

ESIA Report - Sandla



Project Sandla, Anantapur District: Andhra Pradesh, India

SKIERON RENEWABLE ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED (SREPL)

Sandla Wind Project Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as ‘*Skeiron Sandla*’ or ‘*Client*’), which is part of the Skeiron Renewable Energy Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as ‘*Skeiron*’), had been engaged by Environmental Resources Management India Private Limited (ERM) for undertaking a Rapid Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (RESIA) study for a 50.4 MW Wind Farm project, located near village of Vidapanankallu in the district of Anantapur in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India (hereinafter referred to as ‘*Project*’). Skeiron conducted a site reconnaissance which included environmental, social and ecological data gathering for the Project. The Project comprises of 24 wind turbine generators (WTGs) having an individual capacity of 2.1 MW and totalling approximately 50.4 MW. The WTGs used in the project are of Suzlon S111 DFIG 2.1 MW make (Variant: STV(L)|50Hz|TT) and are provided by the Suzlon Gujarat Wind Park Limited (hereinafter referred to as ‘*Suzlon*’ or

‘Developer’) who is the contractor in charge of WTG commissioning and operation and maintenance of WTGs. The Wind farm is spread primarily around the villages of Karakmukkala, Kothakota, Chabala, Malapuram, Velpumadugu and Uravakonda.

The purpose of the RESIA is to identify environmental, social and ecological sensitivities associated with the construction, operation & maintenance and decommissioning of the proposed wind farm. The study will also suggest mitigation measures for onsite implementation and to reduce adverse impacts during the Project life cycle. Performing the RESIA study to meet the requirements of the specified framework applicable to local and national environmental and social legislation, Standards and International guidelines including

- IFC Performance Standards (January 2012);
- Applicable IFC/World Bank Guidelines:
- General EHS Guidelines (April 2007),
- EHS Guidelines for Wind Energy (August 2015),
- EHS Guidelines for Power Transmission and Distribution;
- ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009);
- ADB Policies on 2001 Social Protection Strategy;
- ADB Policies on 2011 Public Communication Policy;
- ADB Policies on 2011 OMC3 on incorporation of Social Dimensions;
- ADB Policies on 2010 Gender Mainstreaming Guidelines; and
- ADB Policies on 2011 Participation Guides.

The ESIA study has been undertaken with the following objectives:

- To establish the existing baseline condition prevailing in the study area (5 km zone around the Project boundary is considered as a study area);
- To identify the aspects of the Project likely to result in significant impacts to resources/receptors;
- To predict and evaluate the significance of the impacts of the Project;
- To determine the significance of residual impacts, taking into account the implementation of mitigation measures;
- To develop plans for the management and monitoring of impacts, including plans for ongoing stakeholder engagements; and

- Determine the requirement for additional studies for the Project, such as a detailed bird and bat monitoring study.

The project is a green energy project comprising of 24 WTGs to generate approximately 50.4 MW power through wind energy. The Project and its key components such as access road, site office building and external transmission lines are likely to have potential environmental impacts on baseline parameters such as land use, ambient air quality, noise quality etc. in the immediate vicinity of WTGs. The social impacts from the projects are assessed to be generally beneficial in terms of local employment and overall local area development.

The Environmental and Social Management plan (ESMP) describes mitigation measures for impacts specific to project activities and discusses implementation mechanism. Project specific management plans are also provided for project activities such as waste management, Bird/Bat management & Stakeholders consultation etc.

To conclude the implementation of ESMP/Management plans will help Sandla in complying with its internal requirements as well as National/State regulatory framework in addition to meeting the IFC & ADB requirements