

Report of the Initial Stakeholder Consultation for Guohua Hebei Shangyi Qijiashan Wind Farm Project

1. Background

The Guohua Hebei Shangyi Qijiashan Wind Farm Project is being developed by Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd and Carbon Resource Management Ltd. (CRM). In order to ensure that the project meets the highest levels of sustainable development and environmental standards, the project participants are planning to register it as both a CDM and Gold Standard (GS) project.

In order to satisfy the requirements of the “Gold Standard Manual for CDM Developers”, an initial Stakeholder Consultation was held on 21 May, 2008. All stakeholders were welcome to attend to give comments and suggestions. The meeting served as a platform of communication between the project owner and other stakeholders. The project owner has the intention to take the comments and suggestions raised during the meeting into account during the construction and operation period of the project.

2. Details of the Meeting

2.1 Notices and Invitations

a) Five notices about the meeting were posted in prominent positions at the following local locations on 5 May 2008:

- 1) On the entrance wall of Shangyi County government
- 2) On the entrance wall of Daqinggou Town government of Shangyi County
- 3) On the entrance wall of Baiyanbao village committee
- 4) On the entrance wall of the health care room of Baiyanbao village
- 5) On the wall of the local residence in Xingjia village

b) A notice was also posted on the website of CRM:
<http://www.carbonresource.com/news.html#m>

c) Written invitations were sent to various governmental offices.

d) Written invitations were emailed to the following NGOs: WWF, Greenpeace, GEI and Mercy Corps.

2.2 Date and Venue

Date: 21 May 2008 from 2 pm to 4 pm

Venue: Meeting room of Daqinggou Township Government, Shangyi County

2.3 Participants

The following persons attended the meeting:

Name	Organisation	Function
Zhu Tao	Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co., Ltd	Project owner representatives
Yan Weiming	Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co., Ltd	
Cheng He	Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co., Ltd	
Xie Xiaobing	Carbon Resource Management Ltd.	CDM developer representatives
Ding Lin'en	Carbon Resource Management Ltd.	
Xing Dengshun	Shangyi County government	Local policy makers
Huang Yihai	Office of Shangyi County government	
Chen Wang	Development and Reform Commission, Shangyi County	
Wang Jun	Bureau of State Land and Resources, Shangyi County	
Yan Xiaodong	Bureau of Environmental Protection, Shangyi County	
Zhang Xiangfa	Bureau of Construction, Shangyi County	
Zhou Zhanjun	Office of Wind Power, Shangyi County	
Liu Zhenjiang	Sangongdi Town, Shangyi County	
Fan Guiyuan	Daqinggou Town, Shangyi County	
Fu Lijun	Badaogou Town, Shangyi County	
Zhao Ruyu	Zhangjiakou Xianxing Power Design Company	
Zhang Guofu	Zhangjiakou Xianxing Power Design Company	
Yang Guangguang	Village representative	Local people directly impacted by the project
Zhao Peng	Village representative	
Wu Chengsheng	Village representative	
Luo Ming	Village representative	
Cheng Yuping	Village representative	
Cui Yue	Village representative	
Zhang Fa	Village representative	

Guo Youren	Village representative	
Xu Fei	Village representative	
Zhang Wei	Village representative	
Yan Shengcai	Village representative	
Lu Fu	Village representative	
Hao Ye	Village representative	
Chang Jiang	Village representative	
Guo Shiyong	Village representative	
Lu Pengfei	Village representative	

2.4 Language

Mandarin Chinese (local language).

2.5 Proposal of the Meeting

a) The agenda, questionnaires, details of sustainable development indicators and other documents would be distributed before the meeting. Then, there would be an introduction of the meeting.

b) Representatives from the Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd would introduce their company and give details about the proposed capacity, construction programme and the development of CDM. Also, information about the anticipated environmental and social impacts of the project would be provided, as well as details of the mitigation measures which would be carried out during the building and operation of the project.

c) Mr Xie Xiaobing from CRM would give further details about the CDM, Gold Standard, Opportunity for Chinese Enterprises, sustainable development indicators and the dissemination and collection channels of the stakeholder consultation.

d) Questions and Answers

e) Discussion

f) Completion of Questionnaires

2.6 Summary of the Meeting

a) Mr Yan Weiming of Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd introduced the participants, the purpose of the meeting and the agenda.

b) Mr Cheng He of Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd introduced his Company, stressed its efforts to promote the development of wind power and establish a Chinese brand. Next, he provided some information about the proposed installed capacity and construction programme, as well as the positive effects on the local economy and environment protection. He explained that the project would adopt effective environmental protection measures in order to reduce any negative effects during the construction and operation periods. He stated that the project would provide job opportunities, increase local tax revenues and promote the development of local tourism, which would bring good social and environmental benefits. Finally, he declared that his Company would cooperate with CRM for GS accreditation.

c) Mr Xie Xiaobing from CRM provided background information about the CDM, GS and sustainable development indicators. He also explained that two stakeholder consultations need to be held under the ‘Gold Standard Manual for CDM Developers’. This was the initial stakeholder consultation which served as a platform of communication for all stakeholders. The project owner would take comments or suggestions into account for the construction and operation period. The same stakeholders would be invited to a second consultation which would be held before the project was put into operation, by which time comments and suggestions received from the initial Stakeholder Consultation would have been addressed. More comments and suggestions would be welcome at that time. The meeting reports would be posted on the website of CRM within 15 days after the meetings. Finally, participants were told that they were welcome to make further enquiries about the project to CRM and/or Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd.

d) Questions and Answers:

Question 1 (Local expert) Will the project destroy the local vegetation?
What are the main criteria to satisfy GS requirements?

Answer (Project owner) No. The construction period is very limited. We will take measures to recover it as per the requests of the local government and as described in the EIA. For example, after completion, we will

sow vegetation seeds.

(CRM representative) GS requires a number of additional steps compared to a conventional CDM project. These additional steps are mostly related to sustainable development which means that indicators for environmental protection, and social, economic and technological sustainability, are more stringent. Indicators that are crucial for an overall positive impact on sustainable development and/or are particularly sensitive are included in a monitoring plan.

Question 2 (Local resident) Will the project produce dust during the construction period? What will you do if it exists?

Answer (Project owner) In order to prevent stray dust during construction, the following measures will be taken: if there is a gale, excavation and the loading and unloading from lorries will be stopped; during the construction period, there will be sprinkling and covering of any material that may cause dust.

Question 3 (Local resident) Will the project cause electromagnetic radiation?

Answer (Project owner) This has been taken into account at the time of selecting the location of this wind farm. The project site is far from the residential areas and electromagnetic radiation weakens quickly, so there will be no negative impact on the local residents.

Question 4 (Local resident) What kind of benefits will be brought to our local people?

Answer (Project owner) There will be a lot of benefits. Wind power is green energy. It will save about 142,000 tons of standard coal and reduce emission of other waste gases, such as SO₂ and dust, which is all very positive for environmental protection.

(Representative from the Development and Reform Commission of Shangyi County): wind power is an important industry for Shangyi County. It will not only promote the development of local tourism and transportation but also increase the local taxes and the financial revenue for the local government.

- Question 5 (Local resident) How will waste water and solid waste be treated?
- Answer (Project owner) The sand and stone that is left after completion of construction will be used for road-building. Sewage will be used for the irrigation of vegetation near the wind farm and will not be discharged into the river. Live solid waste matter will be removed to a landfill treatment site in Shangyi County.
- Question 6 (Local resident) Will the wind farm have a negative impact on local wild animals?
- Answer (Project owner) There are no national or protected wild animals here. Only small animals and birds live here and they will move to a similar living environment nearby if they are disturbed. It is very easy for animals to find a similar living environment because the site is surrounded by empty land.
- Question 7 (CRM representative) Will the project have a negative impact on the flight path of birds?
- Answer (Project owner) The wind farm is not on a migration route for birds, and there are a few birds here, so I believe it will have little impact on the local birds.
- Question 8 (Representative from the town government) Will you award any compensation after completion of the project if the roads are damaged by heavy lorries?
- Answer (Project owner) After completion, we promise to award compensation or repair the roads if they are damaged.
- Question 9 (Local resident) Will the project construction produce noise and disturb the daily life of local people?
- Answer (Project owner) The project site is far from the local villages. Special measures will be taken to reduce the noise during the construction period. For example it will be forbidden for transportation trucks to use their horns when passing residential areas, schools or hospitals. Also transportation at night will not be allowed. So there should be no negative impacts on the local villagers.

Question 10 (CRM representative) Have you chosen safe equipment for this project?

Answer (Project owner) Wind turbines of the highest quality will be selected for this wind farm. A similar make has been used in the operation of other wind farms and they have worked well. We have the confidence to say that the Qijiashan wind farm will lead our nation in terms of operational stability and reliability.

e) Discussion

(CRM representative) The CDM helps bring advanced technology from an industrialised to a developing country. CO2 emission reduction targets in industrialised countries can be met through buying CERs from projects in developing countries and this brings benefits to both parties. A GS CDM project is better than a 'normal' CDM project because the benefits of the project to local stakeholders are better ensured. This meeting is being held to receive feedback and hear opinions from all stakeholders.

(Government representative) Qijiashan wind farm project will produce green energy, reduce emissions and significantly decrease the negative impacts otherwise caused by fossil-fuel power plants, as outlined in the Environmental Impact Assessment. It will not only increase the power supply, accelerate the wind farm industry and reduce emissions of other waste gases, but also provide job opportunities and increase local tax revenues and financial income, which will all bring good social and environmental benefits. Guohua (Hebei) New Energy Co. Ltd and Carbon Resource Management Ltd are ready to work together to register the project to be a Gold Standard CDM Project, which will be of great benefit to the project construction and operation. The project will become renowned as a more green and environmental friendly one after registration by the Gold Standard.

Meanwhile, the project will also benefit the local environment, the economy, social sustainable development and the reputation of local companies.

The government supports the development of GS and is willing to provide the necessary assistance for GS accreditation.

f) Completion of Questionnaires

All stakeholder questionnaires were completed and collected. In total 28 questionnaires were collected.

A CRM representative asked all the participants whether there were any further questions or issues about the meeting content, or if any questions in the questionnaire needed clarification. He explained that the notes of this meeting would be made available and that related documents could be obtained from the project owner. Finally, all participants were thanked for their presence and opinions.

3. Findings of the Questionnaire

3.1 Participants

		Number	Percentage
Age	20-29	2	7.1%
	30-39	11	39.3%
	Above 40	15	53.6%
Education	Under junior high school	5	17.8%
	Senior high school	8	28.6%
	University	15	53.6%

3.2 Summary of the Findings

- a) 60.7% participants knew about the project
39.3% participants felt they knew a lot about this project
- b) Before the meeting, 67.9% participants knew about the CDM, 32.1% participants did not know about the CDM.
- c) 39.3% participants did not believe the project would have negative effects on the local environment. Among those who thought it would:

- 21.4% thought noise may disturb the local environment.
 - 10.7% thought the equipment may not be safe.
 - 10.7% thought waste water and solid waste may pollute the local environment.
 - 7.1% thought electro magnetic interference may bother the local environment.
 - 10.7% thought wild animals may be disturbed.
 - 25% thought the occupation of the land may damage the local environment.
 - 21.4% thought the vegetation, natural resources, ecology system and/or surface water may become polluted.
 - 100% do not believe the project would bring any significant negative impacts on the local environment.
- d) 100% of the participants believed the project would benefit the local economy:
- 39.3% thought it would bring more work opportunities during the construction period.
 - 35.7% thought it would bring more work opportunities during the operation period.
 - 50% thought it would reduce the local electricity shortage.
 - 25% thought it would reduce environment pollution.
 - 67.9% thought it would benefit the development of local tourism
 - 100% thought it would reduce poverty, increase tax income and improve the economy.
- e) Among those who thought the project would change the local living standard:
- 64.3% thought it would increase income
 - 67.9% thought it would guarantee a better electricity supply
 - 7.1% thought it would improve the traffic situation
 - 17.9% thought it would improve the air quality
 - 60.7% thought it would increase work opportunities
 - 42.9% thought it would improve the quality of life.
- f) 100% participants thought the project would bring positive changes for the following reasons:
- It would bring more work opportunities and increase the financial income of Shangyi County
 - It would benefit the economy of Shangyi County and increase the income of local people
 - It would increase taxes which the government could use to improve the quality of life of the local population

- Wind power projects protect the environment and reduce the reliance on heavy industrial power plants for energy creation.
- g) 100% participants agreed to the construction of the project.
- h) There were no opposing opinions on this project. Mr Zhou Zhanjun hoped that the construction period could be speeded up. The local expert said that he thought that the project would be carried out at a high level of quality. The representative from the Bureau of State Land and Resources emphasized that only a little land would be occupied during the construction period. The representative from the Bureau of Environmental Protection reminded everyone that the project should be constructed and operated according to the requirements of the EIA

4. Further Feedback

Based on the discussions during the meeting, the project owner has given further feedback to several issues:

About the findings relating to negative impacts (outlined in 3.2(c) above), none thought the project would bring a serious negative impact.

The project owner is aiming to reduce the impact of noise during the project by forbidding the use of horn-blowing when passing sensitive areas, such as local residences, schools and hospitals. In addition, the project site is far from the local villages, so the local residents will experience little, if any, noise or electromagnetic radiation.

The wind turbines that would be purchased for this wind farm are of a superior quality and they have worked well at other wind farm projects. Therefore the performance of the turbines would be very reliable. The leftover sand and stone will be used for the building of roads. Sewage will be used for the irrigation of vegetation near the wind farm and will not be discharged into rivers. Live solid waste will be removed to a landfill treatment site in Shangyi County.

No protected wild animals live in the area surrounding the wind farm. There are only small animals and some birds. These kind of animals move to a similar living environment upon being disturbed and it is very easy for them to find similar conditions.

The project owner aims to reduce the impact of the project by monitoring the construction management, shortening the construction period and limiting vehicle access. The construction period is considered short. His Company will take measures to recover the vegetation as per the request of local government after completion, for example, by sowing seeds. He will also ensure that predicted damage done to vegetation, natural resources, the ecology system and surface water will be carried out according to the requirements of the EIA.

All the participants at the meeting gave a positive assessment on the environment, as well as the social and sustainable impacts of the project. Also, the participants thought the project would make use of the rich local wind resource, relieve the local power shortage, improve the quality of life and increase income for local people. Finally, he reiterated that the participants of the stakeholder meeting had supported the project construction unanimously and there had been no serious dissenting opinions.

For any further questions, opinions and suggestions, please contact:

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