Comments on the Caojie Hydropower Project (China)

Project Background:

Location: Jialing River, Chongqing City
Estimate Generation: 1,996 GWh/year

• Claimed Emission Reductions: 1,595,171 tCO₂e/year

Concerns

Land disputes over inadequate reparations are not resolved, and there is a lack of adequate public participation. So I urge you to withdraw validation of the captioned project as a CDM project, until all the disputes are resolved.

Description

The complaint of land dispute was first lodged in April 2009. The affected villagers accused Hechuan's Land Office for tampering the owner of the land, hiding the total area for land reparation, and illegally changing the standard of land reparation.

A villager presented a document of land reform (as shown below) after China's liberation, indicating that the land was owned by the village collective, instead of the state.



However, Hechuan Land Office insisted that the land below 189 m of water

level is state property. If the land is state property, government can expropriate the land without reparation.

A petition letter was sent to the Chongqing government, demanding a fair land reparation policy.



The village representative approached many government departments for answers but did not get any response. He also found out a huge difference in the reported and surveyed figures of land expropriation area, which differs by 50%. This implies that the local governments can hold the billion yuan's

reparation for the un-surveyed land.

Moreover, the reparation standard set by the Chongqing government in 2004 was only three-fourth the standard set by the central government. Inflation is also not counted in the standard. In addition, the construction on their land should also be compensated according to the law, but not recognized by the government.

I hereby demand a follow-up investigation from your side because some villagers were being barred from further actions. Until the disputes are resolved, I urge you to withdraw validation of the captioned project as a CDM project.

References

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