

Agenda No. 4: Proposal for construction of the Project "Augmentation of Soreng & Chakung Water Supply Scheme from Ringyang Khola, Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim" by the Water Security & PHE Department, Government of Sikkim.

The source of water for the proposed project "Augmentation of Soreng & Chakung Water Supply Scheme from Ringyang Khola, Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim" is from Ringyang Khola at Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, West Sikkim. The project involves 0.30 Ha. of Sanctuary area for construction of head works and laying of 150 mm dia. pipe in a distance of 9.50 kms. within the Sanctuary.

Secretary, PHE Dept.: Chakung and Soreng are very dry areas and there has been lots of public grievances for the supply of drinking water. This scheme would augment this deficit of water supply. To ensure minimum damages, 6" dia. pipe would be buried underground and other environmental conservation measures would be taken.

CEO, ECOSS: He enquired weather study on water flow has been done or not. Heavy drawing of water from the source may affect the water flow. There should be study based on the Discharge on Lean and Peak season.

Secretary, PHE Dept: He informed that Ringyang Khola has enough water, so tapping would not be a problem. Water discharge is integral part of DPR and hence, it has been reflected.

Secretary, RM&D Dept.: The RM &D Dept. already has a pipeline constructed from the same source feeding Soreng and Chakung villages, this water is not enough, therefore further augmentation is needed. However, this area being a PA even if the proposal is approved, there should be wildlife benefitting activities.

DFO (Wildlife), West informed that as the PHE Dept. is using the same alignment as RM&D D there will be least disturbances.

Recommendation: SBWL accorded clearance to recommend the project.