

The Bujagali Hydropower Project (BHPP):

<http://www.bujagali-energy.com>

The BHPP is a 250-megawatt power-generating facility being built on the Victoria Nile River near the Town of Jinja, in Uganda, by Bujagali Energy Limited. It is sponsored by Industrial Promotion Services (Kenya) Limited and SG Bujagali Holdings Ltd, an affiliate of Sithe Global Power, LLC (USA).

Bujagali Energy Limited (BEL) has also made significant progress in construction of the 250MW hydro power project.

Status as of 30th September 2011

Project Start: 26 June 2007

Project Commissioning (1st

Unit): to fourth quarter 2011

Project total completion:

second quarter 2012

Progress:

- **Engineering:** 99.5%
- **Procurement:** 99%
- **Construction:** 95%



Right Embankment nearing Completion

CBT Trainees undergoing tailoring training session

IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENT ACTION PLANS (SEAPS)

Implementation of various components of the Social and

Environmental Action Plans

(SEAPS) continued during the third quarter (July-September) 2011. The key activities undertaken during the period included the final works on the water pipeline to the project affected communities, vulnerable people assistance, commencement of electrification programme and tourism

mitigation programmes, among others.

This newsletter highlights the progress on the Social, Community Liaison, Environment interventions and activities for the period July to September 2011.

The newsletter is also available in Luganda and Lusoga.

Enjoy your reading.

October 2011

BEL Commitments

BEL is committed to improving local social infrastructure including; improving water supply, education and health facilities, and support sustainable

economic development as part of the CDAP.

BEL carries out environmental measures that mitigate impacts on habitats and ecosystems, ground and surface water, fish stocks and fisheries, unplanned but predictable developments such as influx of workers to the project area, disease vectors and tourism under EMMP.

Education

A concept paper on the provision of education support for the East Bank schools is in place.

Implementation is expected after BEL Management approval together with other proposed additional community support programs.

Vulnerable Assistance program

Mobile clinics were extended to the vulnerable people during the quarter. A total of 293 vulnerable persons were treated for various ailments, including degenerative disease conditions like Osteoarthritis (80%), Osteoporosis, hypertension, respiratory tract infections including pneumonia cough and bronchitis. Degenerative eye condition like senile cataracts and back pain were other conditions treated.

Water

The extension of piped water network in the project affected area continued, though with delayed schedule partly due to delay by the Uganda National Roads Authority in granting permission to cross the main

Kayunga road. So far one crossing to the booster station has been allowed. Works may be completed in the fourth quarter 2011.



Construction of the waterline booster pump house in Naminya

Business development Micro credit

To date, a total of Ugx 299,120,000 has been disbursed since the inception of the program. Loan disbursement and monitoring continues till mid 2012.

Agriculture

Program was completed during quarter 4 of 2010 and outcomes of the programme are being periodically monitored through the socio-economic survey to capture outcomes.

Community based health and HIV/AIDS Program

The communities and construction site employees still receive services from the AIDS Support Organisation (TASO) as well as a regular supply of condoms.

During the quarter, Infrastructural upgrade of Budondo HCIV has progressed, with the buildings under construction at wall plate level (Out Patient Department,

Maternity Block and Staff Quarters). So far total progress is at 55% against 80% of what it should have been and works are expected to be completed by December.

Procurement of the medical equipment has been initiated and is expected to be concluded by December 2011.



Above, ongoing construction at Budondo medical centre

Business centers

The business centres at Wakisi and Budondo have been handed over to the respective sub counties and are operational.

Skills Training for the Youth

Training is complete. 47 students, who are part of a total of 140 sponsored youth, are to graduate in October 2011 with other students of the Institute who will complete training during the year.

48% of the trainees who completed their studies have secured jobs.

Community Based Training (CBT)

Community training in basic skills is ongoing in all project affected villages. The programme, which commenced in July, will run for 6 months and

is expected to reach out to 600 people.



Above, community based training in tailoring skills

Rural Electrification

Extension of the electricity grid to Naminya resettlement village started during the quarter. The Rural Electrification Agency expressed commitment to contribute 70% of the costs required to extend the electricity grid to project affected villages other than Naminya.



Electricity grid extension to Naminya Resettlement

Public Consultation and Disclosure included:

Meetings

BEL continues to have an active community liaison engagement with all the stakeholders and managing grievances or

complaints arising during this phase of the project.

Reservoir filling

In this quarter, the project started putting out public notices in form of press releases and radio announcements to alert the general public as well as communities neighbouring the project to stay clear of the impounded waterline. The exercise of river impoundment is due to start in Q4 of 2011 and will result in the formation of a reservoir upstream of Bujagali dam.

In addition, informal consultations, posting of notices, notifications through letters to LCs of upstream and downstream the project, Leaders of Fishers, have been posted to notify the communities and all the Upper Nile users between the Bujagali Dam and Owen Falls Complex of the reservoir filling and impoundment up to elevation EI-1112.0 and need to remove any crops/structures before October 1st 2011.



Village meeting on rural electrification programme and river impoundment

Tourism

During the quarter, BEL continued to support alternative tourism activities. Refurbishment of the Sunset cruise (dhow) boat purchased by Adrift is ongoing, with the testing

of the boat for commercial operation expected during the 4th quarter.

Structural works on the rafting takeout building for Adrift and construction of river access at the rafting put in site were completed. Work continues on the takeout and put in site's building interior with kitchen and ablutions. Total completion expected at the start of Q4 2011.



BEL officer inspects Adrift's rafting put in site building in Nazigo

A contractor was selected for the rehabilitation of the access road to the rafting put in sites. Works began in Mid August and was completed within a month.

Fourteen (14) additional hectares of indigenous trees were planted on Namakandwa Island downstream of the Bujagali Project in the wet season at the start of September.



Ecosystem committee member shows tree seedlings ready to be planted on Namakandwa Island

Environment, Health and Safety Issues

Riverbank Afforestation

The afforestation and soil erosion control programs were completed. The planted trees are being managed by NEMA working with the local land owners.



Above, the trees planted in BEL's riverbank afforestation programme

Waste management

Non hazardous and hazardous waste continued to be generated at both the dam site and camp site. All hazardous wastes such as used oil and batteries are strictly collected by agencies authorized by NEMA. All the non- hazardous wastes are disposed off at the Jinja Municipal Council Land Fill. Metal scrap is taken for recycling. Timber cut offs are given out to affected communities for fire wood.



Used plastic bottles being segregated and packed to be taken for disposal

Biodiversity Monitoring

An updated report on survey findings was submitted and presented in the month of August. The report identified wildlife present in the project area and the required mitigations to minimize the impact of reservoir filling on the same. An animal rescue plan has been drawn and will be implemented in Q4 2011 at the time of reservoir filling.

Visitors

The Buganda Kingdom Officials led by the Kingdom County representative visited the project site to appreciate the progress and thanked BEL for the livelihood and other programs implemented within the communities.