



AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION & ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE FACESHEET

Program Area/ Element: Infrastructure/ Modern Energy Services

Country/Region: Central Asian Republics: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan

Activity Titles: Regional Energy Markets Assistance Program (REMAP)

Funding Period: FY2007 - FY2009 **LOP:** FY2005 – FY2009
Resource Levels/Amount(s): \$3,000,000 **LOP:** \$6,698,807

Statement Prepared By: Sergey Yelkin, Energy Project Specialist, USAID/CAR
Date: July 30, 2007

IEE Amendment? Yes No **DCN of Original IEE:** 2005-CAR-002

Environmental Media and/or Human Health Potentially Impacted (check all that apply):
 None Air Water Land Biodiversity Human health Other

Environmental Action(s) Recommended: *Categorical Exclusion(s)*

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

Project Activities: The Regional Energy Markets Assistance Program (REMAP) provides country level technical assistance to Central Asian republics in creation of a sound technical investment plan for increasing the reliability of the transmission system in the region and expanding the capacity for expanded electricity trade. REMAP objectives are to: 1) establish a competitive electricity market in central Asia; 2) Increase electricity trade in the region; and build the capacity of Central Asia's electricity regulators to encourage investments while protecting electricity consumers.

Based on the environmental review presented in original IEE (DCN #: 2005-CAR-002) dated September 16, 2005, a **Categorical Exclusion** was recommended for the REMAP activities, which consist of technical assistance and training in legal/regulatory reforms in the energy sector. These activities are entirely within the classes of action(s) cited in Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 216.2, (Applicability of Procedures) paragraph (c)(2), [22CFR216.2(c)(2)] and therefore, are categorically excluded. Pursuant to 22CFR216.2(c)(3), the originator of the proposed action has determined these activities are fully within the following classes of action:

- The action does not have an effect on the natural or physical environment [22CFR216.2(c)(1)(i)]:
- Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities etc.). [22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i)].

The primary goal of the proposed additional activities is to provide ‘Advisory Services’ to national technical experts to effectively utilize the REMAP feasibility studies. Also, the technical advisors are going to provide guidance with negotiating mechanisms and structures for implementing electricity exports. Secondary goals are: (1) develop a medium-term export oriented energy sector strategy as a robust policy framework; (2) achieve a sustainable investment climate; (3) develop the national energy sector; and, (4) contribute directly to national economic growth. Outputs and deliverables will include study reviews, analyses, and recommendations, briefing papers, technical notes, and negotiation assistance. Technical assistance will include advocacy -- articulating corridor benefits to national constituencies and stakeholders; and technical leadership – identify a reform path, both for policy and regulatory reform and regional harmonization and coordination.

The Amendment No.1 to original IEE is to modify the existing Regional Energy Markets Assistance Program to add a Task Order Activity with an additional budget of 3 million US Dollars and an expected life of up to three years. Because the program activities presented in the original IEE are similar in type, nature and scope covered under this Amendment, all conditions of the original IEE stay in effect for this Amendment.

USAID/CAR Mission regularly checks the contractor’s work on implementation of activities, and assures that the REMAP activities are in full compliance with the original IEE requirements.

Limitations of the IEE:

This IEE does not cover activities involving:

- Construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or renovation work.
- Activities involving support to agro-processing, industrial enterprises, and regulatory permitting.
- DCA or GDA programs

REVISIONS:

Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available which indicates that activities to be funded by the Project might be "major" and the Program’s effect "significant", this determination will be reviewed and revised by the originator of the project and submitted to the E&E Bureau Environmental Officer for approval and, if appropriate, an environmental assessment will be prepared.

USAID APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION(S) RECOMMENDED:

Clearance:

Mission Director:

Roman R. Delany

Date: 8/2/07

Concurrence:

Bureau Environmental Officer:
Mohammad Latif

[Signature]

Date: 8/2/07

Approved: Disapproved:

Additional Clearances:

Mission Environmental Officer:

[Signature]

Date: 07/31/07

**DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT NO.1
TO INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION (IEE) FOR REGIONAL ENERGY
MARKETS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

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