



AYITEPA WIND FARM PROJECT NEWSLETTER

GREAT NINGO

Issue 4 - March 2016



Introduction

I warmly welcome you to the fourth issue of our Ayitepa Wind Farm Project newsletter. Our main aim of serving you with this newsletter is to keep you updated on all development activities leading to the construction of the 225 MW Wind Farm Project at Great Ningo in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

We are pleased to inform you that you can now access and read project updates on our own website. Please, visit www.upwindayitepa.com and get abreast with the project updates.

Please feel free to give us your feedback using the contact of the CLO.



Best regards,

Francis Tsatsu Owulah

Community Liaison Officer (CLO)

CEO of Lekela Power BV. Meets NTC

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Lekela Power BV., Chris Antonopoulos, paid a working visit to the Greater Accra Region. The purpose of his visit was to familiarize himself with the project area of the wind park.

Addressing the District Chief Executive (DCE) of the Ningo-Prampam District Assembly (NiPDA), Hon. Al-Hajj Sa Rack Nartey, Mr. Antonopoulos announced that the lenders are fully supporting the project. Being only weeks away from financial close, he appealed to the District to do all that is within their means to support the realization of this very important project for Ghana.

Chris Antonopoulos also expressed his appreciation to the NiPDA for support made so far, including backing the Socio-economic Baseline and Livelihood Restoration Plan studies. The CEO assured the leadership that his company will be happy to start the Livelihood Restoration Plan in the upcoming weeks to support the local communities.

On his side, the DCE announced that the District was available for the mutual benefit for the project. The District was in full support of the project and assured the CEO his outfit will do all that was within their means to facilitate the realization of the project.

The District Co-ordinating Director, Mr. Matthew Tay, expressed his gladness and joy for the children of this generation to see for the first time in the Ghana wind turbines generating electrical power.

Later in the day, the team called at residence of the Ag. President of the Ningo Traditional Area, Nene Kanor Atiapah III, to interact with the leadership of the traditional authorities.

Upwind Ayitepa receives positive response from the Ningo Traditional Council and Landholders

A seven-member committee constituted by the Ningo Traditional Council has responded positively to the request from Upwind Ayitepa in identifying rightful landholders for the wind farm project.

The committee also contributed favorably to the lease agreement by raising concerns on the development of the traditional area once the wind farm becomes operational. Landholders have expressed general support for the project.



General Landholder Meeting

Family members, clans, chiefs and representatives gathered in the village of Old Ningo on the 22nd March 2016 in order to commonly agree on the land lease contracts for the Ayitepa Project.

The communities around the planned wind farm are highly interested that this project will create local labour possibilities for skilled and less skilled persons. Apart from that, requests for supporting a local medical centre, for additional school facilities and sanitary improvements in the villages, were released.

The operator of the wind park, Lekela Power, already assured ahead of the landholder meeting the support for a community benefit project prior to commencement of construction of the wind farm. Additional social projects will follow once construction of the wind farm has started.

The District Chief Executive of the Ningo-Prampram District Assembly, Hon. Al-Hajj Sa Rhack Nartey, said that the government was very much in support of the wind project because of its enormous benefits to the traditional area and the country as a whole. He thanked to the Ningo Traditional Council for its efforts to make the project a reality.



Apart from this statement, various representatives from different authorities expressed their support for the project combined with the best wishes for a real quick implementation.

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 impact on local communities. Please contact the CLO for further information.

Upcoming Events

- **Tuesday, April 7th: Community consultation event in Old Ningo, Presby Church**
- **Starting from April 11th: Geotechnical investigations in the whole project area**
 - * Pre-survey of locations
 - * Boreholes for soil analysis
 - * Trial bits for soil analysis
- **Starting from April 18th: Boundary demarcation**
 - * Field visits together with land owners
 - * Consent on common boundaries
 - * Demarcation and pillaring

Socio-economic Baseline Study Finalized and Livelihood Restoration Framework in progress

An extensive socio-economic baseline study has recently been finalized by the team of Environmental Resources Management (ERM) according to international good practice standards. ERM is one of the world's leading sustainability consultants.

The purpose of the exercise was to provide a baseline socio-economic description of the area including such variables as population demographics, ethnicity of local populations, available skills and key economic activities; and also assess the basic needs of surrounding communities under such headings as health and education.

The leader of the ERM team (Principal Consultant), Alastair Gow-Smith, explained that the team held focus group discussions with youth, men and women groups in order to identify the basic socio-economic needs.



All eighteen communities around the project area and also the key stakeholders of the District Assembly including Health, Social Welfare, Agriculture, Town and Country Planning and the Development Planning departments have been visited. The findings reveal that key needs of the people include water for both domestic and farming use, general sanitation and medical issues and employment opportunities for the youth.

Jennifer Boca from Lekela Power, who participated in the study, announced the Lekela's Community Investment Strategy for the project and added that in the ensuing months, a working plan will be developed to address the most pressing needs of the people of the area in accordance with their investment policies.

The Assistant Leader of the ERM team, Joseph Addai, expressed the team's profound gratitude to the NTC, NiPDA, the chiefs and people of the Ningo Traditional Area and to Nene Kanor Atiapah III for their unflinching support.



You can always reach the CLO on:

Mobile:
+233 (0) 20 659 9512
+233 (0) 24 937 7785
Fax:
+233 (0) 30 222 3175

Send him an e-mail on:

clo@upwindinternational.com

Write to him:

NEK (Ghana) Ltd.
Water Road, Kanda Highway Extension, P.O. Box KA 16058