



Ghana celebrates its first Global Wind Day with over 500 students meeting in Ayitepa to learn about wind energy

More than 500 students from local schools gathered at Ayitepa village to celebrate Global Wind Day on June 26, 2015. The Wind farm developers NEK Umwelttechnik AG and Mainstream Renewable Power Ltd. organised the event close to the site of the planned 225MW Ayitepa Wind Farm which is on track to commence construction early next year. During the course of the event, the students were given a presentation on the wind farm by NEK's Country Manager, Mr. Michael Wuddah-Martey. They also heard from the Ghana Wildlife Society on conservation awareness. The Global Wind Day was the second wider community event hosted by the wind farm developers. In February 2015, around 300 community members attended a half day community engagement event to learn about the wind farm project. This is part of many ways the community can learn and provide feedback on the project.

Geotechnical Investigations

As part of designing the wind farm, geotechnical investigations will be carried out during the coming months. This will involve some excavation work on site with digging equipment. At various locations across the site trial pits will be excavated to better understand the geology and hydrology of the site. The work is not expected to take long and should not impact the local community. Please contact the CLO for further information.

Introduction

I warmly welcome you to the second issue of our Ayitepa wind farm newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you updated on all development activities leading to the construction of the **225MW Wind Farm Project** at Ayitepa, Old Ningo in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

In February, we engaged the Chiefs, Elders and Representatives of Ningo community at Ayitepa to kick start the Community Engagement process to create awareness of the wind farm project. This edition focuses on Ghana's first celebration of Global Wind Day along with other project updates. Please feel free to give us your feedback using the contact details below.

Best regards,
Francis Tsatsu Owulah
 Community Liaison Office (CLO)



LiDAR relocated on project site

The LiDAR, a module which accurately measures wind speed and direction up to 200m above ground, has been relocated on the project site. The relocation is required in order to achieve an accurate distribution of wind data across the site. The LiDAR is an electronic device which sends lasers into the air in which the wind interacts. This allows it to record the speed and direction of the wind.

The LiDAR is part of the wind measurement campaign which also includes the two 100m meteorological masts installed on site in January 2015. These equipment are necessary to calculate how much electricity can be generated from the wind farm.



Ornithological Monitoring

Team members from the Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS) continued to study the activities of birds in proximity to the wind farm site. This exercise, which is taken in the third week of every month, shall continue until November this year. Communities outside the project area, including Anyamam and Ayisa in the Ada West District, are also monitored. The purpose of the study is to ensure no negative impact on bird species due to the construction of the wind farm. Appreciation is given to the many farmers in and around the project site who co-operate with the team as the exercise is progressed.



Ghana's Minister of Power meets Upwind representatives on 225 MW Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for wind farm at Ayitepa

Ghana's recently appointed Minister of Power, Hon. Dr Kwabena Donkor, has met with representatives of Upwind Ayitepa Ltd to further discuss the advancement of the Ayitepa wind farm which is due to go into construction early next year. It is one of few projects that can start generating electricity within 2016 using a clean and free source of energy.

Hon. Dr Donkor embraced the progress the wind farm project reached in the past months and encouraged the developers to also add to the renewable energy cluster at the project site with a solar park in order to create Africa's first hybrid sustainable energy plant. He added that the project is in line with the government's plan for additional electricity generation facilities in the country.

Hon. Dr Donkor also urged the management of the Ministry to ensure that all required support is given to the developers to quickly finalize the permitting process and the signing of the Power Purchase Agreement and to start construction of the wind farm. He mentioned that "timing is crucial and our country and population needs immediate additional generation capacity".

Hon. Minister Dr Donkor was accompanied by Mr. Wisdom-Ahiataku-Togobo, director of Renewable Energy and Power at the Ministry, and by Mr. Tony Abban, Head of Protocol at the Ministry, while the NEK/Upwind group included Michael Wuddah-Martey, Country Manager of NEK (Ghana) Ltd., and Dr. Christoph Kapp, CEO of NEK/Upwind.

Christoph Kapp described the wind and solar project at Ayitepa as the ideal solution for Ghana because wind and solar power are the only proven technologies which can achieve the dual objective of speed of deployment and commissioning as well as scale.

Upwind Ayitepa develops the projects in favour of the Irish wind and solar company Mainstream Renewable Power Ltd., who recently announced that the projects will be financed, constructed and operated by the pan-African renewable energy generation platform, Lekela Power, which it has formed along with Actis, the global pan-emerging market private equity firm.

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Global Wind Day (Continued)



Mr. Francis Tsatsu Owulah, Community Liaison Officer for the project, opened the event by welcoming the chairmen, distinguished guests, the media and the community and proceeded to introduce the project and how it will help solve the 'Dumsor' crisis. Thanks was given to the organisers of the event NEK Umwelttechnik AG, NEK Ghana Ltd and Mainstream Renewable Power.

Mr. Michael Wuddah-Martey, NEK Ghana's Country Manager since 2003 and who is behind the success of NEK's wind story in the country, stated: "We are delighted that the local schools here in Ayitepa have attended in such high numbers to celebrate wind energy and learn about this wind farm and how it could help to complement power generation sources in Ghana. We expect the wind farm to commence construction early next year and being the country's first large-scale wind farm, we are very excited about the benefits it will bring to the local community here in Ayitepa and Ghana as a whole."



Speaking at the Global Wind Day celebration, Mr. John Tsikor, the District Chief Engineer of Ningo-Prampram, said: "As we celebrate this day, the grounds are also being prepared towards the construction of a wind farm here in Ayitepa. This project, when completed, will generate 225MW of electric power. This additional power will go a long way to alleviate the erratic power supply that we are now experiencing in our country (a.k.a. Dumsor Dumsor). So far, the support from this community towards the project has been tremendous. We urge you all to continue to show your commitment towards the successful completion of this project."

The District Chief Engineer further elaborated: "Ladies and Gentlemen, the benefits are enormous; the Assembly will ensure that our people benefit from employment opportunities available. We will also ensure that Upwind Ayitepa Ltd. lives up to its cooperate social responsibilities."

The event was one of many around the world celebrating wind energy in countries such as Italy, Ireland, Germany and Austria with the aim of promoting its use as a clean source of electricity.

Consultation Process

As part of the projects commitment to engaging with the community on the project which is detailed in a Community Engagement Plan, further consultation will be planned which will involve a visit to each community by the Community Liaison Officer and wider community events like the one organised last February. The project is also committed to understanding the socio economic background of the communities by initiating studies that will inform the progression of socio economic development and enterprise development activities sponsored by the wind farm.

All consultation work is part of a fair and transparent Community Engagement Strategy that aims to involve the community as much as possible while also addressing any issues or questions you may have on the project. The strategy is put in place to ensure the project is committed to Community Engagement while also aiming to help improve the socio economic environment of the area by providing employment opportunities and assistance to existing enterprise activities. Your feedback on this is welcome and encouragement is given to anyone who had any questions on the project to come forward so we can help.