



Department of Water Resources

Thai National Mekong Committee Secretariat



The 3rd Meeting of the MRC Joint Committee Working Group (JCWG) on PNPCA Prior Consultation Process for the Pak Beng Hydropower Project

7th June 2017
Vientiane, Lao PDR



<http://www.tnmc-is.org>

Thai National Mekong Committee Secretariat



National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project



- The 1st : Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province on February 9, 2017
- The 2nd : Mueng District, Nongkai Province on March 13, 2017
- The 3rd : Mueng District, Ubon Ratchathani Province on March 23, 2017
- The 4th : Viengkan District, Chiangrai Province on May 18, 2017)

Wrap-up Meeting with TNMC's committee in Bangkok in June 2017



Objectives

- Provide information of PBHPP to public.
- Compile relevant issues on PBHPP obtained from stakeholders in Thailand.
- Analyze the issues discussed in the meetings to prepare the reply form of Prior Consultation

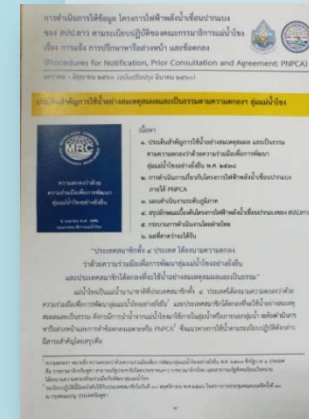




Supported Documents



- Prior Consultation PBHPP booklet
- Overview of PBHPP
- Comments on PBHPP from National implementing agencies
- Regional and national roadmaps
- The Mekong Agreement 1995 & PNPCA document
- Summary of previous National information sharing meetings and recorded issues from meetings
- Summary of the Regional Stakeholders Forums
- Summary of Technical Review Report and its comments from Thai national experts
- Documents from MRCS and TNMCS
- Questionnaire for evaluation the understanding on PBHPP PNPCA process





Total participants from the 4 meetings were 684 persons.

No./Province	Participants						
	Host province	Other provinces	RBCs	TNMCS, Government officers (Central and regional office)	Educational institution	Media	Total
1.Chiang Rai	83	60	10	45	3	-	201
2.Nongkhai	43	91	6	35	1	-	176
3.Ubon Ratchathani	42	52	-	33	3	-	130
4.Chiang Rai	127	-	2	46	-	2	177
Total	295	203	18	159	7	2	684



The 1st National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

- Date : February 9, 2017
- Venue: Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province





The 1st National Information Sharing on PNPCHA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

201 participants

- Local stakeholders from 8 provinces along Mekong river bank (Chiangrai, Loei, Beungkarn, Nongkai, Nakorn Phanom, Ubonratchathani, Amnat Charoen, Mukdaharn)
- Key Agencies: TNMCS, Department of Fisheries, Electricity Authority of Thailand, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Marine Department, Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand and Department of Water Resources



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The 2nd National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

- Date : March 17, 2017
- Venue: Mueang Nongkhai District, Nongkhai Province





The 2nd National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

176 participants

- Local stakeholders from 6 provinces (Nongkai, Loei, Buangkarn, Nakorn Phanom Udon Thani and Sakon Nakorn)
- Key Agencies: TNMCS, Department of Fisheries, Electricity Authority of Thailand, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand and Department of Water Resources





The 3rd National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

- Date : March 23, 2017
- Venue: Mueang District, Ubon Ratchathani Province





The 3rd National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

130 participants

- Local Stakeholders from 3 provinces (Ubon Ratchathani, Amnat Charoen and Mukdaharn)
- Key Agencies: TNMCS, Department of Fisheries, Electricity Authority of Thailand, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand and Department of Water Resources





The 4th National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

- Date : May 18, 2017
- Venue: Wiang Kean district, Chiang Rai province





The 4st National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

177 participants

- Local Stakeholders from Muang District, Chiang Khong District, Chiang Saen District and Wiang Kaen District
- Key Agencies: TNMCS, Department of Fisheries, Electricity Authority of Thailand, Royal Irrigation Department, Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning, Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand and Department of Water Resources



Outcomes from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

1. Concerned issues

- Backwater Effect
- Fisheries and Fish passage
- Sedimentation
- Biological and Ecological System Changes
- Dam Safety
- Stakeholders engagement

2. Suggestions/Recommendations

- Mitigation measures and Monitoring system
- Compensation and remedial measures





Concerned issues from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project



Issues

Main Points

1. Backwater Effect

- The participants deeply concerned on backwater effect of the PBHHP to Thailand's Chiang Rai province, causing higher risk of **flooding along the river bank** communities, agricultural areas and river mouth of the Mekong tributaries. In addition, accumulated water discharge from China's dams combined with water storage from the PBHHP could highly likely cause floods in Chiang Rai province.
- Sudden fluctuation** of water level also has great threat to river ecology, local fishery, seasonal crop growing, local economy.
- It was **suggested that a study on its impacts to Thailand** should be carried out.
- It was further **suggested that a hydrological monitoring and communication system** in case of emergency and storage capacity of the PBHHP to water discharge from China dams should be installed.



Concerned issues from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project



Issues	Main Points
2.Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪The construction of the dam at the PBHPP outlet may block local fishes migrating up and downstream.▪Design of the fish passage might not be suitable and effective enough for accommodating upstream and downstream fish migration, taking into account its size and a variety of species.▪Ability of fish passing through a proposed navigation lock was still doubtful.
3.Sedimentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪regarding impacts of accumulated sedimentation in the reservoir to Thailand, causing river ecosystem change.▪The impacts on accumulated sedimentation and transportation to be retained at the PBHPP, impacting the downstream river geomorphology and bank erosion and its associated damage.▪Impact of sediment starvation downstream of the dam may have impact on a phenomenon of Bung Fai Paya Nak (Naga fireballs), resulting in significant socio-economic lost.





Concerned issues from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project



Issues

Main Points

4. Biological and Ecological System Changes

- Dam operation might affect food security (declining food-supply chain for fish), culture, tradition, way of life of the people living along the Mekong river bank, navigation, and sovereignty.
- Certain studies should be regarded impact of China Dam operation in terms of changing ecological biodiversity, the proposed rapids blasting project, and mitigation measures for affected communities.

5. Dam Safety

- Due to the fact that it lays on the fault line posing a threat to earthquake and any measures taken to ovoid or prevent it.



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Concerned issues from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project

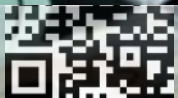


Issues

Main Points

6. Stakeholders engagement

- There should be the **follow-up of the Xayaburi Project** regarding its operation processing in the extent of the project's structure adjustment by publicizing documents for the public.
- **Strengthen the public network and enhance local participation** in collaboration with local government
- Set up committee to monitor the hydropower project after it has been operated.



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Suggestions/Recommendations from National Information Sharing on PNPCA for Pak Beng Hydropower Project



Issues	Main Points
1. Mitigation measures and Monitoring system	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ How affected people will obtain remedial and mitigation measures after the dam operation? Suggestions;<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Involvement of Lao PDR on information and data sharing to Thai people and2) More participation of Thai civil society concerning dam operation through signing MOU between Lao PDR and Thailand.▪ Monitoring system on flow regime, sedimentation, geomorphology▪ Environmental fund
2. Compensation and remedial measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The compensation issue was raised by the participants who are affected by the project▪ Compensation and remedial measures should be considered for any transboundary impacts of the project to declining fish stock, floods, seasonal crop along the river bank, tourism, river bank erosion, local economy and livelihood of Thai people.

A photograph of a sunset over a large body of water. The sun is a bright orange orb on the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection on the water's surface. To the left, a tall, lattice-structured transmission tower stands against the sky. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a pale, hazy blue at the top. The foreground is dark, showing the silhouettes of trees and a fence line.

Thank you