

Shri Prodyut Bordoloi
Minister of Industries & Commerce, Power (Electricity) and Public
Enterprises, Government of Assam
Assam Sachivalaya
Dispur, Guwahati-781 006

Subject: Initiate Integrated (Energy) Resources Planning in Assam

Dear Shri Prodyut Bordoloi,

May 11th, 2014 select group of state and international energy experts met in Guwahati to discuss integrated resources planning (IRP) for the power sector in Assam. The objective of the workshop was to initiate a process to ensure adequate energy access and meeting demand of all people in the state with the least economic, social and environmental impact. The workshop, held at the Indian Institute of Bank Management, sought to explore IRP processes to optimize planning in order to select options with least risk, cost and impact.

Assam's energy challenges are significant. Assam is an energy deficit state. Approximately 60 per cent of its households do not have access to electricity. Yet the demand is expected to almost double by the year 2022. Initiating an IRP will help identify a range of investments to meet new demand for electricity, not only in new generation sources (solar, wind, micro-hydro etc.), but also in transmission, distribution, and demand-side measures such as energy efficiency.

In accordance with the main recommendation from the workshop, we request you to constitute an IRP cell, which will include all relevant department officials, along with representation from key non-state members. Under your stewardship, Assam could be the first state in the country to undertake this endeavour. Please find enclosed the list of participants from the workshop that was hosted by Aaranyak and supported by International Rivers. Also enclosed is "*An introduction to integrated resources planning (2013)*", a report published by International Rivers.

We hope that you will consider our request to constitute an IRP cell. We extend our full support to enable the creation of this cell and facilitating the IRP process.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Best Regards,

Attendees of IRP Workshop (List attached)