

The Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh
Department of Wildlife Protection
OFFICE OF THE WILDLIFE WARDEN CHANGTHANG/NUBRA
UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH

OPINION OF WILDLIFE WARDEN

The project Ladakh Geothermal Field Development at Puga is aimed at generation upto mere 1MW power. Even though the project is based on renewable energy, there are high chances that the project shall impact the ecology and aesthetics of the area. The area has good tourist foot fall and is an important nesting sites of various avi-fauna such as Ruddy shelduck, Black necked cranes to name a few. The avi-fauna is attracted to the said area because of the warm micro climate of the area, rendered due to the hot springs.

Since it is the first of the kind project in the country not much is known about its effects and impacts on the environment, it is vital that an impact study and its subsequent mitigation plan is undertaken as a prerequisite to establish the power plant. The balance between the amount of water being pumped out and that being reinjected back into Earth has to be essentially maintained for Sustainability. Also that, geothermal plants are known to have caused surface instability causing earthquakes due to Hydraulic fracturing, this fact should be a part of the study and measures to offset any such negative externality should be implemented.



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