU) had submitted Screening Report on November 20, 2019 to the GCA for the feedback. GCA- Office has provided consent to the Screening Report on December 12, 2019 saying that “it is okay for further action.”

## **7. Conclusion**

The screening results show that 11 kV poles and lines alignment may cause minimal or no significant adverse environmental impacts as the alignment will follow existing rural road’s right of way (with no tree felling), and use covered cable (such as ABC). Site alignment and alternation will be done to avoid tree feeling and trimming activities in conservation area to the extent possible. In the cases where tree trimming activities are required project should consult with the representatives of Forest User group and make proper agreement with user’s group committee for periodic trimming in the sites.

The project will have no or little social impacts as there lies no public/private land, except few sections, the line route/poles are not proposed to close to any touristic viewpoints, wetlands, and sites of cultural / religious / archeological / historic significance and locations of poles falling in any landslide & erosion prone/ risk spot.

The screening results show no major social safeguards issues resulting in major impacts to the people/communities. Considering this, there is no need of preparing ESMP, RAP and VCDP for the 11 kV lines. Due to the execution of project, all the people will be getting electricity for the first time from integrated national power system (INPS). With the construction of these lines, the beneficiaries will benefit from reliable power supply. There will be no significant adverse effect to the people and the environment.



## 8. Recommendations:

The proposed construction of 11 kV/0.4 kV line is an important rural electrification activity benefiting the local people directly. As screening shows no significant adverse environmental and social impacts, following recommendations are made in order to carry out the erection of poles and stringing of cables;

- Ensure that electric poles, the electricity lines follow existing road's right of way, and covered cable (such as ABC) is used. Transformers, to the extent possible, should be located within the Road's right of way or away from forests and other sensitive sites.
- Ensure the application of Design changes to avoid tree felling pole (s) and electric lines' locations are adjusted to avoid and minimize trimming also. Higher attention is paid for the stretches passing through community Forest and Intensive Use Zone/Utility Zone. Bank should be informed implementation of design change to avoid tree felling with commitment letter from project and strictly enforced in project sites. The project has provided assurance letter for "No Tree Felling (Annex-4).
- Proper Survey and high attention for the stretches passing through Community Forest which require tree trimming activities. Coordinate with GCAP office for tree felling in conservation area if needed.
- Avoid stretches and pole erections in religious area/playgrounds/close to any touristic viewpoints, wetlands, and sites of cultural / religious / archeological / historic significance if any select alternative route or site selection.
- Avoid locations of poles falling in any landslide & erosion prone/ risk spot.
- Maintain minimum GON/NEA clearance standards during the survey and design of distribution line
- Project should ensure that the activity carried out doesn't damage to environment .
- All the workers will be provided personal safety equipment like boots, belts, helmets, gloves etc. to work in the sites. The workers will be facilitated with hygienic labor camps and sanitation.
- The Project is recommended to make joint planning in consultations with the local communities and leaders to avoid any potential adverse impacts during the erection of poles and cable stringing in private land.
- The contractors' staff are required to work in close coordination with the local people/ beneficiaries and carry out the construction works as per agreed schedule/norms. Any kind of losses viz crop/tree/orchard etc. should be avoided to the extent possible. In case of such losses, the Project/contractors should provide due compensation.
- Any consultations/agreed actions with the locals should be documented properly.
- Ensure that all applicable legal provisions and standards of the country are complied with.

Significant adverse social impacts are not expected. However, the project is recommended to take following measures to avoid and minimize any adverse impacts on the community:

- The project will carry out free, prior and informed consultations with the concerned communities. Information to the concerned community and other stakeholders of the project activities will be provided in local language through different media – public hearing, notice, etc.
- The Project will avoid/minimize any losses due to construction of TL. In case of poles falling in the private /agricultural land, the owners will be consulted, and the poles will be installed along the edges/ bonds and borders of the parcels to avoid the potential loss of land value. The affected family will be consulted and given advance notice to harvest crops. In case of any damage to crops, the affected family will be compensated as per the Resettlement Policy Framework prepared by the Project.
- The Project team and the contractors will work closely in consultation with respective Municipality staff and local people so that any issues/disputes raised in the sites will be resolved locally.
- The Project will establish grievance redress mechanism for the project and inform the local communities and other stakeholders about the mechanism, GRC committee formed for the Project. The Project will ensure timely response to any complaints received.
- In case of issues/disputes occurred during pole installation in private land or village and markets, the contractor will not work in the field until the resolution of issues through joint consensus. Such problems should be resolved in consultation with the affected party, concerned community people, local government representative.
- Discussions and decision taken in consultation with the affected family and local community decision should be documented along with photographs.
- Project will pay full attention to ensure that the lines do not pass through the cultural and religious sites (temples/gumbas and heritages).
- The Project team/contractors will work closely in consultation with respective Municipality staff and local people so that any issues/disputes raised in the sites will be resolved locally. In case of issues/disputes occurred during pole installation in private land or village and markets, the contractor will not work in the field until the resolution of issues through joint consensus.
- The Project/contractor teams will document the outputs of consultations and discussions with the locals and document it, keep the records (minutes and photographs).
- The Project staff/construction workers will pay due attention to shift/reroute lines to avoid the losses. The Project will also inform the local communities and other stakeholders about the GRC committee formed for the Project at central level.
- Project will pay full attention to ensure that the lines do not pass through the cultural and religious sites (temples/gumbas and heritages).
- The use of covered conductor is a major advantage of the project which provides high safety value to the consumers. The use of cover conductor and ABC cable increase the reliability of the distribution system.

- Project team / contractors will ensure that the workers will be equipped with adequate safety gears viz safety belts, helmets, gloves etc. while working in the sites.

## Annex 1: List of people consulted/key informants name/photographs

S.N	Name of Local Representatives (chairperson of different ward.)	Name of Manucipality / Rural Manucipality
1.	Bishnu Kumar Shrestha	Khadadevi Rural Manucipality- 1 Rakathum
2.	Indra Kumar Lama	Khadadevi Rural Manucipality- 2 Majuwa
3.	Puskar Kumar Karki	Khadadevi Rural Manucipality- 3 Bhirpani
4.	Asal Singh Tamang	Khadadevi Rural Manucipality- 7 Khadadevi
5.	Man Bahadur Sunuwar	Umakunda Rural Municipality – 4 Preeti
6.	Bikash Sunuwar	Umakunda Rural Municipality – 5 Preeti
7.	Rudra Mani Newar	Umakunda Rural Municipality – 7 Bhuji
8.	Mr. Sayta Narayan Shah,	Project Manager, GCAP

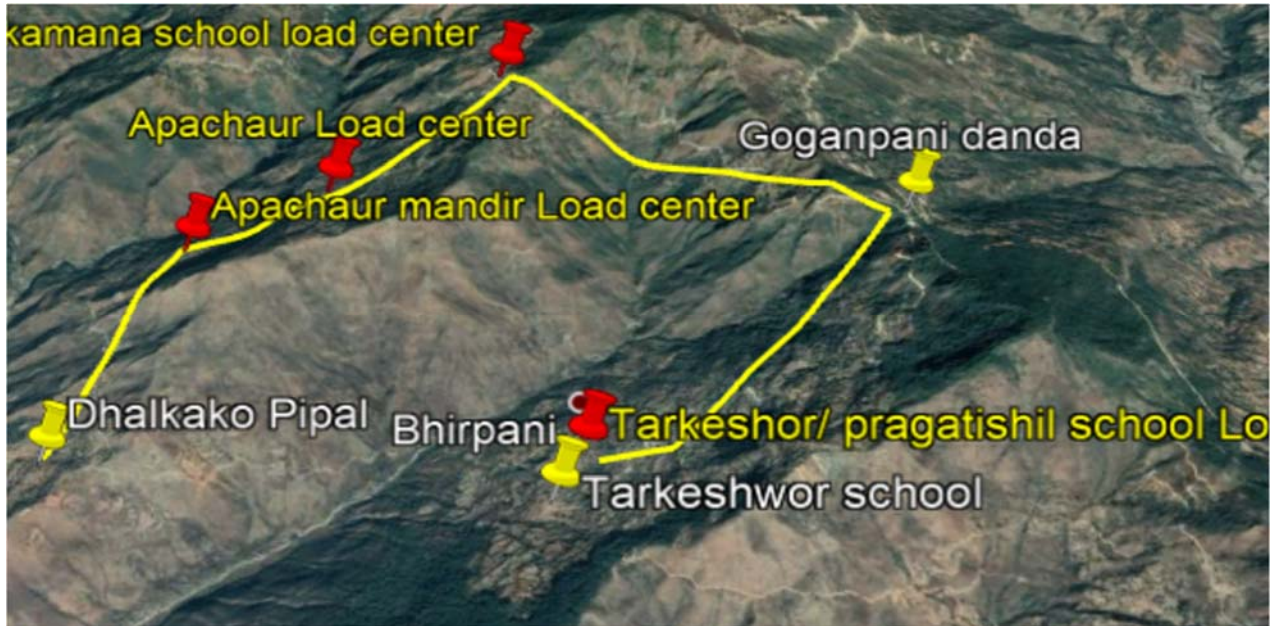


Pic 1: 11 kV line passing over the road in Bhirpani Village, Ramechhap district



Pic 2: Poles installed at the edges/bonds of land in Bhirpani, Ramechhap district

**Annex 2: Google map showing the alignment**



**Gogan pani Danda to dhalkako pipal**



**Dharapani – Kolgharri, Khadadevi Rural Municipality**





Yesdanda - Temo



Dharapani – Kolgharri, Khadadevi Rural Municipality

### Annex 3: Sample Checklist

#### Environmental Safeguard Checklist for substation distribution line 11kV

##### Project: Grid Solar and Energy efficiency Project (GSEEP) Comp-3( Dolakha, Ramechhap and Sindhuli)

- A. District : Ramechhap, (Khanda Devi Ga.Pa – Bhirpani )
- B. Name of Sites : Goganpani danda to Dhalako pipal LC ( 4.4 km HT 11kV)
- C. Total number of poles to be erected : 88 (11m and 10m)
- D. General Information:

SN	Particulars	Yes/No	Total km and number of poles covering areas if response is "Yes"	Remarks (Please specify relevant information to supplement the response)
D1.	Does the distribution line passes through Forest area, protected area or area already proposed for protection.	NO	-	All the poles are along side of road. In some place Site consists of very few trees along side of road.
D2.	Does the distribution route as well as locations of poles (supports) and transformers cross diagonally playground/ common property.	NO	-	All poles are along side of roads and avoided to cross all type of property.
D3.	Does distribution line rout/poles are proposed to close to any touristic view points, wetlands, and sites of cultural / religious / archeological / historic significance.	NO	-	All poles are erected along the road side and there is no any such type of place in this roots.
D4.	Does the distribution line/ route and locations of poles are falling in any landslide & erosion prone/ risk spot where geological avoidance is not feasible.	NO	-	Area being fully hilly but solid land. No steep hills to cause landslide & erosion
D5.	Does the distribution line passing through areas specially known for herbs and non-forest timber products (NTPF) and/or known habitat or migration / movement route of protected rare and endangered species	NO	-	No any herbs are known.
D6.	Has the survey and design of distribution line maintained minimum Clearance (11KV) : (check as per government/NEA standard if applicable)			
D6.1	Normal ground and trails for pedestrian only	5.5 m		

D6.2	Residential area	5.8 m		All the poles are erected according to the NEA standard.
D6.3	Highway, Road and streets	5.8 m		
D6.4	Horizontal distance from building or structure upon which human may stand	1.25 m		
D6.5	Power lines or telephone lines (above or below)	1.2 m		
7.	Other if any			

**E. Mitigation measures:**

	Particulars	Mitigation measures	Responsibility	Remarks
E1.	If route passes through forest area and tree cutting is required.	NA		No any forest or trees falls under the line alignment because we avoid the tree to fall under the line alignment.
E2.	If the distribution line/ route and locations of poles are falling in any landslide & erosion prone/ risk spot where geological avoidance is not feasible.	NA		Line passes through roadside. No such problems seen.
E3.	To maintain minimum clearance as per government/NEA standard.	NA		All poles are within standard
E4.	If existing transformers are replaced with new one. How to manage to those replaced one	NA		There is no any scope to replace the existing transformer. All line is new.
E5.	Occupational health and safety measures of the works during the erection/installation of poles/cables	Helmets, gloves and Safety belts are used. Proper Shelter and sanitation facilities are also provided #	Contractor	Workers are facilitated with proper house within the site along with safety instruments.
E6.	Issues related to influx of labor/labor camp and sanitation	NA		No any such issues are encountered
E7.	Other if any			

Note: Kindly response mitigation measures with example if any alternative option has been selected/proposed during the survey and design of route. Mitigations measures stated shall be implemented during construction and operation phase.

Each package of the proposal (distribution line) will be subject to environmental screening and environmental compliance monitoring.



**Conclusion and Recommendation:**

This site does not consist of forest tree that needed to be cut down. The work route is along the accessible road. This site is fully new line alignment so the community is very joyful to help the project if needed. Since this project is electrifying the villages, the community is helpful too. In any cases, branches cutting are needed, branches trimming can be done in the presence of local committee officers/representatives. Also this project is of covered conductor and Arial Bundled Cable (ABC) cable it has high value of safety to people benefitted by these lines.

**Information compiled by:**

**Name:** Hikmat Bdr. B.C.                      **Designation:** Asst. Engineer      **Date:** 26 June 2019

**Verified /endorsed by:**

**Name:** Prakash Raut                      **Designation:** Project Chief      **Date:** 26 June 2019

Social Screening Checklist: 11 kV Transmission Line, Grid Solar Project

Project Screening Site : Chayaduli Bazar to Chauki ( 7.5 km HT 11kV)

District: Ramechhap, (Umakund Ga.Pa – Gupteshwor )

S.No.	Particulars	Response (Yes/No)	Remarks (Please specify relevant information to supplement the response)
1	Does the transmission line involve physical/ construction works?	No	Only distribution poles (11m) are erected
2	Does the TL pass through private land and settlements? If yes, specify. Also prepare a sketch of the stretch in separate page where the TL passes.	No	Most of the lines pass along the road and government land. some portion of four distribution lines pass through private land. These are: Goganpani Danda to Dhalkako Pipal, Goganpani Danda to Tarkeshwor School, Dharampani to Kolghari and Jhalmale to Kavre.
3	How many poles are installed in this project in total?	150	11 m & 10 m poles are erected
4	How many poles are installed in private land?	No	Lines passes along the roadside
5	Specify the type of private land where the TL passes (agri land, barren land, urban/rural)	-	Few poles will be installed in agri land as stated above in S.No. 2
6	Is the TL alignment free from encroachers/squatters?	Yes	No any Encroachers/squatters noticed
7	Does the TL affect the land value?	No	Poles are erected at end point of land to minimize impact on land value
8	Does the TL damage any private house/structure? If yes, specify the details in separate page (owner, type of damage, value of land, house/structure)	No	No any private house or structure is affected.
8	Are people happy to contribute the land free of cost(donation) for TL construction in private land?	Yes	Distribution line is constructed along the road. Poles will be erected at edge of land, and people will let us erect pole in their land free of cost where needed.
9	Or do they have any expectations in leu of their lands being used for poles installation and TL stringing? If yes, get more information.	No	People are delighted of being electrified community
10	Does the construction work damage standing crops/ fruit trees/ other trees? If yes, what is the value?	No	Usually erection is done at harvesting time.
11	Does the line damage public properties/ resources/utilities? If yes, get more information.	No	Poles are erected alongside road, so no any public properties damaged.

12	Does the TL affect private land temporarily during construction? If yes, get more information.	No	Lands are affect only while erecting the poles , which requires very less area land
13	Are the hhs going to get electricity from the TL?	Yes	
14	Are people ready to cooperate the construction of lines?	Yes	
16	What other benefits are locals getting from the TL (electricity, employment etc)?		Local people are getting electricity after finishing the TL construction and Get employment during construction.
16	Other issues, if any?		
	Indigenous People/Vulnerable Ethnic Group		
16	Are any vulnerable households including Janaatis/ dalits affected directly by TL?	No	The communities comprise mixed social groups including IPs (Tamang) and Dalits but are not affected adversely; people are happy with the electrification.
17	If yes, how many and where? Please get more information separately? Also specify the IP/ethnic groups affected.	NA	
18	What are the income and livelihood sources of the IPs/ ethnic groups and Dalits?	NA	
19	Are the IPs/Dalits informed about the TL construction?	Yes	Every people in community knows about the project.
20	Are they ready to contribute /donate the land for poles installation?	Yes	The people will allow the project to erect the poles on their private land, if needed.
21	Are they involved in construction works?	Yes	In all sections/lines, almost all labors are local.
22	If yes, how much wage do they get on daily basis?	Yes	As per regulation of country
23	Are these people getting electricity from this TL?	Yes	Whole Community is getting electricity.
24	Are local women also involved as workers? If yes, how many? How much is their wage?	No	
25	Other information		
<p>Screening result</p> <p>While screening this stretch no any adverse effect on the society is seen. Since the villages are going to be electrified, the peoples are very optimistic about the project. They are willing to help the project. Very few poles might passes through the agri-land and the owners are supportive and letting the project to erect the poles. Poles are erected at the edge of the land so that its value does not decrease/affect. Community is ready to help as they can.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Based on the findings of the screening, following recommendations are made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The poling and cable stringing works should be carried out in close consultation with the local communities. All construction works need to be carried out avoiding the crop damages or other losses (private trees, orchards).</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any disputes/conflicts between project and people should be resolved through consultations involving local government representatives (Ward Chief/members). Record of consultations including photographs should be maintained.</li> <li>• In IP communities, the project should comply with Free Prior Informed Consent consultation and keep records of such consultations.</li> <li>• All the grievances raised by the public should be handled/managed by the project staff / contractor and documented properly.</li> <li>• Priority should be given to employ the local people. especially from vulnerable communities</li> </ul>
	<p>Prepared by: Hikmat Bahadur B.C.</p> <p>Date: 26-june-2019</p>

**Annex 4: Assurance letter for No tree felling**



**NEPAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY**

(A Government of Nepal Undertaking)

**Distribution & Consumer Service Directorate**  
**Grid Solar And Energy Efficiency Project**

Ref: 2076/077 - 120

Date: September 9, 2019

To,  
World Bank Office  
Yak and Yeti Hotel, Kathmandu


**Reference:** GSEEP/W/ICB-03: Design, Supply, Installation/Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 11/0.4 kV Distribution System.

**Subject:** Avoiding tree felling along the 11 kV Line.

Dear Sir,  
During the Environmental and Social Screening process, we have discussed environmental and social aspects of 11kV distribution lines. Planning and Design of the 11kV DLs have been revisited in recognition of the potential impacts on the forests and loss of trees. As a result, it has been decided that All Aluminum Alloy Conductor (AAAC) will be used in the 11kV DLs, and the poles of the DLs will be adjusted to avoid the need of tree felling. Trimming of branches of trees, if needed, will be done in consultations and coordination with the respective forest authority and community forests groups. This will be strictly enforced. The bimonthly compliance monitoring report will be shared with the World Bank.

Thanking you.

Sincerely yours,

  
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(Prakash Raut)  
Project Manager

**CC:**  
The Project Coordinator, GSEEP

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