



# **RUISI WIND POWER PLANT PROJECT**

## **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package**

### **Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)**

**Project Implementer:**  
**JSC Wind Power**

**Prepared by:**  
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## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>6</b>
1.1	Objectives of the SEP	6
1.2	Project Background	6
1.3	Scope of SEP	8
<b>2</b>	<b>PROJECT OVERVIEW</b>	<b>8</b>
2.1	Project Rationale	8
2.2	Project Location	9
2.3	Project Description	9
2.3.1	Facilities	9
2.3.2	General Layout	11
2.3.3	Project Construction & Commissioning Requirements	11
2.4	Project Operational Requirements	13
2.5	Local Social Context and Sensitivities	13
2.5.1	Project Impact Zone and Sensitivities	13
2.5.2	Land Use and Site Conditions	14
<b>3</b>	<b>REGULATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1	National Requirements	15
3.2	Lenders Requirements	18
3.2.1	EBRD	18
3.2.2	European regulation on public consultation	19
<b>4</b>	<b>STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS</b>	<b>22</b>
4.1	Approach to Stakeholder Identification	22
4.2	Identified Stakeholders	23
4.2.1	Vulnerable Groups – Identification Process	25
<b>5</b>	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT/ CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN</b>	<b>25</b>
5.1	Initial Communications Undertaken Before the ESIA Disclosure	25
5.1.1	Consultations with the agencies and organizations	25
5.1.2	Consultations with the focus groups in the project area	31
5.2	Consultations Conducted During the Scoping Under the Georgian EIA and Permitting Process	32
<b>6</b>	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</b>	<b>35</b>
6.1	Disclosure of the EBRD ESIA Package and Public Consultations	35
6.1.1	Vulnerable Groups – Meaningful Consultations	38
6.1.2	Disclosed E&S Documents	38
6.1.3	Disclosure process	39
6.1.4	Project Information Materials	43
6.1.5	Stakeholder engagement programme for the ESIA Public Disclosure Period	43
6.2	Disclosure of the Georgian EIA and Public Consultations	44
6.2.1	National regulation on public consultation	44
6.2.2	Tentative Schedule for National EIA Consultations	45
6.3	Future Stakeholder Engagement Programme	45
6.3.1	Engagement Methods	45

6.3.2	Stakeholder Engagement During Pre-construction, Construction and Commissioning	46
6.3.3	<i>Stakeholder Engagement During Operation</i>	47
<b>7</b>	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b>	<b>49</b>
7.1	Key Principles of Grievance Mechanism	49
7.2	Scope of Grievance Mechanism	49
7.3	Steps in Managing Grievance Mechanism	50
7.3.1	Publicizing Grievance Management Procedures	50
7.3.2	Submitting a Grievance	50
7.3.3	Keeping Track of Grievances	51
7.3.4	Reviewing and Investigating Grievances	52
7.3.5	Grievance Resolution Options and Response	52
7.4	Grievance Mechanism for Construction and Commissioning Phase	54
7.4.1	Workers Grievance Mechanism (Internal)	55
7.4.2	Third-Party Grievance Mechanism	56
7.4.3	Monitoring	57
7.5	Grievance Mechanism during the Operational Phase	57
7.6	Grievance Procedures for Women and Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups	58
7.6.1	Procedures to address gender-based violence and harassment (GBVH)	58
7.6.2	Reporting of Gender Based Violence and Harassment (GBVH)	59
7.7	Grievance Mechanism Contact Details	59
7.8	Process Flow and Timeline	60
7.9	Training	61
<b>8</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES</b>	<b>63</b>
8.1	Roles and Responsibilities (Project Company)	63
8.1.1	Social Manager of JSC Wind Power	63
8.1.2	Environmental and H&S Managers of JSC Wind Power	63
8.1.3	Community Liaison Officer (Grievance Manager)	64
8.1.4	Note: EPC will also hire a CLO for the project which will report grievances to PC. Community Liaison Officers	64
8.1.5	Social Media Management	65
8.2	Monitoring and Reporting	65
8.3	REVIEW	66
<b>9</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1</b>	<b>PROXIMITY OF THE FACILITIES TO THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>APPENDIX 2</b>	<b>PRELIMINARY SUMMARY OF LAND USERS WITHIN THE PROJECT SITE</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>APPENDIX 3</b>	<b>PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS AT THE SCOPING STAGE</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>APPENDIX 4</b>	<b>EXAMPLE OF GRIEVANCE FORM</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>APPENDIX 5</b>	<b>GRIEVANCE REGISTRATION TEMPLATE AND REGISTER RECORDS</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>APPENDIX 6</b>	<b>PUBLIC CONSULTATION AT THE DISCLOSURE STAGE</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>APPENDIX 7</b>	<b>MEETING NOTES 2025</b>	<b>179</b>

## Tables

Table 1-1	Contact Information	7
Table 4-1	Stakeholder Engagement Matrix for the Project Site	23
Table 5-1	Official Correspondence with probable stakeholder business and state entities	26

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Table 6-1	Stakeholder engagement programme for the ESIA Disclosure Period.....	43
Table 6-2	Stakeholder engagement programme for the Georgian EIA Process .....	45
Table 6-3	Pre-construction, Construction & Commissioning Phase SEP timetable .....	46
Table 6-4	Operational Phase SEP Timetable .....	48
Table 7-1	Stakeholder Engagement - Grievance Mechanism Contact Details .....	59
Table 7-2	Grievance Process and Timeline .....	60

## Figures

Figure 2-1	Location of the Ruisi wind farm over Georgia political map .....	10
Figure 2-2	Project Layout .....	12
Figure 2-3	Land Use Map .....	15

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
AHs	Affected Households
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EHS	Environmental, Health and Safety
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPC	Engineering, Procurement and Construction
ESAP	Environmental and social action plan
ESIA	Environmental & Social Impact Assessment
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management Systems
ESP	Environmental and social policy
GBVH	Gender Based Violence & Harassment
GIP	Good International Practice
GRM	Grievance redress mechanism
GSE	Georgian State Electrosystem
IFC	International Finance Corporation
LALRF	Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Framework
MEPA	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
O&M	Operation & Maintenance
PAP	Project Affected Person
PIC	Public Information Centre
PR	Performance Requirement
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
TSO	Transmission system operator
WPP	Wind power plant
WTG	Wing turbine-generator

# 1 Introduction

The present document is the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Ruisi Wind Power project (the Project). Project implementation is planned by the JSC Wind Power. This SEP outlines the framework methodology for stakeholder engagement throughout the lifecycle of the Project, with a specific emphasis regarding the applicable national laws and the guidelines of the International Financial Institutions, particularly, EBRD Performance Requirement 10” Information disclosure and stakeholder engagement”.

## 1.1 Objectives of the SEP

The overall purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan is to explain how JSC Wind Power is engaged with stakeholders through the course of the Project and implements a meaningful consultation process. Stakeholders are persons or groups (i) who are directly or indirectly affected by a project as well as those (ii) who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively. Stakeholder engagement is critical as it creates a two-way communication channel that allows all project stakeholders to understand the positive and negative impacts of the Project, which provides a basis for Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and other stakeholders to provide their informed feedback to the Project.

The engagement process is an interactive dialogue carried out on an ongoing basis and as such evolves as the Project develops. It enables the incorporation of relevant views of project-affected people and other stakeholders into the decision-making process during Project implementation and operations. The aim of stakeholder engagement is to build a trusting relationship with the host communities and other interested stakeholders based on the transparent and timely provision of information and open dialogue.

The objectives of the SEP include:

- To identify the key stakeholders that may be affected by the Project or may influence the outcome of the Project;
- To identify relevant engagement methods with respect to the different stakeholder groups; Define processes to inform the identified stakeholders about the Project and provide a structure for consultation at the local, regional, national and international levels, starting at the Project planning stage, and continuing throughout construction and operation;
- To define the frequency and timeline for engagement with different stakeholder groups;
- To Highlight key issues raised by stakeholders and to capture views and concerns of the relevant stakeholders with regard to the Project;
- To propose a platform for reporting back on mechanisms to address these impacts; and
- To establish a grievance mechanism so that stakeholders and the public can easily raise any concerns, and provide feedback and comments about the grievance resolution methods and timeline.

## 1.2 Project Background

This document is a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project on Construction and Operation of 206 MW Ruisi Wind power plant (Ruisi WPP) on the territory of Kareli and Gori Municipalities in Shida Kartli (Inner Kartli) region of Georgia. The Project implementation is planned by the JSC Wind Power.

JSC Wind Power is the company whose team has a significant experience in development of renewable energy sector in Georgia. JSC Wind Power is developing the Ruisi Wind Farm Project on selected

territory on the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding from 10-th of August 2021 signed with the Government of Georgia. According to preliminary assessment of wind regimes on the selected territory location of the Ruisi Wind Farm is suitable for installation of 46 wind turbines with 206 MW total installed capacity

According to design the total power capacity of the Ruisi Wind Farm will be 206 MW; installed power capacity of each wind turbine will be 4.5 MW in average. There are 46 locations selected for installation of wind turbines. Environmental impact will be assessed for worst case scenario that implies installation of 46 wind turbines with installed capacity of 4.5 MW each. In reality the impact will be lower because actual specific models of wind turbines will be selected during tendering process on the basis of best offer. 4.5 MW just corresponds to the minimum capacity of turbines and 46 to the maximum number of turbines. Finally, the number of turbines is expected to be lower, which means that capacity of some turbine will increase in a way to get 206 MW installed capacity of the entire wind power plant. Reduction of their total number will result in reduction of impact intensity. Therefore, draft environmental impact assessment (construction areas; noise and shadow flickering simulation; impact on habitats and soil, etc.) is carried out for worst case scenario, impact of which on environment exceeds the impact that Project will actually have in reality. For the worst case scenario following assumptions have been made:

- the number of the turbines is – 46
- height of turbines – 150m
- rotor diameter – 163m
- until the particular model of turbine is determined it is referred as Generic WTG 4.5MW platform

This SEP is prepared as a part of the entire ESIA Package on the basis of the EBRD Environmental and Social Policy (2019) and Environmental Assessment Code of Georgia.

This ESIA Report was prepared for JSC Wind Power by the “WEG Envi Consulting Ltd.”

**Table 1-1 Contact Information**

<b>Project implementing company</b>	JSC Wind Power
Legal address of company	Zurab Avalishvili Street No.12, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia
Actual address of company	Zurab Avalishvili Street No.12, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia.
Address of planned activity site	Kareli Municipality. Surroundings of villages Ruisi, Urbnisi, Sagolasheni, Breti, Saqasheti and Sasireti
Type of planned activity	Construction and operation of the Ruisi Wind Farm
<b>Contact information of JSC Wind Power:</b>	
Identification Code	402013904
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:zbakuradze@peri.ge">zbakuradze@peri.ge</a>
Contact person	Zaza Bakuradze
Contact phone number	(+995 599) 252042
<b>Consulting company:</b>	WEG Envi Consulting LLC
Director of WEG Envi Consulting Ltd.	M. Kimeridze
Contact phone number	Mobile: (+995 599) 154 656; Tel: (+995 32) 2 388 358;

## 1.3 Scope of SEP

This document applies to the Ruisi WP Project. The scope of the SEP is to specify the methods to efficiently manage and facilitate future engagement with stakeholders during the construction, commissioning and operational phases of the Project.

This SEP has been prepared to align with applicable requirements of the EBRD PR 10 in addition to applicable Georgian legislation and international best practices.

The SEP will be maintained and updated throughout the lifetime of the Project as a 'live document'. The SEP is an essential part of the Project's construction, commissioning and operational phase ESMS. Updating of the SEP will be required as Project circumstances or stakeholder dynamics evolve; and to ensure continual improvement of the Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS).

The SEP aligns with the following chapter structure:

1. Introduction
2. Project Overview
3. Regulations and Requirements
4. Stakeholder Identification and Analysis
5. Stakeholder Engagement/ Consultations Undertaken
6. Future Stakeholder Engagement Programme
7. Grievance Mechanism
8. Implementation Plan
9. Review
10. Appendices

## 2 Project Overview

### 2.1 Project Rationale

This present Project envisages Construction and Operation of 206 MW Ruisi Wind power plant (Ruisi WPP) on the territory of Kareli and Gori Municipalities in Shida Kartli (Inner Kartli) region of Georgia.

Expected benefits from the construction of the Ruisi Wind Farm are the following:

- Development of power supply system in Georgia, increase of power supply reliability.
- Increase of domestic power generation and reduction of dependence on power imports; contribution into improvement of energy-safety and energy-independence.
- Development of renewable energy sources, diversification of power sources.
- Reduction of CO2 emissions.
- Participation of local contractors in construction of wind power station
- Employment of local population during the construction and operation of the wind farm
- Upgrade of local infrastructure



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## 2.2 Project Location

The Ruisi project site is located in Kareli and Gori districts of Georgia, in the region of Shida Kartli located in the central part of Georgia on the Shida Kartli plain, 100 km west from Tbilisi. The site area covers around 13 000 ha within perimeter of more than 45 km between villages of Ruisi-Bebnishi-Sagholasheni-Breti-Dzlevijari-Sakasheti-Arashenda.

## 2.3 Project Description

### 2.3.1 Facilities

The proposed Project will consist of 46 WTG arranged in a specific arrangement across the proposed site to ensure the most efficient capture of the prevailing wind.

The basic facilities comprise:

- 46 WTG
- Substation
- Network of underground cables connecting WGT to the substation
- Internal access roads
- Transmission line connecting to the national grid

During the construction works following supporting facilities will be arranged:

- Assembly Yards
- Site compound and storage area
- Construction Camp

Ruisi substation is a connection point of the wind farm, internal power lines hub and steering and communication centre of the facility. Substation has been situated in an agricultural plot west of Ruisi village. Location of the substation implies modification of existing route of 220 kV overhead line SS Khashuri 220 to SS Gori 220. The line shall be cut and directed 2,1 km north towards the substation to pass through 220 kV bay in substation. Therefore, the part of Ruisi substation (220 kV bay) will function as a technological part of Georgian State Electrosystem (TSO) - GSE system being at the same time a connection point of the wind farm.



Figure 2-1 Location of the Ruisi wind farm over Georgia political map

### 2.3.2 General Layout

The project layout is shown on Figure 2-2. The site is partly located at the ridge north of Ruisi at the elevations of between 657 to 845 masl. For the turbine clusters located in this area there are best wind resources due to specific terrain hypsometry and higher elevation. Other clusters of the project are located in agricultural terrains around Dzevljari and Sakasheti villages. The site located on ridge north of Ruisi consist of conglomerates, sandstones, marls and clays. These are a reliable basis for all kinds of civil structures, and the fragments could be used as a building material for bed arrangement. However, it should be taken into consideration that also areas affected by geological processes of a physical and biological weathering, and unstable landslide areas can be encountered within the project boundaries. The average topsoil layer equals to approximately 30-50 cm. Norther part of the project area situated west of Sakasheti is a typically small agricultural land with rich soils and landmarking picture of vineyards and orchards. The area of Dzevljari is, again elevated and occupied by crops.

Considering its nominal total power, the wind farm occupies naturally large area with entire villages inside its perimeter. The wind farm will dominate over the nearby E60 motorway with its scale and elevated exposition. However, micro-siting of wind turbines extensively uses a terrain leaving large distances between wind turbines and clustering wind turbines into the groups.

Generally, the site is nearly free of any large vegetation forms. The patch of the artificial pine forest is located in south-east corner of the site, next to the E60 motorway. These are large open spaces of pastures and fields separated by field bounds, channels and ground roads. The site has constraints that could influence the siting of wind turbines. Most of all, close vicinity of villages Ruisi, Breti, Dzevljari-Sakasheti shall be taken into account in context of noise distribution and shadow flickering.

There are four access points located directly on E60 motorway.

### 2.3.3 Project Construction & Commissioning Requirements

Construction and commissioning will be the contractual responsibility of the EPC Contractor.

Pre-installation method is a technique for large wind turbines. It assumes unloading of components and assembly of bottom tower sections with use of smaller crane so that the working time of main crane is optimized and related cost reduced.

The turbine foundation pad is a prepared area where the wind turbine's foundation is constructed. It serves as a stable base to support the weight of the wind turbine tower and facilitate the installation process. The assembly yard and the turbine foundation pad are two separate areas within the wind farm project. The assembly yard is the temporary workspace where the turbine components are assembled before being installed, while the turbine foundation pad is the specific location where the foundation is built. During the construction process, after the turbine components are assembled in the assembly yard, the main crane, which is used for lifting and installing the components, will be brought to the turbine foundation pad. The main crane will then be positioned and used to lift the assembled components onto the foundation, completing the installation of the wind turbine. The main crane is brought to the pad to install the assembled turbine components onto the foundation.

In this project enough space have been designed in each assembly yard to deliver the components directly to the location. Therefore, the interim storage yard is not required. Nevertheless, the location of site compound nearby substation for 2 main cranes has been indicated on the topographic map. Typical compound area(s) including welfare facilities and waste management for the use of the installation team is (are) required.

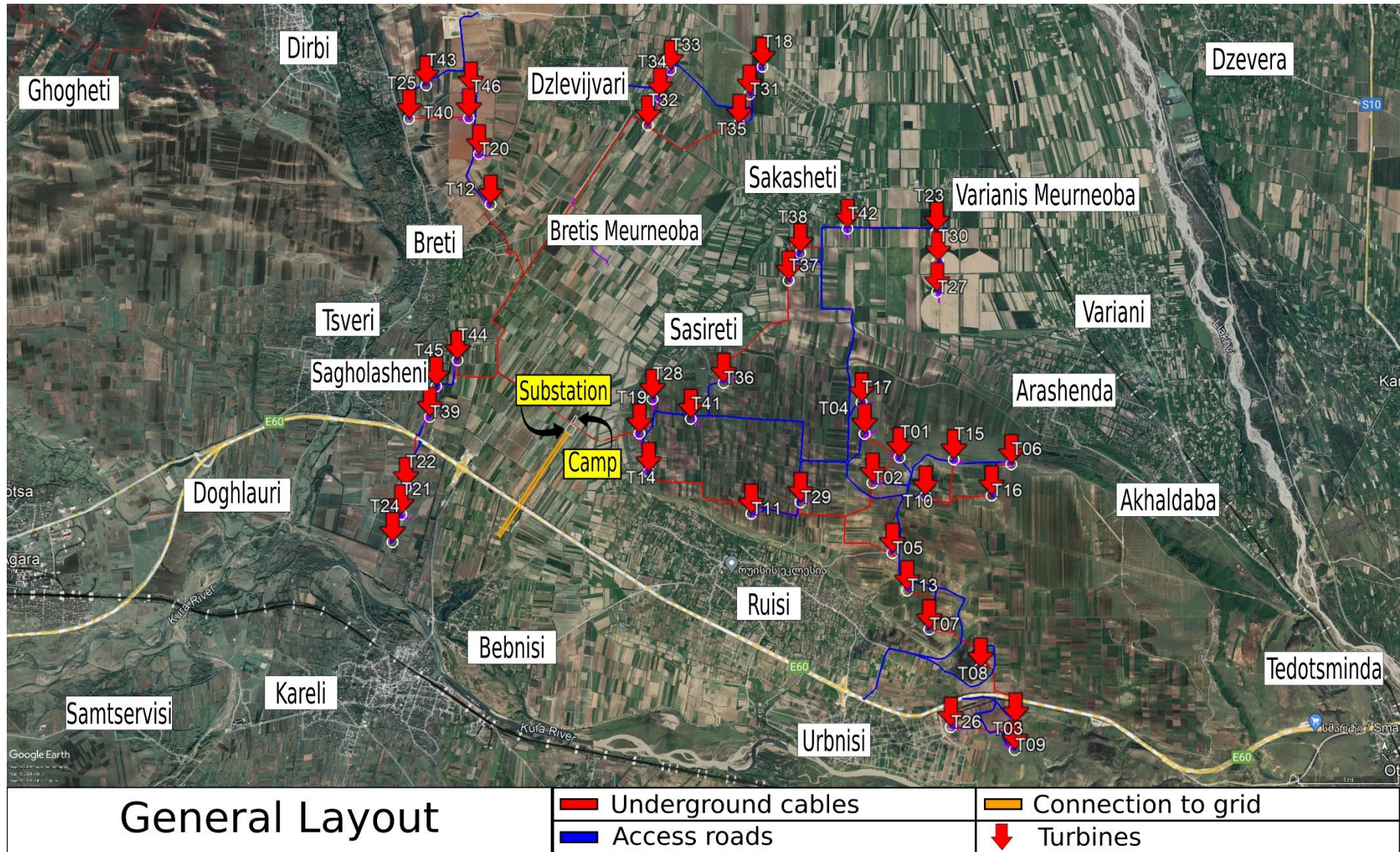


Figure 2-2 Project Layout

During the construction of Ruisi WPP, 200 people will be directly employed. This will comprise a combination of Project Company, EPC Contractor and Sub-Contractor staff of which around 60% will be local residents. Recruitment for the Project will be advertised locally and preference will be given to nationals matching levels of skills requirements.

At this stage, the exact location of the workers' accommodation for either the EPC contractor and sub-contractor are not confirmed. However, as much of the workforce is planned to be recruited from the local community, these workers will not require dedicated accommodation. However, for other or foreign workers, accommodation area is proposed and shown on the map. On site, a temporary camp will be set up for emergency accommodation and will be suitable to the weather in the area. It is stated in the ESIA that the necessary facilities and standards of all worker accommodation/camps will be in accordance with the IFC/EBRD Worker Accommodation: Processes and Standards (2009).

## 2.4 Project Operational Requirements

The operations and maintenance activities of the WPP will be undertaken by JSC Wind Power. The operation of the Ruisi WPP will be monitored and controlled from a remote location. The operational activities will be limited to, such as:

- Daily operation of equipment to ensure energy yield
- Maintenance works (electromechanical equipment maintenance and housekeeping) to optimise energy yield and life of the system;
- Remotely activated turbine shutdown during excessive wind speeds or according to the regime and conditions defined by flickering modeling for particular turbines;
- Monitoring and management of operations in relation to bird and bat as will be defined by the biodiversity monitoring and management plans. Development of Monitoring plans is required in ESAP.

At this stage, it is understood that a workforce of about 10-15 staff will be engaged to carry out operation and maintenance activities of the wind farm.

It is expected that there will not be dedicated operational accommodation and that staff will be required to make their own arrangements for living accommodation.

## 2.5 Local Social Context and Sensitivities

### 2.5.1 Project Impact Zone and Sensitivities

The Ruisi project site is located in Kareli and Gori districts of Georgia, in the region of Shida Kartli located in the central part of Georgia on the Shida Kartli plain, 100 km west from Tbilisi. The site area covers around 13 000 ha within perimeter of more than 45 km between villages of Ruisi-Bebnishi-Sagholasheni-Breti-Dzlevijari-Sakasheti-Arashenda.

Construction and Operation of 206 MW Ruisi Wind power plant (Ruisi WPP) is planned on the territory of Kareli and Gori Municipalities in Shida Kartli (Inner Kartli) region of Georgia. The land plots needed for the project development belong to the following villages of Kareli Municipality –Ruisi, Urbnisi, and villages of Gori Municipality – Sakasheti, Arashenda and Shindisi.

Full details of receptors, local sensitivities, land users and site baseline are described in the Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report for the Project and Non-Technical Summary (NTS). Land take related impacts (physical and economic displacement) and nuisance (noise, shadow

flicker, visual impacts, dust emissions) were assumed as main potential impacts associated with the project and residential areas are seen as the major sensitivities in the project area. The table that shows proximity of the Ruisi WPP turbines and substation to the residential areas and cultural heritage objects, is provided in Appendix 1<sup>1</sup>.

## 2.5.2 Land Use and Site Conditions

The project is implemented on the territory, which is relatively remote from residential areas and concerns private agricultural lands (annual crops and gardens) and state lands, but not homestead lands. The project does not envisage physical resettlement of the population from the place of residence.

Social impact is mainly expressed in agricultural land loss and economic displacement. Most of the private land area (up to 40%) is used for growing grain crops, up to 30%- for growing various kinds of vegetables and the rest (up to 30%) is orchards. Small part of the state land represents pastures. No protected areas fall within the project impact zone.

The Impact Scale is not yet precise. Taking into account the current configuration of turbines (46 turbines) and selected areas for them, it will be necessary to occupy approximately 165 registered land plots, most of which (152) are private plots. Apart from that, the land required for expansion of access roads and laying of connecting cables should be acquired.

The number of impacted private plots can be reduced by minor adjustments to the turbine layout (fine tuning). When the mast is located on several plots, moving the mast by just a few meters may result in a decrease in the number of plots (instead of 2 or 3 plots, it is possible to place the turbine mast within only one plot). Such micro-correction works are currently underway and the number of affected plots and affected households is likely to be significantly less at the ESIA stage.

Reducing the number of impacted private plots will also help to reduce the total number of turbines. It is expected that at the stage of the Detailed Design, in the final configuration less than 46 turbines will remain (33 according to the final layout of the project).

According to the preliminary assessment, in total 165 land plots need to be acquired for placing wind generator turbines. Some households own several land plots and many plots are co-owned by several PAPs. In total 112 households and 1 company is affected. All the affected land plots are agricultural (152).

No residential or other houses and buildings are affected and no physical relocation of the AHs is planned.

Most part of the affected land plots is owned by private households (112 Ahs). However, some plots are under the ownership of a large agricultural company, which is classified as a specific category of stakeholders (businesses).

The table attached as the Appendix 2 provides a preliminary summary of the affected land plots within the Project site<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> According to the final layout of the project expected impact is much less than presented in the table.

<sup>2</sup> The final impact is less than preliminary summary shows.

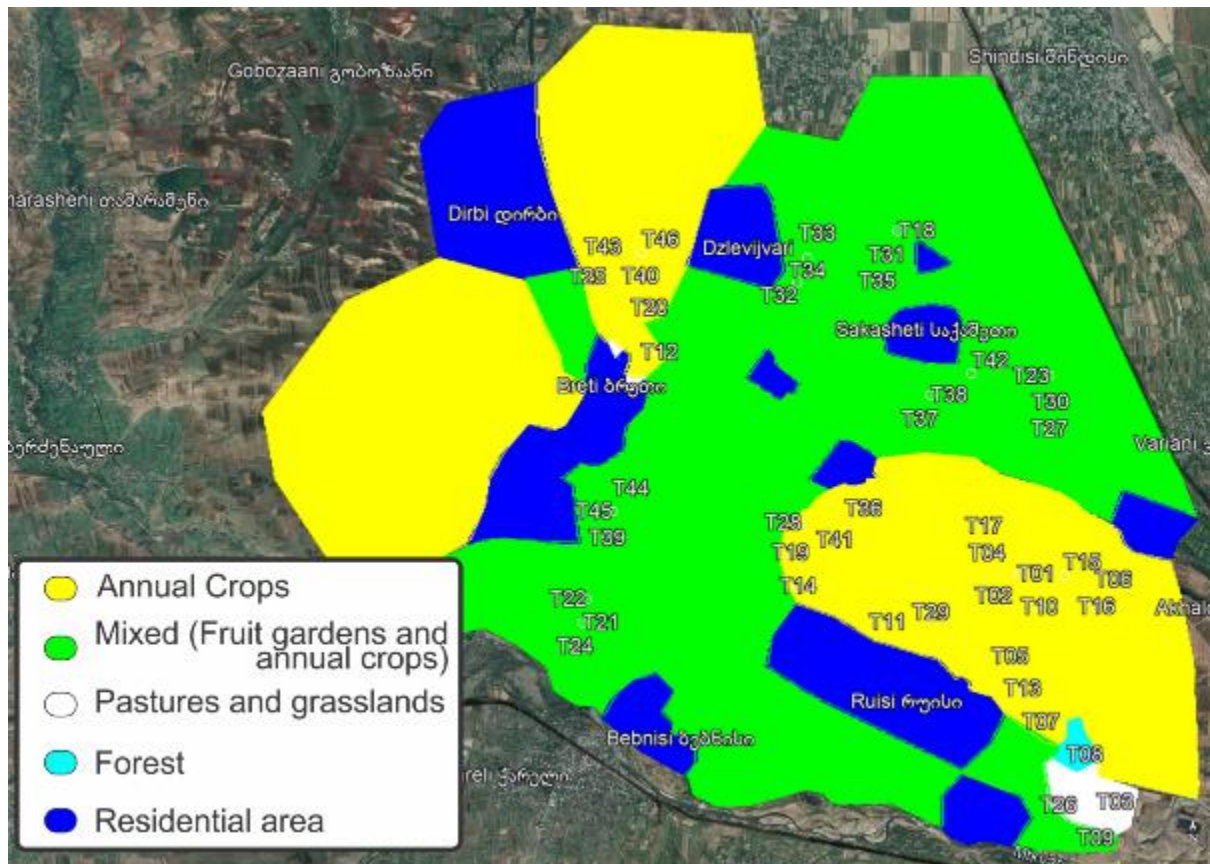


Figure 2-3 Land Use Map

### 3 Regulations and Requirements

Stakeholder Engagement for the Project will be performed according to the following requirements:

- Legislative requirements of Georgia;
- Principles and procedures specified by EBRD ESP 2019

#### 3.1 National Requirements

The **Constitution of Georgia (1995)** guarantees public access to information and stipulates the right of an individual to obtain full, unbiased, and timely information regarding his/her working and living environment. In the context of Project development, the Georgian legislation precisely governs freedom of stakeholder engagements.

Georgia ratified the **Aarhus Convention on 11 April 2000**. This UNECE Convention promotes and regulates Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. It establishes that sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders. It links environment with governmental accountability, transparency and responsiveness. Public involvement contributes to better projects, better development and collaborative governance.

According to the **General Administrative Code of Georgia as of 1999**, everyone may gain access to official documents kept by an administrative body. A person has the right to receive information in any

form, without specifying the grounds or purposes for requesting the information within the set timeframes.

According to the framework environmental law (**Law of Georgia on Environmental Protection, 1996**; Article 6 c) the citizens have right to receive complete, objective and timely information on the condition of their working and living environment. According to the **Environmental Assessment Code of Georgia (2017)**, formal information disclosure and stakeholder engagement are required for various development projects subject to the environmental impact assessment procedures – the Code provides a comprehensive list of such projects as well as the procedures for information disclosure, public engagement and consultations in the EIA process.

The requirements and procedures for conducting public consultations and established timeframes for information disclosure and discussion are detailed in Article 7, Article 9 and Article 12 of the Environmental Assessment Code.

The Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA) is a party responsible for the arrangement of public hearings. According to the Code, public should be engaged on an early stage of the decision-making about activities that are subject to the EIA procedure. Specifically, the public should be informed on the following stages:

- Screening
- Scoping
- Issuing Environmental Decision
- Exemption from the EIA procedure

The informing of the public includes disclosure of information about the beginning of specific stages of the EIA procedure. This should be ensured within 3 days from the submission of the application by the activity implementer. On the public information stage, relevant information should be posted on the official web-site of the Ministry and information boards of executive or/and representative bodies in the respective municipality. Specifically, the Ministry is responsible to publish respective announcements and enclosed documents such are the Scoping Report, EIA Report and their annexes. This announcement should inform the public about the opportunity and timeframe for the submission their comments and concerns.

According to the Code, decisions made regarding the project should be also disclosed. Under such decisions envisaged are the Decision on Screening, Conclusion on Scoping, Environmental Decision, Individual Administrative-Legal Act on Rejection of Proposed Activity and Decision on Exemption from EIA. This information should be disclosed via the official web-site of the Ministry and information boards of the local self-government bodies within 5 days.

Specific timeframes are established for the public for the submission of their comments and concerns: this is 7 days on the screening, 15 days on the scoping, and 40 days on the environmental decision making stage. Members of the public should submit their concerns and comments to the Ministry about the Scoping/ EIA Report, planned activity and terms to be included into the Environmental Decision via e-mail, postal office or verbally, during the public hearing process. The Ministry should ensure the review of public concerns and comment, and consider them during the issuing of the Environmental Decision or Legal Act on Rejection of Proposed Activity whenever they are reasonable.

Public hearings should be organized only for the stages of scoping and issuing environmental decision. For the scoping stage, the public hearing should be organized no earlier than 10 days and no later than 15 days after publishing the announcement. Besides, this announcement regarding the public hearing should be published at least 10 days ahead of the public hearing. On the stage of issuing of the



Environmental Decision, the public hearing should be organized no earlier than 25 days and no later than 30 days after the registration of the application for the Environmental Decision. The announcement regarding the public hearing should be published at least 20 days ahead of the public hearing.

The announcement on the public hearing should contain the following information:

- The essence and brief description of topics of the day, and discussion format;
- Date, time, venue and procedure of the public hearing;
- Address of the web-page where this announcement, EIA Report and other important information are posed, as well as the note about the opportunity to get print-outs of the mentioned documents during the public hearing;

According to the Article 9 and Article 12 of the Code, the minutes of the public hearings should be prepared by authorized representative of the MEPA to reflect all the questions and comments raised and explanations provided by the project proponents in response. Appropriate corrections should be incorporated into the main text of the ESIA, if required. If the comments and proposals of stakeholders are not accepted, relevant explanation should be provided.

Not earlier than the 25th day and not later than the 30th day after the placement of the application under the procedure established by Article 11(3) of the EA Code, the Ministry shall hold a public review of the EIA report. The Ministry shall be responsible for organising and holding reviews. Public reviews shall be led, and the minutes of public reviews shall be drafted, by a representative of the Ministry. The Ministry shall be responsible for the accuracy of the minutes. Information on the public review shall be published not later than 20 days before the public review is held, in accordance with Article 32 of this Code. Public reviews shall be held in the building of the appropriate administrative body located closest to the location of the planned activity or in the territory adjacent to the building. If it is planned to carry out the activity within the administrative boundaries of a self-governing community, public reviews shall be held in the building of the appropriate administrative body located closest to the location of the planned activity or in the territory adjacent to the building; or if it is planned to carry out the activity within the administrative boundaries of a self-governing city, public reviews shall be held in the building of the appropriate administrative body determined by the Ministry or in the territory adjacent to the building.

Information on the holding of public consultations shall be placed:

- on the websites of the MEPA and an appropriate administrative body, and on a notice board which can be accessed by the public;
- in a newspaper which is widely circulated, and is available for the majority of the public concerned (if any), in the territory which is subject to a potential impact;
- on the notice board and/or website of an executive body and/or representative body of a respective municipality, as well as at places established for disseminating information (e.g. transport stops, schools, trade centres, post offices, etc.);
- at a public place nearest to the location of the activity subject to an EIA.

A notice on the holding of a public review shall include information on:

- Goal, title and location of the planned activity;
- Means of access to the documents necessary for making a decision, as well as data on the place and address where the documents may be viewed;
- Possibility to participate in the public consultation and to present opinions and comments;
- the deadline for submittal of considerations;
- place and time for public review.

On the scoping stage, information on the public consultation shall be published not later than 10 days before the public review is held, while 20-days' notice should be ensured on the stage of issuing Environmental Decision.

The MEPA shall ensure preparation of the minutes of the public consultations to document results.

The national law does not require neither preparation of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan nor establishing a grievance mechanism.

## 3.2 Lenders Requirements

### 3.2.1 EBRD

All projects financed by EBRD shall be structured to meet the requirements of the EBRD Environmental and Social Policy (2019) which includes ten Performance Requirements (PRs) for key areas of environmental and social sustainability that projects are required to meet, including PR10 Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement. In addition, EBRD's Independent Project Accountability Mechanism (IPAM), as an independent last resort tool, aims to facilitate the resolution of social, environmental and public disclosure issues raised by Project-affected people and civil society organisations about EBRD financed projects among Project stakeholders or to determine whether the Bank has complied with its ESP and the Project-specific provisions of its Access to Information Policy; and where applicable to address any existing non-compliance with these policies, while preventing future non-compliance by the Bank.

The EBRD's ESP 2019 defines stakeholder engagement as an on-going process which involves the following elements: (i) **stakeholder identification and analysis**; (ii) **stakeholder engagement planning**; (iii) **disclosure of information**; (iv) **meaningful consultation** and participation leading to the client's incorporating into its decision-making process the views of the affected parties on matters that affect them; (v) an effective **grievance procedure or mechanism**, and (vi) **ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders**. The process of stakeholder engagement should begin at the earliest stage of project planning and continue throughout the project life.

An essential element in the stakeholder engagement process, to ensure meaningful and effective consultation process, is the careful identification of all involved stakeholders and the examination of their concerns, expectations, and preferences. Special attention should be paid to the identification of vulnerable stakeholders. The engagement with these stakeholder groups needs to be planned and managed with special care.

Furthermore, the EBRD requires that the project developer establish and maintain an effective grievance mechanism, ensuring that any stakeholder complaints are received, recorded, handled, and resolved effectively, in a prompt and timely manner.

This SEP has been developed in line with these requirements and in consideration of the categorisation of the Project as Category A under the ESP (2019), requiring a formalised and participatory ESIA process.

EBRD PR10 "recognises the importance of an open and transparent engagement between the client, its workers, local communities directly affected by the project and where appropriate, other stakeholders as an essential element of Good International Practice (GIP) and corporate citizenship. Such engagement will involve the following key elements:

- Stakeholder Identification and analysis;
- Stakeholder engagement planning;

- Disclosure of information;
- Consultation and Participation
- Grievance Mechanism and
- Ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders.

With reference to vulnerable groups, PR10 states “The client will identify those project-affected parties (individuals or groups) who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantages or vulnerable”. In addition, the client is required to “support active and inclusive engagement with project affected parties including disadvantaged or vulnerable groups”.

### 3.2.2 European regulation on public consultation

**Directive 2003/4/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28th January 2003** on public access to environmental information specifies the information to be available and disseminated, which includes at least:

- (f) authorizations with a significant impact on the environment and environmental agreements or a reference to the place where such information can be requested or found in the framework of Article 3;
- (g) environmental impact studies and risk assessments concerning the environmental elements referred to in Article 2(1)(a) or a reference to the place where the information can be requested or found in the framework of Article 3.

The Council Directive 96/61/EC of 24th September 1996 concerning integrated pollution prevention and control is much more precise on the subject (Article 15 refers to Access to information and public participation in the permit procedure):

1. Without prejudice to Council Directive 90/313/EEC of 7th June 1990 on the freedom of access to information on the environment (14), Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that applications for permits for new installations or for substantial changes are made available for an appropriate period of time to the public, to enable it to comment on them before the competent authority reaches its decision. That decision, including at least a copy of the permit, and any subsequent updates, must be made available to the public.
2. The results of monitoring of releases as required under the permit conditions referred to in Article 9 and held by the competent authority must be made available to the public.
3. An inventory of the principal emissions and sources responsible shall be published every three years by the Commission on the basis of the data supplied by the Member States. The Commission shall establish the format and particulars needed for the transmission of information in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 19.

In accordance with the same procedure, the Commission may propose measures to ensure inter-comparability and complementarities between data concerning the inventory of emissions referred to in the first subparagraph and data from other registers and sources of data on emissions.

4. Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall apply subject to the restrictions laid down in Article 3 (2) and (3) of Directive 90/313/EEC.

The Georgian legislation is in general compliant to the EU law in relation with the issues regulated under the Access to Environmental Information Directive 2003/4/EC. In particular, legislation and established procedures for providing access to environmental information by State authorities is in line with the

requirements of the relevant EU Directive. The requirements set forth in Georgian legal system regarding the timeframes and format of providing access to public information are in line with the EU Directive 2003/4/EC, as well as the criteria for refusal to provide access to public information.

As to incompliances, problematic issue is the access to justice in case of inadequate release of information to an applicant. Although Georgian legislation defines that in case of inadequate release of information by a public agency, an applicant can appeal to court, there are details which need to be specified. To ensure convergence with the Access to Environmental Information Directive 2003/4/EC, it would be feasible to provide assistance in capacity building of public agencies, in the procedures and practices for information communication.

## The Aarhus Convention

In April 2000 Georgia ratified Aarhus convention. This UNECE convention facilitates and regulates information availability, public society involvement in the decision making in the field of environmental protection. It implements the principle of the need of involvement of all interested parties in order to reach steady development. The convention requires that environmental protection is part of governmental accountability, transparency and responsibility. Social involvement provides for the better projects development and co-governance.

Adopted on 25th June 1998 at Aarhus, Denmark, the "Convention on access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in environmental matters" has been signed or ratified by 40 European countries. It states:

### Article 3 – General Provisions 3

Each Party shall promote environmental education and environmental awareness among the public, especially on how to obtain access to information, to participate in decision-making and to obtain access to justice in environmental matters.

### Article 6 – Public Participation in Decision on Specific Activities

#### 1. Each Party:

(a) Shall apply the provisions of this Article with respect to decisions on whether to permit proposed activities listed in annex I;

(b) Shall, in accordance with its national law, also apply the provisions of this Article to decisions on proposed activities not listed in annex I which may have a significant effect on the environment. To this end, Parties shall determine whether such a proposed activity is subject to these provisions; and

(c) May decide, on a case-by-case basis if so provided under national law, not to apply the provisions of this Article to proposed activities serving national defence purposes, if that Party deems that such application would have an adverse effect on these purposes.

2. The public concerned shall be informed, either by public notice or individually as appropriate, early in an environmental decision-making procedure, and in an adequate, timely and effective manner, inter alia, of:

(a) The proposed activity and the application on which a decision will be taken;

(b) The nature of possible decisions or the draft decision;

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- (c) The public authority responsible for making the decision;
  - (d) The envisaged procedure, including, as and when this information can be provided:
    - (i) The commencement of the procedure;
    - (ii) The opportunities for the public to participate;
    - (iii) The time and venue of any envisaged public hearing;
    - (iv) An indication of the public authority from which relevant information can be obtained and where the relevant information has been deposited for examination by the public;
    - (v) An indication of the relevant public authority or any other official body to which comments or questions can be submitted and of the time schedule for transmittal of comments or questions; and
    - (vi) An indication of what environmental information relevant to the proposed activity is available; and
  - (e) The fact that the activity is subject to a national or transboundary environmental and social impact assessment procedure.
3. The public participation procedures shall include reasonable time-frames for the different phases, allowing sufficient time for informing the public in accordance with paragraph 2 above and for the public to prepare and participate effectively during the environmental decision-making.
4. Each Party shall provide for early public participation, when all options are open and effective public participation can take place.
5. Each Party should, where appropriate, encourage prospective applicants to identify the public concerned, to enter into discussions, and to provide information regarding the objectives of their application before applying for a permit.
6. Each Party shall require the competent public authorities to give the public concerned access for examination, upon request where so required under national law, free of charge and as soon as it becomes available, to all information relevant to the decision-making referred to in this Article that is available at the time of the public participation procedure, without prejudice to the right of Parties to refuse to disclose certain information in accordance with Article 4, paragraphs 3 and 4. The relevant information shall include at least, and without prejudice to the provisions of Article 4:
- (a) A description of the site and the physical and technical characteristics of the proposed activity, including an estimate of the expected residues and emissions;
  - (b) A description of the significant effects of the proposed activity on the environment;
  - (c) A description of the measures envisaged to prevent and/or reduce the effects, including emissions;
  - (d) A non-technical summary of the above;
  - (e) An outline of the main alternatives studied by the applicant; and
  - (f) In accordance with national legislation, the main reports and advice issued to the public authority at the time when the public concerned shall be informed in accordance with paragraph 2 above.
7. Procedures for public participation shall allow the public to submit, in writing or, as appropriate, at a public hearing or inquiry with the applicant, any comments, information, analyses or opinions that it considers relevant to the proposed activity.
8. Each Party shall ensure that in the decision due account is taken of the outcome of the public participation.

9. Each Party shall ensure that, when the decision has been taken by the public authority, the public is promptly informed of the decision in accordance with the appropriate procedures. Each Party shall make accessible to the public the text of the decision along with the reasons and considerations on which the decision is based.

10. Each Party shall ensure that, when a public authority reconsiders or updates the operating conditions for an activity referred to in paragraph 1, the provisions of paragraphs 2 to 9 of this Article are applied *mutatis mutandis*, and where appropriate.

11. Each Party shall, within the framework of its national law, apply, to the extent feasible and appropriate, provisions of this Article to decisions.

## 4 Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

### 4.1 Approach to Stakeholder Identification

In order to have meaningful engagement, it is necessary to identify who the stakeholders are and understand their needs and expectations for engagement as well as their priorities and objectives in relation to the Project. This information helps to tailor engagement to each type of stakeholder. It is particularly important to identify individuals or groups for whom it is more difficult to participate in consultations or who may be disproportionately affected by the Project because of their marginalized or vulnerable status. It is also important to understand how each stakeholder may be affected or perceives they may be affected— so that engagement can be tailored to inform them appropriately.

For Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project, stakeholders have been and will continue to be identified by:

- Identifying the main categories of stakeholders who may be affected by or interested in the project;
- Identifying specific individuals or organizations within each of these categories, taking into account the expected area of influence of the Project as well as the nature of the impacts.

A systematic approach to identify affected stakeholders has been used. The stakeholders identified have been classified into two categories:

- Impacted Stakeholders (A) – those who can be potentially affected by different type of the potential impacts of the project.
  - The Impacted stakeholders are individuals or group of people that can be potentially affected by the Projects' environmental and social impacts (like land-take; physical or economic displacement; health and safety issues; shadow flicker, noise and other nuisance etc). Potential environmental and social impacts of the Project have been assessed in the ESIA. Such impacts can directly or indirectly impact project stakeholders.
- Interest-based Stakeholders (I) – the Project's beneficiaries at local and country level, Stakeholders concerned with any of the procedures set by the Project, national and international non-governmental organizations and the interested part of the civil society.
  - Interest-based stakeholders are groups or organisations that are not adversely affected by the Project but whose interests determine them as stakeholders. In addition, there are stakeholders outside the affected area, which can be identified through “interest-based” analysis. These are usually government authorities, NGOs and national, social and environmental public-sector agencies whose area of interest is related to the

Project, or where such organisations are undertaking projects with communities in these areas.

- Decision Making Stakeholders (D) – those who are involved in the development of the project and its financing. In addition, this includes the regulators such as MEPA.

## 4.2 Identified Stakeholders

The following table presents the identified stakeholders as per the classifications (above).

**Table 4-1 Stakeholder Engagement Matrix for the Project Site**

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder	Relevance to Project: Impact-Based (A), Interest-Based (I), or Decision Maker (D)
<b>Land Owners and Users</b>	The affected land owners and users (formal and informal) are residents of the following villages of Kareli Municipality – Ruisi, and Urbnisi, and villages of Gori Municipality – Sakasheti, Arashenda and Shindisi.	<b>A:</b> Affected private land owners. No physical displacement is expected. Economic displacement (take of agricultural land plots) Maximum 120 AHs could be attributed to this category.
	Affected agricultural companies	<b>A:</b> There is one agricultural company whose lands are affected by the project: Ltd "Agro - 1959" ,
	Informal users of the pastures. There are no official pastures in the Project area. In total, three local sites were identified in the Project affected area that are currently used by the local populations as informal pastures and they are situated in Ruisi and Urbnisi villages (Kareli Municipality) or nearby them. cadastral numbers of mentioned plots: 68.15.45.000.130; 68.15.47.022.001 and 68.16.45.000.131	<b>A:</b> Residents of the villages Ruisi and Urbnisi. The land parcels needed for turbines and subject for land acquisition are located outside the area used as informal pastures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project footprint will not affect pastures</li> <li>- Land take of the territories used for pastures is not envisaged</li> <li>- No limitations of access to the pastures is imposed by the project</li> </ul>
	Owners of residential but unbuilt land whose value would be reduced by noise/flicker effect	
<b>Local Communities</b>	Residents of the Villages of Kareli Municipality: Ruisi, Urbnisi, Sasireti	<b>A and I:</b> The closest communities to the turbines and project facilities. The potential impacts include exposure to some of households to shadow flicker, noise, visual impacts. During the construction stage dust emissions and traffic safety may become an issue.
	Residents of the Villages of Gori Municipality: Sakasheti, Arashenda, Shindisi	
<b>Vulnerable groups among the local communities</b>	The vulnerable groups in the Project area include IDPs, low-income families and female led households & persons living with disabilities, the elderly members of the community	<b>A:</b> The vulnerable groups may be disproportionately impacted by the Project impacts such as those relating to mobility, availability, Gender Based Violence & Harassment (GBVH), spread of diseases, labour/economic exploitation etc.
<b>Local governmental authorities</b>	Kareli Municipality; Gori Municipality	<b>D:</b> Project area lies within the jurisdiction of these municipalities. The local municipalities have a role in local development plans, governance of municipal lands. The municipalities are the important stakeholders during the disclosure of project documentation and arranging public consultations and also should be an influential member of the

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder	Relevance to Project: Impact-Based (A), Interest-Based (I), or Decision Maker (D)
		grievance resolution mechanism
	Police and Emergency Services, to be mobilized for traffic regulations during supply or in case of serious unrest.	
<b>Government Bodies</b>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA)	<b>D:</b> Regulatory body (Environmental Regulator) overseeing ecologically sensitive and environmental issues.
	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development	<b>D:</b> Project proponent; Regulates also issuance of licenses for mines and borrow pits
	Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth; Dep. of Monuments Protection, and Centre of Archaeological Search	<b>D:</b> Regulatory body overseeing protection of cultural heritage and archaeological sites/features.
	Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia;	<b>D:</b> Public health
	LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center	<b>D:</b> Part of the Regulatory body overseeing the public consultation and engagement process during the project development
	National Environmental Agency/MEPA	<b>D:</b> Regulatory body under the MEPA directly responsible for environmental permitting procedures.
<b>State Organisation</b>	Georgian State Electrosystems (GSE)	<b>D:</b> Responsible body for national power grid management
	“Georgian Civil Aviation Agency” (GCAA) is the Legal Entity of Public Law under the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia,	<b>D:</b> The Civil Aviation Authority of Georgia; Regulatory body to be consulted regarding the safety of flights
	The Georgian National Communications Commission	<b>D:</b> independent regulatory authority that regulates TV broadcasting, Radio broadcasting, fixed/mobile telephone and internet services in Georgia Regulation of the access to telecommunications networks and infrastructure
	The Roads Department of the MRDI	<b>D:</b> Is responsible for maintenance of the road infrastructure development of Georgia; The entity to be consulted regarding crossing the road infrastructure;
	“Georgian Amelioration” Ltd under the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	<b>D:</b> carries out rehabilitation works on those items of amelioration infrastructure where works haven’t been carried out for several decades. Simultaneously, Company is the sole provider of irrigation and drainage services in the country. Regulatory body to be consulted regarding crossing the irrigation channels;
<b>Media</b>	Regional and local mass media (not specifically defined)	<b>I:</b> Will potentially be involved in reporting on and disseminating information about the Project.
<b>NGOs</b>	Environmental and Social Protection NGOs:	<b>I:</b> Potentially interested in project impacts to the environment.
<b>Financial institutions</b>	EBRD (And possibly other lenders)	<b>D:</b> Providing finance for the Project
<b>Workers and workers organisations</b>	Construction workers and employees; Workers engaged at the operation stage;	<b>I:</b> Grievances from construction, commissioning as well as operation and maintenance personnel



## 4.2.1 Vulnerable Groups – Identification Process

JSC Wind Power started the stakeholder identification process of the Ruisi Wind Power Project in 2022. Initially, a Socio-Economic Baseline survey was conducted by WEG Envi Consulting LLC with the involvement of the Project Social Manager. Quantitative and qualitative study methods and desk review of the secondary information were applied. Detailed snapshots of 14 presumably affected villages<sup>3</sup> were prepared based on In-depth interviews and secondary information from official sources (Social Service Agency, Local Municipality Governments, National Statistics Office of Georgia). Apart from demographic statistics, information regarding vulnerable populations was identified. In particular statistics of IDPs, people with disabilities, and households under the poverty line receiving social assistance were included in the village snapshots. Apart from several face-to-face and In-depth interviews with various local individuals, focus group discussions with local women were conducted.

The current socio-economic baseline survey<sup>4</sup> targets only those households whose land plots are acquired for the Project's needs. One of the main goals of the survey is to identify all vulnerable affected households and offer special packages of compensation to them within the livelihood restoration program. Besides, target focus group discussions are planned with specific vulnerable groups. The following individuals/households are defined as vulnerable by the Project:

- ✓ Female-headed households – households headed by a lone or single woman without any other support in the household;
- ✓ Elder-headed households – (≥ 65 years old for male-headed households and ≥ 60 years old for women-headed households) without any other bread-winner in the household;
- ✓ People with disabilities;
- ✓ IDPs;
- ✓ Households under the poverty line – receiving state social assistance;
- ✓ Households losing ≥ 50% of their property (land) as a result of the project intervention.

All project-affected vulnerable individuals and households will be given an extra compensation package for their land loss (up to 5-10% of the total land compensation). Information on such groups will be updated every six months during construction and initial operation phases. A livelihood restoration strategy will be tailored to the needs of these vulnerable groups to restore and even improve their conditions after direct or indirect results of economic displacement of the Project. Baseline study results will be used to develop an adequate restoration plan for vulnerable groups.

Apart from surveying households affected by economic displacement, the project team continues the identification process of vulnerable groups in the affected villages with each communication means applied within the project: face-to-face visits, public consultations, desk reviews, etc.

## 5 Stakeholder Engagement/ Consultations Undertaken

### 5.1 Initial Communications Undertaken Before the ESIA Disclosure

#### 5.1.1 Consultations with the agencies and organizations

At the initial stage of the Project JSC Wind Power sent official letters to all probable stakeholder businesses and state entities operating in the Project area informing them about the Project and requesting feedback on any possible impact to be taken into consideration at the planning stage.

<sup>3</sup> According to the updated project design, only 5 villages are considered to be affected.

<sup>4</sup> The socio-economic baseline survey with owners /users of the project-affected land plots started in August 2023 and will be finalized in September 2024. The social team of the JSC Wind Power is conducting the survey. More details of the survey design are presented in the first paragraph of sub-chapter 6.2.

**Table 5-1 Official Correspondence with probable stakeholder business and state entities**

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
1	United Airports of Georgia LLC	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to the United Airports of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project and the main coordinates of its area. The project requested to identify if the Project could have any impact on their navigation, communication, and energy systems.	The United Airports of Georgia returned a response to the Project on 13.01.2022. The letter stated that the company has no property or systems in the suggested area and there could be no impact. However, the company suggested addressing „Sakaeronavigatsia” and checking their positions regarding the issue.
2	Roads Department of Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to the Roads Department of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the Project asked to receive information on the conditions for the placement of the buildings and conditions for carrying out relevant work, including the distance of the protection and/or safety zone; as well as any other information necessary to consider for the implementation of the wind power plant project described in this letter.	The Roads Department of Georgia returned the response to the Project and stated that the project target area overlaps with several sections of roads under the Roads department of Georgia and provided the list of such roads with relevant annexes. As for the buildings, the letter provided information on how far they should be located from highways in accordance with Article 22 of the Law of Georgia. Moreover, information about the distance from the placement of wind turbines to the edge of the roadway was specified.
4	LEPL Agency of Protected Areas	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LEPL Agency of Protected Areas on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The project requested to identify whether protected areas fall within the project target area. If so, information on coordinates of such protected areas, preferably in DWG or SHP formats should be provided. Moreover, the letter requested to receive any other information necessary to consider for the implementation of the wind power plant project described in this letter.	The LEPL Agency of Protected Areas returned a response on 07.10.2021 to the Project. The letter indicated that protected areas, including planned protected territories, under the management of the Agency do not fall within the project target area. Moreover, an annex of the situational plan was provided.
5	LLC Delta Comm	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LLC Delta Comm on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project and the main coordinates of the area. The letter requested to receive information whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the project target area. If so, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	LLC Delta Comm returned a response on 12.10.2021. The letter stated that communication infrastructure of LLC Delta Comm falls within project target area and relevant situation analysis were provided as an annex. Moreover, the company stated that they are not against implementation of the planned works. In case any construction work is carried out which leads to damage to communication infrastructure owned by LLC Delta Comm, responsibility as well as costs incurred for its restoration will be fully borne by the executor of such works. In order to avoid damage to their communication, the Project was asked to notify the company 5 working days prior to the start of the work on the phone number indicated in the letter.

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
6	JSC Energo-Pro Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to JSC Energo-Pro Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. If so, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	JSC Energo-Pro Georgia returned a response on 21.10.2021. The letter stated that the document regarding 10/6/0.4 kV power transmission lines and transformers located on the target territory was provided as an annex. Moreover, the Ordinance of the Government of Georgia N366 of 24 December 2013 was emphasized which defines protection zones and relevant specifications which need to be considered when carrying out the work. The details on exactly what parts of the ordinance shall be considered were also specified.
7	Ministry of Defence of Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to the Ministry of Defence of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. If so, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	The Ministry of Defence of Georgia returned a response to the Project on 29.10.2021. The letter stated that the ministry has no property in the suggested area and the implementation of the project will not cause any obstacle for defence purposes.
8	National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether there are registered monuments with the status of cultural heritage in the project area.	National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia returned a response on 12.10.2021. The letter stated that about 40 cultural heritages fall within the specified coordinates (the map is annexed), out of which 2 monuments are of national importance. Moreover, the letter provided a link to a web portal for further information on the said monuments.
9	LLC Magticom	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LLC Magticom on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project and the main coordinates of the area. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	LLC Magticom returned a response on 13.10.2021. The response stated that the territory specified in the letter (Kareli municipality, nearby Ruisi village) is the communication infrastructure of LLC Magticom about which a situational sketch was provided as an annex and informed the Project that the company is not against the implementation of the planned works. In case any construction work is carried out which leads to damage to communication infrastructure owned by LLC Magticom, responsibility as well as costs incurred for its restoration will be fully borne by the executor of such works. In order to avoid damage to their communication, the Project was asked to notify the company 5 working days prior to the start of the work via the phone number indicated in the letter.

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
10	LLC PCMAX	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LLC PCMAX on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protection areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	LLC PCMAX returned a response on 08.10.2021. The letter stated that the company's communication falls within the project's target area. Moreover, the Project team shall contact the company's representative indicated in the letter prior to the start of construction work to avoid any damage. SHP file, a photo, and a technical agreement were annexed to the letter.
11	JSC Georgian Railway	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to JSC Georgian Railway on 09.03.2022. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the Project asked to receive information on the conditions for the placement of the buildings and conditions for carrying out relevant work, including the distance of the protection and/or safety zone; any other information necessary to consider for the implementation of the wind power plant project described in this letter.	JSC Georgian Railway returned a response on 16.03.2022. The letter stated that the project target area includes part of Khashuri-Gori main railway line near Kareli and a section of Gori-Shindisi railway branch near Shindisi. According to normative documents of JSC Georgian Railway, the norms for the location of the wind power plant are not defined, thus the company cannot suggest whether the project will have any impact on communications of the Georgian railway. The letter also suggested that safe distance of power plant equipment from railway facilities, unless specified otherwise by the legislation of the country and norms and conditions for buildings in construction.
12	LEPL Georgian Civil Aviation Agency	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LEPL Georgian Civil Aviation Agency on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to identify if the Project could have any impact on their navigation, communication, and/or energy systems.	LEPL Georgian Civil Aviation Agency returned a response on 05.10.2021. The letter stated that at this stage, the agency does not have any comments or suggestions. However, it was suggested that the same information shall be agreed upon with LLC „Sakaeronavigatsia” and the Ministry of Defense of Georgia. It was also requested that the Project team shall submit information about the start of construction works before placing the wind turbines to the Georgian Civil Aviation Agency in order to issue a corresponding warning message. When the works are completed, the relevant information shall be provided to LLC “Sakaeronavigatshia” with the purpose of publishing relevant information in the database. Furthermore, the letter suggested using day and night markings in accordance with Chicago 1944 convention, chapter 6 of volume 1 of Appendix 14.
13	LEPL National Forestry Agency	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LEPL National Forestry Agency on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether any territory registered under Forestry Agency falls within the project target area. In such case, information on coordinates of these territories (preferably in DWG or SHP formats) was requested, as well as any other information necessary to be considered in the implementation process of the wind power plant project.	LEPL National Forestry Agency returned a response on 07.10.2021. The letter stated the project target area does not fall within the state forest area managed under the Agency. Furthermore, since the identification data of the state forestry fund has been the responsibility of LEPL National Agency of Public Registry, information about national forest territories and their borders shall be received from LEPL National Agency of Public Registry.

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
14	LLC „Sakaeronavigatsia”	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LLC “Sakaeronavigatshia” on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to identify if the Project could have any impact on the company’s navigation systems and whether there are any communication and/or energy networks owned by them within the project target area.	LLC “Sakaeronavigatsia” returned a response on 06.10.2021. The letter stated that the wind power plant project will not have an impact on their navigation system and the company does not have communication or energy networks in the suggested area.
15	Georgian Pipeline Company	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to Georgian Pipeline Company on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information whether the company’s communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protection areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	Georgian Pipeline Company returned a response on 15.10.2021. The letter stated that project target area intersects with part of pipeline from KP147 to KP160 and these territories are within several protection zones (1, 2, 3, 4) in accordance with Ordinance of the Government of Georgia N365 of 24 December, 2013. Accordingly, construction of facilities in the first and second pipeline protection zone is not allowed. In case of the third and fourth zones, construction works shall be carried out while ensuring safe and uninterrupted exploitation, in accordance with written consent and conditions issued by pipeline operator company BP, after technical project is agreed with them. The letter included list of project documents which are necessary for defining technical conditions and for obtaining a permission. After presenting the list of documents, engineering department of company BP will examine the project and based on the conclusion, construction permit will be issued, indicating all the obligatory conditions. The letter also included suggestions that need to be taken into account when preparing project documentation.
16	JSC UES “Sakrusenergo”	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to JSC UES “Sakrusenergo” on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information whether the company’s communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protection areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	JSC UES “Sakrusenergo” returned a response on 22.10.2021. The letter stated that part of the company’s property falls within the project target area. The letter also provided cadastral number of the abovementioned property and provided conditions for implementing works in accordance with Ordinance of the Government of Georgia N366 of 24 December, 2013. Since the ordinance does not include safety zone distance, relevant sketches were annexed to the letter indicating that the distance shall not be less than that of indicated in the attachments. Moreover, situational plan, extract from public registry, Ordinance of the Government of Georgia N366 of 24 December, 2013, and document about minimum distance for wind turbines were annexed.
17	Silknet	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to Silknet on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company’s communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for	Silknet returned a response on 12.20.2021. The letter stated that the company’s communications fall within the project target area and further information was provided on a CD disk. Moreover, an annex about buildings and protection zones near electric lines was also attached. Furthermore, Silknet asked the Project team to provide a project proposal prepared in accordance with the information provided to be agreed with Silknet.

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
		placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	
18	SOCAR Georgia Gas LTD	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to SOCAR Georgian GAS LTD on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protection areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	SOCAR Georgia Gas LTD returned a response on 11.10.2021. The response stated that information about gas pipelines in property of the company are provided as a separate file. Moreover, the company is not against implementation of the planned works as long as they are in accordance with the legislation of the country and relevant norms are considered, including the following: The construction should be carried out at a distance of 250 meters from the gas pipeline; The Project team representative must contact the chief engineer at the Kareli service center of the company 2 (two) days prior to the start of works. Relevant contact details are also provided.
19	JSC Georgian State Electrosystem	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to JSC Georgian State Electrosystem on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	Several meetings were conducted with JSC Georgian State Electrosystem representatives and all the details were agreed upon orally since the letter was sent from the Project. Their official response was received on 28.10.2022 stating that GSE does not have any objections on the development of the Ruisi project provided that specific distance between the turbines and existing transmission lines are observed. Their request has been considered in optimizing and designing the project layout.
20	State Security Service of Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to the State Security Service of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	State Security Service of Georgia returned a response on 11.11.2021. The letter stated that indicated project coordinates do not fall within the territory owned/managed by them. Furthermore, in order to minimize safety risks and ensure a sustainable environment, it was deemed important to study and consider the interests of the local population of the target areas.
21	FOPTNET LLC	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to FOPTNET LLC on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive	FOPTNET LLC returned a response on 07.10.2021. The letter stated that the main cable owned by the company does not fall within the suggested project area.

N	Stakeholder Name	Letters sent by the Project	Responses received
		information on whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	
22	LEPL National Agency of Mines	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to LEPL National Agency of Mines on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information whether there are any mines and/or relevant license are issued. If so, coordinates of such territories (preferably in DWG or SHP formats), as well as any other information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project were requested.	LEPL National Agency of Mines returned a response on 15.10.2021. The letter stated that the Project target area includes a mine (two sections) and different licenses for mineral extraction, as well as territories where relevant works have started with the aim to obtain a license. Moreover, the project area includes two different bore-wells, coordinates of which are to be specified. The letter included annexes of the above information.
23	United Water Supply Company of Georgia	Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project sent one letter to United Water Supply Company of Georgia on 30.09.2021. The letter contained brief information on the Project, the main coordinates of the area, as well as parameters of the wind turbines planned to be installed in accordance with the preliminary data. The letter requested to receive information whether the company's communication network and/or infrastructural buildings fall within the Project target area. In such case, the letter requested coordinates of communication network and/or infrastructure, preferably in DWG or SHP formats, unless such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; and cadastral numbers, in case such linear buildings are registered in the National Agency of Public Registry; moreover, conditions for placement of buildings and for carrying out works in protected areas, including the distance of the protection or safety zone, as well as any information necessary to be considered for the implementation of the project.	United Water Supply Company of Georgia returned a response on 13.10.2021. The letter stated that there are no water supply communications within the project target area. Moreover, at this stage, the company does not plan to implement any infrastructural projects.

In order to start communication with local communities affected by the Project, JSC Wind Power representatives organized a meeting with Shida Kartli Governor, presenting the details of the Project and requesting cooperation in planned socio-economic studies and community meetings. With the help of Shida Kartli Governor's office meetings were organized in Kareli and Gori Mayor's offices. Meetings were arranged with representatives of local government in all Project affected communities / administrative Units. Local government representatives cooperated in socio-economic studies and agreed to help organize community meetings with Project affected communities.

Besides the abovementioned communication with the local government, meetings were arranged in Kareli and Gori municipalities on November 10, 2022, to agree and confirm dwelling areas in each target village and identify any planned settlement development areas. There is no existing plan for settlement development for the target villages of both municipalities, however, some areas of possible development for businesses and auxiliary buildings were identified and the maps were corrected accordingly.

### 5.1.2 Consultations with the focus groups in the project area

Consultations have been conducted in September 2022 with the following focus groups:

- Small and Medium Enterprises in the project area
- Women groups
- IDPs presented in the project area

The details of consultations are provided further in Appendix7: Social Survey of Affected Households and Target Groups.

Individual consultations were conducted during the Social Survey. Representatives of more than 100 households have been interviewed and a brief information about the project has been provided.

The Scoping Report, which has been prepared in accordance to the Georgian permitting procedures, has been disclosed in August 2022. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture made related announcements in media and has planned public consultation meetings with the affected communities. In the frames of the Scoping Stage, Public Meetings were conducted on October 11 and 12, 2022. The meetings were organized by the National Environment Agency of Georgia. The project design was presented to all affected communities and residents in Kareli and Gori municipalities. In particular, four meetings were conducted in Dirbi, Breti, Ruisi, and Variani villages. Please see attached the minutes of the meetings and the list of attendees (the Agency covered all private information of the meetings' attendees and the documentation is presented in covered form) provided by the agency is attached to document (Appendix 3). Photos of the meetings are provided in Appendix 3 as well.

Upon the review of the present ESIA, the document will be also disclosed at the web-sites of EBRD and JSC Wind Power and the hard copies will be made available in Municipalities of Kareli and Gori.

## 5.2 Consultations Conducted During the Scoping Under the Georgian EIA and Permitting Process

JSC Wind Power prepared a Scoping Report on the project design and submitted it to the MEPA in September 2022. The Scoping Report has been disclosed on September 26 of 2022. on the web-site of the LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center <https://eiec.gov.ge/Ge/PublicHearings>.

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 11, 2022, at 11:00, in the administrative building of Dirbi village of Kareli municipality. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Dirbi, as well as the residents of the village of Dirbi.

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 11, 2022, at 14:00, in the administrative building of Breti village of Kareli municipality. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Breti, as well as the residents of the villages of Breti and Sagholasheni.

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 12, 2022, at 12:00, in the administrative building of Ruisi village. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Breti, as well as the residents of the village of Ruisi.

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 12, 2022, at 15:00, in the administrative building of Variani village. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting



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LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Variani, as well as the residents of the villages of Variani, Arashenda and Sakasheti.

The public hearings were opened by the representative of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, who introduced the agenda of the public hearing (sequence of presentation and question and answer (Q&A) session) to the attendees, spoke about the subject of discussion, the purpose of the meeting and the general structure of the scoping report of the proposed project. According to the relevant legislation, the attending public was explained the environmental impact assessment procedure, including the importance of the scoping stage in the environmental decision-making process. The representative of the agency emphasized the importance of holding a public hearing during the scoping procedure in order to consider public opinion. The representative of the agency informed the attending public of their right to express comments / opinions regarding the project, which, if there is a relevant basis, the agency will take into account in the process of preparing the scoping summary report. The representative of the agency urged the participants in the public hearing to first listen to the presentation of the scoping report, and after the presentation of the project, everyone would be given the opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions. At the public hearing, it was ensured that participants filled out the registration form.

The scoping report of the wind power plant and 220 kV substation construction and operation project was presented to the attendees by the representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC. During the presentation, schematic and layout drawings of the planned activities were discussed. The presentation included a general description of the planned activities, including a description of the infrastructure to be arranged, technical characteristics of the proposed wind power plant, analysis of alternative areas and types of expected impacts. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that the project envisages the construction and operation of a maximum of 50 wind turbines. It was explained to the population that the construction of wind turbines and the 220 kV substation is planned in the municipalities of Kareli and Gori, in the surrounding areas of the village of Dirbi, the village of Breti, the village of Ruisi and the village of Variani. For a better visualization of the project, schematic drawings of the project, including the project areas allocated for the arrangement of the turbines and substation, were presented to the population. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that turbines are planned to be arranged on approximately 150 plots of land, the majority of which belong to private owners and that the procurement of plots will be conducted through an active communication with the population and will be voluntary. Each turbine and supporting infrastructure will require the use of an area of 2 ha. The turbines will be located at a considerable distance from the nearest residential house. The speaker noted that the exact locations of the turbines will be defined at the EIA stage. The speaker also drew attention to the existing irrigation system in the project area and noted that it is important not to disrupt the structure of the irrigation network by implementing the project. It was mentioned that it is planned to employ the local population both at the construction (40-50 people) and at the operation stage (10-15 people).

After describing the general characteristics of the project, the speaker outlined the main types of impacts expected as a result of the planned activities. Special attention was paid to biodiversity, including the expected impact on ornithofauna. The speaker noted that a seasonal study of birds and bats is underway, which will be completed by the EIA stage, at which time it will be possible to provide more detailed information, including the outline of measures to be considered / implemented in terms of expected impacts. It was noted that based on the available data, the project area is not a sensitive area in terms of impact on birds and bats. The speaker explained that one of the turbines is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees, therefore it will be necessary to remove the trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree. The issue of the presence of cultural monuments in the project area was also emphasized during the public hearing. The speaker explained that all kinds of construction works will be carried out in accordance with the relevant report prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

After the presentation, the representative of the agency asked the attending public to express their comments and opinions regarding the planned activities.

The comments/opinions expressed at the public hearing were mainly related to the issue of arranging turbines on private land plots and compensatory measures to be implemented. The residents were interested specifically on which land plots the project infrastructure is planned to be arranged. The representative of the company explained to the residents that the planned activity is in the pre-design phase, therefore, detailed information about the specific location and number of turbines will be defined in the detailed design stage and will be presented in the EIA report. No more than 50 and no less than 36<sup>5</sup> turbines will be arranged within the framework of the planned activity and for each turbine, an area of approximately 2 hectares will be used. It was noted that after the project areas are determined, the company's expert in the relevant field will determine the exact number of private land plots based on communication with the population, and appropriate compensation measures will be taken. The cost of both the area itself and the plantations on it will be compensated.

The minutes of the meetings are provided in Appendix 3.

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<sup>5</sup> 33 turbines are planned to be arranged in the project area according to the final layout.

## 6 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

### 6.1 Disclosure of the EBRD ESIA Package and Public Consultations

To implement meaningful consultations main target groups of stakeholders are identified:

- Land owners and users of project-affected agricultural land plots** (Economic displacement). Maximum 120 affected households.<sup>6</sup> A socio-economic baseline survey of all project-affected land owners and users is ongoing in parallel with the land acquisition process. So far about 127 affected households have been interviewed face to face. The interviews were mostly completed in two visits at home by the project Social Manager. The first visit questions included a description of the detailed household composition, household properties (accommodation, land plots, etc.), income sources, employment status, identification of special statuses (state assistance, IDP, household members with disabilities, etc.), use of public pastures, assessment of the project impact (benefits and concerns). During the second visit information regarding the land acquisition process was acquired from the affected households. The second visit questions were asked only to those households where the land acquisition process had been completed. The baseline survey of Land Owners / Users was completed at the end of September 2024. Besides the quantitative survey method, the qualitative study technique was applied to identify the needs of vulnerable or specific groups of project-affected households: women, households on state social assistance, people with disabilities, farmers (small businesses), and young people. In particular, focus group discussions were held with the identified target groups at the end of September 2024.
- Local businesses** that are involved in agricultural production or produce construction materials in the project-affected villages or nearby them. Only one company is identified as a project-affected landowner. In total about 10 businesses are identified.
- Local government** of directly affected communities as well as nearby communities. Directly affected communities are Ruisi and Urbnisi in Kareli, and Sakasheti, Arashenda, and Shindisi in Gori. However, local governments of nearby communities are informed during the ESIA consultation process: Breti, Dirbi, Bebnisi in Kareli, and Variani in Gori.
- Municipal government** of Kareli and Gori municipalities.
- NGOs** of Environmental and Social Protection and NGOs operating at the project municipalities. No NGOs are identified in Kareli municipality, however there are some active NGOs in Gori. None of the local NGOs have any ongoing projects in the project-affected villages.

<sup>6</sup> All private land plots for the turbines and substation have been acquired. Land acquisition of affected land plots for the access roads is ongoing.

- **Population** of directly affected villages: Ruisi, Urbnisi (Kareli municipality<sup>7</sup>) and Sakasheti, Arashenda, Shindisi (Gori municipality)<sup>8</sup>. The population of nearby villages is also considered a target stakeholder of the project.
- **Local Media** representatives in Gori and Kareli municipalities including press and TV.

The following methods will be/are used to inform stakeholders about the on-going stakeholder consultations during the ESIA process:

- The ESIA package was disclosed on May 10, 2024. English version of the ESIA package was disclosed on the EBRD web-site, while the Georgian and English versions on the JSC Wind Power's web-site. NTS and project leaflets are available in Gori and Kareli Municipal offices as well as in the administrative buildings of seven community centers / villages directly/indirectly affected by the project (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Breti, Bebnisi, Dirbi, Variani, and Shindisi), and Ruisi Wind Power Project Public Information Center (PIC)
- Project Leaflets and Brochures – are distributed to vulnerable groups and are available to those who cannot attend ESIA disclosure sessions. The NTS, Leaflets, and brochures, which are available in the municipal offices in Gori and Kareli Municipalities. The leaflets include a summary of the negative and positive impacts of the project and information regarding the grievance mechanism;
- Public consultations were carried out in the villages of Gori and Kareli Municipalities during the period of April-July 2024. Both categories - impacted and interest-based stakeholders were and will be invited to the meetings. It is not required to conduct meetings in each village. Residents of several villages, located close to each other could be consulted during the meeting in one, most convenient site or in the village, which has status of the community centre of the group of small villages. However, it is required that communities of all villages within the project area are informed about the planned meetings and will get access for the meeting site. 7 public consultation meetings were organized in the target villages for the period of April- July 2024.
- One meeting is arranged in Gori on June 25, 2024 (municipality office: N5 G. Peradze street, Gori, at 15:00), as many stakeholders are presumably living or based there. One meeting was also arranged in Kareli on June 25, 2024 (municipality office: N3 Noneshvili Street, Kareli, at 12:00). Apart from face-to-face and phone communication, the following communication sources were used for informing all stakeholders about the meetings in Kareli and Gori:

N	Platform	Name	Dates
1	Press	Karelis Moambe	14.06.2024
2	Press	Goris Matsne	9.06.2024
3	TV	TV Monitoring	20.06.2024-24.06.2024
4	TV	TV Dia	20.06.2024-24.06.2024
5	Web Page	Goris Matsne (www.gmnews.ge)	17.06.2024
6	Web Page	TV Monitoring (www.tvmonitoringi.ge)	20.06.2024

<sup>7</sup> Number of households in Ruisi and Urbnisi is 1760 according to the 2014 census data of the National Statistics Office of Georgia.

<sup>8</sup> Number of households in Sakashenti, Arashenda, and Shindisi is 642 according to the 2014 census data of the National Statistics Office of Georgia.

N	Platform	Name	Dates
7	Web Page	JSC Wind Power (www.windpower.ge)	13.06.2024
8	Facebook	Goris Matsne	17.06.2024
9	Facebook	Kareli Municipality Office	19.06.2024
10	Facebook	Gori Municipality Office	20.06.2024
11	Facebook	TV Monitoring (907 views, 13 shares)	20.06.2024
12	Facebook	Page "Ruisi"	19.06.2024
13	Facebook	Urbnisi Administrative Unit	19.06.2024
14	Facebook	Breti Administrative Unit	19.06.2024
15	Facebook	Dirbi Administrative Unit	19.06.2024
16	Facebook	Shindisi Administrative Unit	16.06.2024

- Separate public meeting was arranged in Tbilisi with the Non-government sector. The public consultation was held on July 2, 2024, at noon, at Courtyard Marriott Tbilisi, N4 Freedom Square. Information about the meeting was published on the project website. All identified target non-governmental organizations were invited via e-mail invitations and phone calls.
- Individual consultations, bilateral meetings and meetings in focus-groups will be conducted with the impacted-based stakeholders under the LRLR process starting from disclosure of the LRLRF and till completion of the land acquisition process.
- Social Media – This may include use of internet platforms such as Zoom etc. to communicate the disclosed information about the Project. This mechanism could be used by JSC Wind Power for arranging one public consultation with the NGOs and other stakeholders that are not able to attend consultation meetings in villages. Besides, social media platform like Facebook is actively used to inform target stakeholders about ongoing meetings. In particular, Facebook pages of the local newspaper (Goris Matsne), local TV (TV monitoring and TV Dia), municipal government (Gori and Kareli), and local communities (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Shindisi, Dirbi, Breti and others).
- Mass media – regional media (newspapers, TV) are and will be used to advertise the planned public disclosure meetings and to inform the local communities and general public about the main features of the project. In particular, announcements regarding the meetings on June 25, 2024, were published in Kareli and Gori local newspapers (Gori newspaper also published it on their website and Facebook page). Two local TVs were used to spread the information regarding ongoing consultations in Gori and Kareli on June 25, 2024 (ten times per day on each Tv channel a few days prior the meetings).
- Phone Calls/visits – All identified affected land owners/users, local businesses, and NGOs are contacted via phone calls or are visited at homes (vulnerable groups) /offices to inform regarding all planned / ongoing public meetings. Project affected land owners / users and business representatives are suggested transportation too. Social and Land Teams of the Project are involved in the process.

- Printed Announcements are put in every public place in the affected villages (bus stops, markets, etc.) on planned public consultations. Announcements are also placed on the boards of the local government administration and municipal city halls.
- During the meetings the issues raised by the population and other stakeholders will be/are recorded and protocoled. The written comments will be addressed in writing within two weeks after receiving the comment. During the meetings and via the leaflets the contact details of the responsible person for sending comments and grievances will be provided.

### 6.1.1 Vulnerable Groups – Meaningful Consultations

Consultations with all project-affected vulnerable groups are conducted face-to-face ensuring home visits. The project updates, leaflets, or required materials are shared in person with each vulnerable household or individual identified (socio-economic baseline survey of owners /users of affected land plots; face-to-face meetings and consultations with all local inhabitants since 2022). Furthermore, focus group discussions will be organized in the project information center with the following vulnerable groups: female heads of households, female members of the affected households under the poverty line, and individuals with disabilities or their caregivers. All individuals with traveling difficulties are visited home by the project social team or are provided adequate transportation to attend the target group discussions or other consultations planned within the project.

Within the scope of the project, a total of 44 vulnerable households had been identified by July 2025. Communication with these households is conducted through home visits. Updates about the project are shared via telephone, and a home visit is carried out every six months to update information and share new developments.

First repeated visits with all 44 vulnerable households were conducted by JSC Wind Power Social Manager and local CLOs at their homes in July-August 2025. On the basis of information obtained during the repeated visits, additional support was provided for some vulnerable households. In particular, school staff for four school children from the vulnerable household and pharmacy vouchers for eight vulnerable households. (See Appendix 7, meeting notes #042, #043, #044, #045, #53 and #56).

### 6.1.2 Disclosed E&S Documents

Disclosure package of the ESIA documents includes:

- ESIA
- LALRF
- Non-technical summary (NTS)
- SEP
- ESAP

Public disclosure of the ESIA package will be undertaken as required by Lenders (ESP 2019 PR 1 and PR 10). The disclosure sessions will involve key stakeholders as identified in this SEP. The intention of the disclosure will be to present the outcomes of the ESIA process and to advise regarding key mitigation and management measures, including particular elements of the SEP such as the grievance mechanism and how it can be accessed.

The ESIA package was disclosed on May 10, 2024. English version of the ESIA package is disclosed on the EBRD web-site, while the Georgian and English versions on the JSC Wind Power's web-site.

Hard copies of the entire ESIA package (not just selected documents) are available at EBRD & JSC Wind Power offices as well as in Gori and Kareli Municipal offices.

The hard copies of the ESIA Non-Technical Summary, LALRF and SEP (including Grievance Mechanism) translated into Georgian are available in Kareli and Gori Municipal Offices and Ruisi Wind Power Project Public Information Centre (PIC), and the administrative buildings of seven community centers / villages directly affected by the project (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Breti, Bebnisi, Dirbi, Variani, and Shindisi) to ensure engagement with the local communities, to receive their grievances and facilitate recruitment process during the construction and operation phases of the Project. The PIC office was established in v. Ruisi (presumably). Capacity building program and trainings were conducted for PIC.

### 6.1.3 Disclosure process

The ESIA Non-Technical Summary, LALRF and SEP (including Grievance Mechanism) were disclosed to the different stakeholders (impacted and interest-based stakeholders as applicable) through public disclosure meetings. This public disclosure meeting will include but not limited to local communities, PAPs, NGOs, local authorities etc.

**Public consultations were carried out in Gori and Kareli Municipalities on June 25, 2024<sup>9</sup>. For the interested parties the bus was arranged from Tbilisi to the municipalities to attend the public consultations. Transportation was offered to the local population of the affected villages as well.**

Stakeholders invited to attend the consultation meetings cover all villages located within the project influence area or nearby:

- Villages of Kareli Municipality: Ruisi, Urbnisi, Bebnisi, Breti, Dirbi, Sasireti
- Villages of Gori Municipality: Sakasheti, Arashenda, Shindisi
- The meetings were conducted in the eight villages directly/indirectly affected by the project:
- Villages of Kareli Municipality – Ruisi, Urbnisi, Breti, Bebnisi and Dirbi
- Villages of Gori Municipality – Sakasheti, Arashenda, and Shindisi

The advertising notices inviting the interested parties for public meetings were placed in PIC, as well as Municipal Offices 2 weeks before the planned meetings. The notices include information regarding the subject of the meeting, location, premises, and date and time. Announcements were also placed in public places of the project-affected villages before each public meeting in each affected community/village with meeting details: date, time, and venue. Project-affected households (owners/users of project-affected land plots) were informed via phone regarding all public meetings. Part of them were also visited in person for dissemination of information about public meetings in corresponding villages.

Mass media – regional media (newspapers, TV) are used to advertise the planned public disclosure meetings and to inform the local communities and general public about the main features of the project. In particular, announcements regarding the meetings on June 25, 2024, were published in Kareli and Gori local newspapers (Gori newspaper also published it on their website and Facebook page). Two local TVs were used to spread the information regarding ongoing consultations in Gori and Kareli on June 25, 2024.

<sup>9</sup> Locations of the meetings were selected based on Georgian legislation (EBRD RP10 item 25) on public consultations.

Apart of the public consultations in the target villages and municipality centers, public meeting for non-governmental organizations and independent experts was organized in Tbilisi too. The meeting was held on July 2, 2024. The details of all the public meetings are presented in Appendix 6. In total (considering all public meetings) 174 local inhabitants from the target villages attended the consultation process. Besides, the meetings were attended by the local government representatives, 11 NGOs, one business representative and three independent experts. It is worth mentioning that all attendees show positive attitude towards the Project.

During the consultation meetings the attendants are informed about the project details (impacts and mitigations, costs and benefits etc.), as well about the GRM and communication means to deliver the comments and grievances to the project proponents. JSC Wind Power assigned a person responsible for collecting comments and grievances at this stage, while this responsibility will be carried out by the PIC on the construction and operation phases.

The grievance and comments could be also directed to EBRD and in case of such will of the stakeholders, the responsible person/PIC will assist them in lodging the comments/grievances to EBRD.

## **Additional Consultations**

### **Noise Assessment Results**

Meventus AS conducted the noise assessment of the project based on its final design and prepared the report in July 2024. "Wind Farm Layout Definition Procedure" prepared per the ESAP item 1.12 will be uploaded on the project website with assessment results. The stakeholders were informed regarding updated information during consultations planned in September in Sakasheti and Ruisi villages<sup>10</sup>. According to the report results the nighttime noise limit of 45 dB is expected to be exceeded only at one building (church located in the south-central planning area in Ruisi), however, turbine curtailment will be applied (switching to low-noise operating mode) as a mitigation measure for lowering the noise to 45 dB. The nighttime noise threshold limit of 45 dB is expected for the five buildings in Sakasheti village. Those particular households were invited to the consultations in person providing them with updated leaflets and brief updates at home by the project social team. The project staff also visited the church to present them with updated information and to invite them at the public consultation. In general, all inhabitants of Sakasheti and Ruisi villages were informed regarding the public consultation dates, time, and venue through various sources: Facebook pages, project website, printed announcements at public places (bus stops, markets, local government offices, etc.), local newspaper, and word of mouth 10 days prior the meeting. A public consultation meeting in Sakasheti village was conducted on September 3, 2024. The consultation process in Ruisi village was held on September 19, 2024.

Attitudes of the local population towards the project were positive at the above-mentioned public meetings. The detailed notes of the meetings are presented in Appendix 6.

### **Flickering Assessment Results**

Meventus AS conducted the shadow flicker assessment of the project based on its final design and prepared the report in July 2024. "Wind Farm Layout Definition Procedure" prepared per the ESAP item 1.12 will be uploaded on the project website with assessment results. The stakeholders were informed about the updated information during the consultations in September / October in Sakasheti,

<sup>10</sup> Even though assessed risks of expected noise impact in the worst scenario cases are still under the limits defined by World Bank Guidance (55 dB daytime and 45 dB nighttime), noise impact at the allowed threshold (45 dB) is considered as important to be communicated with the corresponding stakeholders. Such minor impacts are detected mainly in two villages: Ruisi and Sakasheti. Therefore, a consultation process on noise updates will be held in these two villages.



Arashenda, Urbnisi, and Ruisi villages<sup>11</sup>. According to the report, 1484 buildings are expected to be affected by the shadow flickering. Therefore, corresponding mitigation measures (shutting down the turbines) will be implemented to reduce such impact to an acceptable level. To reach all possible affected households, the project team will spread information about consultations by hanging announcements in the districts with the most impact. Furthermore, updated leaflets and announcements were delivered home in the corresponding districts by random choice (every tenth house) to ensure the wide spread of the information at target locations. Ten/fourteen days before the meetings information regarding the consultations were available on the project website and Facebook pages of corresponding villages/municipalities. The schedule of the consultations was the following:

- ✓ Sakasheti – September 3, 2024;
- ✓ Ruisi – September 19, 2024;
- ✓ Arashenda – October 3, 2024;
- ✓ Urbnisi – October 16, 2024.

Attitudes of the local population towards the project were positive at the above-mentioned public meetings. The detailed notes of the meetings are presented in Appendix 6.

### **Announcement of Project Preparatory Works**

In early December, LLC "Wind Power" announced the preparatory works for the project. The project will enter its active phase at the end of January 2025. The local population was informed that initial work would begin with the arrangement of the lands purchased for the project, and that agricultural activities could no longer be carried out on the lands acquired specifically for the Ruisi Wind Power Plant starting January 2025. The announcement was published on the project's website (<https://www.windpower.ge/ka/news/ruisi-wind-power-project-active-phase-begins>), in local newspapers, and on social media platforms (Facebook) of the target villages. All stakeholders of the relevant plots received additional notifications via text messages. Follow up phone calls were also made. Printed announcements were posted in public spaces of the target villages (bus stops, markets, etc.).

Visits were made to vulnerable households (42 families), where, in addition to verbal explanations, official letters from the company were provided. These visits were conducted by members of the project's social and land acquisition teams. For each visit, there is a signed receipt acknowledging the delivery of the letter. In one case, confirmation was sent via email. The visits were completed till December 20. A full description of the communication campaign is included in the meeting notes, in Appendix 6.

Prior to the commencement of work, the social team conducted visits to public institutions in the villages of Ruisi, Arashenda, Sakasheti and Urbnisi about one month in advance. These visits included schools, kindergartens, administrative offices, churches, and other local organizations. During these visits, the project team informed representatives about the locations of the upcoming works and the distance from their facilities to the project area. Although preliminary assessments indicated that no significant disruptions are expected to public institutions, all representatives were provided with the contact information of the project's social team for prompt responses to any concerns that may arise during construction (brochures).

<sup>11</sup> The report identifies 1484 most affected neighbor buildings by shadow flicker impact mainly in four affected villages: Sakasheti, Arashenda, Urbnisi, and Ruisi.

(See Appendix 7 and meeting notes #030, #031, #038, #048 and #049 for details.)

### **Use of Pesticides**

Alongside construction activities, informational meetings were held with owners of adjacent land plots. These meetings were conducted both individually and in groups. During these sessions, local practices regarding pesticide use were studied, and farmers were informed about the safety standards implemented within the project. According to the study results, the active period of pesticide application does not coincide with the period of pesticide use on the target lands (see Appendix 7, meeting notes #047 and #055 for details).

### **Speed Limits and Setting Fires to the Agricultural Land plots**

Social managers from „Wind Power“ and „PERI“ met with local residents involved in the harvest process — including fruit and vegetable collection — to share scientifically grounded and evidence-based information about the negative impact of seasonal sanitary fires on soil health and biodiversity.

During the discussion, two common justifications raised by the community — that burning is a cheap method for clearing agricultural waste and that it improves soil health — were addressed. The second argument, regarding soil improvement, was easily refuted with scientific evidence. The meeting also covered the social and legal responsibilities associated with these artificial fires, which are regulated under Georgian law. Additionally, residents were informed about the speed limit of 20 km/h for vehicles within the construction area, a measure aimed at ensuring the safety of both project workers and local residents. (see Appendix 7, meeting notes #055 for details).

### **Hunting During the Construction Period**

Meetings were conducted with local hunters by representatives of the project social team. It was determined that in the areas surrounding the project site of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant, which are located at a distance from the main construction zone, hunting is primarily focused on birds. Specifically, quail hunting takes place during August and September, while two different species of ducks are hunted in November and December. In both cases, hunting typically occurs early in the morning before 8:00 AM or in the evening between 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM. Hunters use smoothbore shotguns and No. 10 buckshot for hunting these bird species. (see Appendix 7, meeting notes #054 for details).

### **Contractor’s Meeting with Local Residents**

In early July 2025, the social team of LLC Wind Power, together with representatives of the contractor company Goldwind, organized a meeting with local residents. The meeting took place at the Ruis Wind Power Project’s information center. Goldwind presented an overview of the company and outlined the future plans within the scope of the project. (Refer to Appendix 7, meeting notes #046 for details.)

### **Community Development Projects**

In 2025, a series of meetings were held to develop and implement community development projects. Educational projects were identified as a primary focus. Active collaboration is planned with local public schools. During the initial stage, based on expressed interest from the schools, an archaeologist presented on artifacts discovered in the project area. (See Appendix 7, meeting notes #027, #034, #036, #037, #038, and #052 for details.)

## Employment Opportunities

To facilitate employment for local residents within the scope of the project, the social team is maintaining a register of job seekers and their work experience. Depending on contractors' needs, candidates from this database are invited for interviews. After interviews and further discussions, suitable workers are hired. By July 2025, fifty individuals have been employed under the project. (Refer to Appendix 7, meeting minutes #031, #041 for details.)

### 6.1.4 Project Information Materials

Apart from the disclosed documents, as described above, the information materials includes:

- Brochures and leaflets describing the project (main features; impacts; mitigations) in very simple, non-technical format. Brochures and leaflets are and will be distributed during the public consultation meetings and are available in Municipal offices, PIC office, and in the administrative buildings of seven community centers / villages directly affected by the project (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Breti, Bebnisi, Dirbi, Variani, and Shindisi).
- PowerPoint presentations describing the project (main features; impacts; mitigations). The presentations will be delivered during the public consultation meetings and will be made available in Municipal offices, and in PIC office.

### 6.1.5 Stakeholder engagement programme for the ESIA Public Disclosure Period

**Table 6-1 Stakeholder engagement programme for the ESIA Disclosure Period**

Activity	Target Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
<b>Disclosure of ESIA and E&amp;S documents</b>	All identified stakeholders (impacted and interest-based including vulnerable groups).	Once agreed with the lenders, the ESIA study, Non-Technical Summary (NTS), SEP and LALRF will be fully disclosed online. The documents will be available on the website of JSC Wind Power prior to financial closure. Where appropriate, stakeholders have the opportunity to comment or request additional information during this disclosure period. NTS, SEP and LALRF will be made available in Gori and Kareli Municipal Offices. The PowerPoint presentation corresponding to NTS and LALRF. These documents will also be disclosed on lender's website including EBRD and will include ESIA study, NTS, LALRF, this SEP and the Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) in Georgian and English. The contact person will be made available for local population, NGOs and other stakeholders to receive additional information and clarifications on the project, as well as ask questions relating to any concerns they may have.	Disclosure date – May 10, 2024 60- day disclosure period prior to financial close for EBRD
<b>Consultations related to the Disclosed ESIA Package</b>	All identified stakeholders (impacted and interest-based including vulnerable groups).	The meetings are planned to be conducted in the eight villages directly affected by the project: - Villages of Kareli Municipality – Ruisi, Urbnisi, Bebnisi, Breti, Dirbi - Villages of Gori Municipality – Sakasheti, Arashendaand Shindisi  In case of need one zoom meeting could be planned for NGOs, organized by the contact person of the JSC Wind Power.  In addition, hard copies of the NTS, LALRF and SEP	Disclosure date – May 10, 2024 The advertising notices inviting the interested parties for public meetings were and are placed in the Municipal Offices in May-June 2024. Public consultations

Activity	Target Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
		will be available in the Municipal Offices in Georgian so that they are easily accessible by the elderly and those that do not have access to internet.	were and are carried out in villages of Gori and Kareli Municipalities during June-July 2024.
	Impacted Groups; Vulnerable Groups	In the event that impacted or vulnerable stakeholders are unable to access documents disclosed online, individual and bilateral meetings will be held to advise of ESIA NTS, SEP and LALR process outcomes, access to grievance process, and compensation or resettlement principles and schedule.  Individual consultations and meetings in focus groups will be organized with the households and businesses affected by land take in the LALR process.  Representatives of JSC Wind Power will visit the homes of the disabled people and elderly and share copies of the NTS and SEP if required.	

At the end of 60 days EBRD disclosure period a public consultation and disclosure report will be developed based on additional consultation and feedback undertaken during the disclosure period. This feedback report will then be disclosed on JSC Wind Power's website together with the final ESIA package explaining the disclosure activities that have been undertaken, feedback received and whether/how these are addressed in the final ESIA and management plans.

## 6.2 Disclosure of the Georgian EIA and Public Consultations

### 6.2.1 National regulation on public consultation

The requirements and procedures for conducting public consultations and established timeframes for information disclosure and discussion are detailed in Article 7, Article 9 and Article 12 of the Environmental Assessment Code. The detailed description is provided in chapter 3.1 "National Requirements"

Public hearings should be organized only for the stages of scoping and issuing environmental decision. For the scoping stage, the public hearing has been already conducted in October 2022 and are described in chapter 5.2.

On the stage of issuing of the Environmental Decision, the public hearing should be organized no earlier than 25 days and no later than 30 days after the registration of the application for the Environmental Decision. The announcement regarding the public hearing should be published at least 20 days ahead of the public hearing.

The announcement on the public hearing should contain the following information:

- The essence and brief description of topics of the day, and discussion format;
- Date, time, venue and procedure of the public hearing;
- Address of the web-page where this announcement, EIA Report and other important information are posed, as well as the note about the opportunity to get print-outs of the mentioned documents during the public hearing;

## 6.2.2 Tentative Schedule for National EIA Consultations

Disclosure of the Scoping Report and conducted public consultation meetings has been described in chapter of this SEP.

Tentative timeline for the completion and disclosure of the Georgian EIA is November-December 2024.

On the EIA stage of issuing of the Environmental Decision, the public hearing should be organized no earlier than 25 days and no later than 30 days after the submission of the EIA package to MEPA and registration of the application for the Environmental Decision. The expert commission shall prepare and submit to the Ministry an expert opinion on the EIA report within 40 days after the establishment of the commission and for that moment public comments based on the consultation process should be submitted to MEPA.

**Public consultation meetings (public discussions organized by EIA) were held on February 3 and 4, 2025. These meetings were organized at the initiative of the Environmental Agency of Georgia. The meetings were coordinated by the Center for Environmental Information and Education. (Please refer to meeting notes #029 in the appendix 7)**

**Table 6-2 Stakeholder engagement programme for the Georgian EIA Process**

Activity	Target Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
<b>Disclosure of EIA documents</b>	All identified stakeholders (impacted and interest-based including vulnerable groups).	The EIA study and Non-Technical Summary (NTS) will be fully disclosed online. The documents will be available on the website of LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center (under MEPA). The hard copies of the EIA and NTS will be made available in Gori and Kareli Municipal Offices. The contact person will be made available for local population, NGOs and other stakeholders to receive additional information and clarifications on the project, as well as ask questions relating to any concerns they may have.	Disclosure date: July 2024 30-day disclosure period
<b>Consultations related to the Disclosed ESIA Package</b>	All identified stakeholders (impacted and interest-based including vulnerable groups).	The meetings will be planned by LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center. It is expected that 4 meetings will be planned in the same way, as for the Scoping disclosure process.	Public hearings no earlier than 25 days and no later than 30 days after the registration of the EIA application package in MEPA.

## 6.3 Future Stakeholder Engagement Programme

Stakeholder engagement is an on-going process that will be undertaken during the construction, commissioning and operational phases of the Project. The processes used will be transparent, free of intimidation, interference and coercion. The aim of this section is to describe what information will be disclosed, in what formats, the types of methods that will be used to communicate information and the consultation methods to be used with each of the stakeholder groups identified in the previous sections.

### 6.3.1 Engagement Methods

The following methods will be used to inform stakeholders about the on-going stakeholder engagement process during construction and operations of the Project:

- Public Information Centre (PIC) is developed by JSC Wind Power - this center is used to engage with the local communities, receive grievances, facilitate recruitment processes, etc. The PIC

office was established in v. Ruisi , in April 2024, before the construction works are commenced. This centre is used to engage with the local communities, receive public grievances, facilitate recruitment processes, etc. The PIC will be operational throughout the project lifetime.

- Project Leaflets and Brochures – are distributed to vulnerable groups and are available to those who cannot attend ESIA disclosure sessions. The NTS, Leaflets and brochures are available in the PIC office, in Gori and Kareli Municipalities, and in the administrative buildings of seven community centers / villages directly affected by the project (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Breti, Bebnisi, Dirbi, Variani, and Shindisi). They include a summary of the negative and positive impacts of the project and information regarding the grievance mechanism;
- Posters or Notices - Signboards and Illustrative posters (info graphics) will be placed at the PIC and key project locations on-site (i.e. main entrance gates to temporary construction compounds), including direct access to the grievance mechanism.
- Social Media – This may include use of messaging platforms such as WhatsApp, Telegram, Zoom etc. to communicate general information about the Project. Data privacy must be ensured and protected if a stakeholder database is established.
- Meetings with community leaders- These can be informal meetings held with community leaders so as to maintain good relations with the community and address any concerns the community might have.
- Online communication – Useful for Interest-based Stakeholders. The engagement and disclosure mechanisms for the ESAP and implementation of the Management and Monitoring Plans during the construction and operational phases of the project will be advertised on JSC Wind Power’s website with a contact point provided for comment. The same will be available on the lending institution respective websites.

### 6.3.2 Stakeholder Engagement During Pre-construction, Construction and Commissioning

Stakeholder engagement during pre-construction, construction and commissioning will allow stakeholders to assess whether project processes and measures are working as intended, if grievances are being recorded and responded to and corrective actions made where there are failings. Effective management of stakeholder engagement during the construction and commissioning phase is important as it can set the tone for the remainder of the project. Construction and commissioning related engagement processes are set out below.

**Table 6-3 Pre-construction, Construction & Commissioning Phase SEP timetable**

Activity	Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
<b>Compensation and livelihood restoration activities in line with LALRP</b>	PAPs identified in LALR process (studies; plans): farmers; agricultural companies; herders)	Individual consultations, meetings with focus groups (e.g. businesses; women; vulnerable) and public meetings in accordance with LALRF and LALRP	Prior to construction and start of early works
<b>Notify stakeholders of construction and commissioning activities including the timelines.</b>	Directly and Indirectly Impacted Stakeholders	Official notices will be posted at the PIC, temporary construction facility entrances and at strategic locations along the access road route. This will advise of construction and commissioning commencement and of possible disruption during works (such as road closures, delays etc.).  Bilateral meetings will also be undertaken with directly impacted stakeholders to inform them of the construction commencement and	Prior to the start of construction and commissioning phases. This will be updated as necessary within the construction and commissioning phases if there are changes to the planned activities or processes.  Bilateral meetings to be undertaken biannually throughout construction phase of the project and/or

Activity	Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
		any changes in project construction schedule.	as required whenever there are significant changes to construction activities or processes.
	Local Government Authorities, Government Bodies	Official emails or letters in coordination with applicable local authorities will be sent to provide information on construction and commissioning activities and timelines	
	NGOs		
	All stakeholders	Notification of the Project construction and commissioning activities and timelines on JSC Wind Power's website.	
<b>Communication relating to farmers/herders/hunters</b>	Farmers, herders, hunters.	Any project updates will be communicated to the farmers/herders through the Project's Public Information Centre (PIC) - office for any communication updates pertinent to their activities.	On a quarterly basis throughout construction phase of the project and/or as required whenever there are significant changes to construction activities or processes.
<b>Disclosure/consultation activities concerning Community Development Matters</b>	Local community	Meetings with local community to discuss / agree on community development programmes suitable for the community.	To be confirmed - Community Development Plan and social packages.
<b>Communication of emergency preparedness and action plan</b>	Herders, Farmers & Residents in communities near the Project site	Bilateral meetings will be held with these stakeholders to inform them of the emergency plan and to optimise with any concerns from their side. Information on emergency planning will also be available at the Project's Public Information Centre.	Prior to the start of construction and commissioning and if there are key changes to such planning.
	Local Government Authorities, Government Bodies & Military	Official emails or letters informing the applicable agencies about the emergency response procedures in place and any required co-ordination for specific events. Bilateral meetings will be held where necessary.	
<b>Environmental &amp; Social Monitoring &amp; Reporting</b>	Project Lenders	Environmental and Social auditing to evaluate Projects compliance with Georgian standards, lender requirements and loan covenants.	On a quarterly basis throughout construction and commissioning phase of the Project.
<b>Implementation of the grievance mechanism</b>	All Identified Stakeholders	As described in the grievance mechanism section of this SEP (see Section 7).	Established before the completion of the LALR activities and start of construction and commissioning phases and updated throughout to project life.

All stakeholder engagement details during pre-construction and construction phases are presented in the meeting notes in Appendix 7 (*Meetings Notes #027, #029, #030, #031, #033, #034, #036, #037, #038, #041, #046, #047, #048, #049, #052, #054 and #055*)

### 6.3.3 Stakeholder Engagement During Operation

It will be important for the Project Company and O&M Company to ensure a smooth transition between stakeholder engagement from construction and commissioning phase to operational phase of the Project by understating the techniques that have been most effective during construction and commissioning phases. It will be important to continue these techniques to avoid decrease in the frequency of stakeholder engagements, as the stakeholders are already familiar

with the typical processes for engagement.

**Table 6-4 Operational Phase SEP Timetable**

Activity	Stakeholders	Engagement Method	Timing and Frequency
<b>Notify stakeholders of the transition from construction/ commissioning to operations</b>	All Impacted Stakeholders	Official notices will be posted at the PIC, key project buildings and turbine pads to advise of commencement of the operational phase of the Project.	At least 2 months prior to commencement of operations.
	Local Government Authorities and Government Bodies, as well as and NGOs	Official emails or letters will be sent to provide information on operational phase activities and timelines.	
<b>The emergency preparedness plan, or other HSE related matters that may affect local external parties.</b>	Farmers, Herders and Residents in communities near the Project site	Bilateral meetings will be held with these stakeholders to inform them of the emergency plan and to optimise with any concerns from their side.	2 months prior to the commencement of operations and if there are key changes to such planning.
	Government Bodies, State Agencies and Local Government; Project Lenders	Official emails or letters informing the applicable government agencies/authorities about the emergency response procedures in place and any required co-ordination for specific events. Bilateral meetings will be held where necessary.	
<b>Environmental &amp; Social Monitoring &amp; Reporting</b>	Project Lenders	Environmental and social auditing to evaluate projects compliance with Georgian standards, lender requirements and loan covenants.	On an annual basis throughout operational phase of the project.
<b>Implementation of the grievance mechanism</b>	All identified stakeholders	As described in the grievance mechanism section of this SEP (Section 7).	Re-established at the start of operations and managed throughout the entirety of the operational phase to facilitate rapid and effective response.



## 7 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

The land acquisition, which is important activity at the pre-construction stage, is often connected with complaints from the affected households (AHs), who may be not satisfied by received compensations and changed conditions. The Project's activities (during construction, commissioning and operation) may result in potential nuisance and environmental and social impacts (noise; shadow flicker; dust emissions etc.) and related complaints of stakeholders. To address all those issues and potential complaints from affected parties it is required to establish a grievance redress mechanism (GRM). The aim of the grievance mechanism is establishing a system to receive, record, study and facilitate resolution of the stakeholder's concerns and grievances about the Project's environmental and social performance.

The grievance mechanism is an important part of stakeholder engagement and will be in place from the E&S disclosure process, throughout construction and operations through the end of the Project life. The grievance mechanism will use an understandable and transparent process that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible at no cost; so, all stakeholders/affected parties will have the opportunity to raise a complaint.

The overall accountability for the grievance mechanism will be held by the Project Company, although responsibility for elements of its implementation may be contractually delegated.

### 7.1 Key Principles of Grievance Mechanism

The grievance mechanism for the Project will comply with the following principles:

- The purpose of the grievance mechanism procedure will be clarified at the outset;
- The process will be scaled to the risks and impacts of the Project;
- The process will be transparent and accountable to all stakeholders by putting it into writing, publicizing it and explaining it to relevant stakeholders;
- The grievance mechanism will be made clear, understandable and easily accessible by providing information in the local language and orally where communities cannot read;
- Complaints or concerns will be rapidly resolved;
- The mechanism will not involve any costs nor retribution associated with lodging a grievance; and
- Precautionary measures such as clear non-retaliation policy, confidentiality measures and safeguarding of personal data collected in relation to a complaint, as well as an option to submit grievances anonymously will be in place.

### 7.2 Scope of Grievance Mechanism

The scope of the grievance mechanism is to evaluate and address stakeholders' problems and concerns regarding project activities, the implementation of mitigation and compensation measures as per the ESIA and environmental and social performance of the Project.

The Grievance Procedure addresses grievances that arise from affected communities and any other stakeholder, and a separate mechanism is developed to address worker grievances. Typical complaints for wind power projects include:

- ✓ Complaints related to land acquisition and resettlement;

- ✓ Complaints related to construction damages, and
- ✓ Environmental complaints.

All relevant claims from affected stakeholders will be accepted and no judgment made prior to investigation, even if complaints are minor. This includes complaints in relation to gender- based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, conflict between project employees and community members etc.

However, according to good practice, the following claims will be directed outside of Project- level mechanisms:

- Complaints clearly not related to the project based on assessment of its legitimacy;
- Issues related to governmental policy and government institutions;
- Complaints constituting criminal activity and violence, which will be referred to the justice system; and
- Commercial disputes: Commercial matters will be stipulated for in contractual agreements and issues will be resolved through a variety of commercial resolution mechanisms or civil courts.

In the event that any of the grievances are rejected at the screening stage, the complainant will be informed of this decision including a justification why.

## 7.3 Steps in Managing Grievance Mechanism

### 7.3.1 Publicizing Grievance Management Procedures

The grievance mechanism of this Project will be made publicly available using the means outlined and as linked to the disclosure processes. In addition, notices will also be provided at key Project locations (i.e. PIC and site/office entrances) and Municipalities in regard of how to lodge a grievance and the process related to follow up. The information provided will be available in Georgian and will include the following:

- What Project-level mechanisms are capable of delivering and what benefits complainants can receive from using the company's grievance mechanism, as opposed to other resolution mechanisms;
- Who can raise complaints (i.e. all stakeholders);
- Where, when, and how community members can file complaints;
- Who is responsible for receiving and responding to complaints;
- What sort of response complainants can expect from the company, including timing of response; and
- What other rights and protection are guaranteed.

### 7.3.2 Submitting a Grievance

Upon establishing the GRM, the grievances may be submitted by:

- Direct delivery of a completed form (ref. template in Appendix 4) to a sealed grievance box at the PIC in v. Ruisi and project site office entrances;
- Handed to CLOs;

- Submission by post or email directly to JSC Wind Power Tbilisi office
- Address: Zurab Avalishvili Street No.12
- By phone to a dedicated phone numbers: 591802821, 591802120, 591880575
- Submission of form through the project web page: [www.windpower.ge](http://www.windpower.ge)
- Directly received by project personnel, including security personnel (security personnel at the Project's entry points and site office(s) must be aware and trained to deal with any grievances appropriately).

Information is provided at the PIC and key Project site/office entrance locations, at the location of grievance boxes to inform people about the process and timeline to follow up their grievances.

For illiterate complainants or those that prefer to submit their grievances verbally, there is the possibility to lodge this with PIC staff or to meet with the relevant site E&S/HSE Manager who will take notes on the details of the complainant and read them out loud to the complainant to confirm that the key elements of the complaint have been captured. Where the respective manager is not available, security staff will take the grievances and ensure these are registered via the formal grievance process.

If an anonymous grievance (e.g. letter or email without details about the complainant) or the grievant requests to remain anonymous is submitted, the grievance will also be accepted and processed.

### 7.3.3 Keeping Track of Grievances

Upon receiving grievances submitted by any means mentioned above, the steps below will be followed to ensure all grievances are adequately investigated in order to avoid leaving any issues or concerns raised open.

- The grievance will be recorded in a form of register (ref. Template in Appendix 5). The register will contain:
  - Details of the grievance;
  - The personnel/division(s) responsible for resolving the grievance;
  - Process tracking fields (receipt dates, status, result dates);
  - Response provided to the complainant;
  - Corrective and preventive actions taken to prevent reoccurrence of such complaint; and
- The grievances will be acknowledged as soon as possible (no later than a week from reception) by sending a formal confirmation with a complaint number and a timeline for response to the complainant to assure the complainant that the organization is responding properly.
- In cases of sensitive grievances, such as those involving multiple interests and a large number of affected people or those relating to physical and economic displacement, sexual abuse and harassment or gender-based violence, where a more complex investigation is required, the complainant will receive an update within two weeks of the grievance being received, explaining the actions required to resolve the complaint, and the likely timeframe; and
- The Project Company will explain in the first letter of acknowledgment, which claims are clearly outside the scope of the mechanism and what alternative mechanisms communities can use to address these potential issues.

JSC Wind Power will manage a central database to keep a record of all complaints recorded from the Project area. The database will contain the name of the individual or organization lodging a grievance; the date and nature of the complaint; any follow-up actions taken; the solutions and corrective actions implemented by JSC Wind Power, the Contractor, or any other relevant party; the final result; and how and when this decision was communicated to the complainant

### 7.3.4 Reviewing and Investigating Grievances

Depending on the circumstances of complaints made, various departments may need to be involved in resolving the complaints. The person(s) responsible for handling grievance will organize the process to validate the complaints legitimacy and arrange for investigation of details.

When grievances are complex and cannot be resolved quickly, an extensive investigation may be required to prevent escalation of the issue. The responsible and accountable party remains the Project Company, although the investigation and review may be delegated to the EPC Contractor or O&M Company respectively. The grievance mechanism must conform to the principle of 'no cost'. If the investigation team is formed internally, issues that will be taken into consideration include potential conflicts of interest, qualifications, gender composition, and budget. Meetings with complainants and site visits will be undertaken, as appropriate.

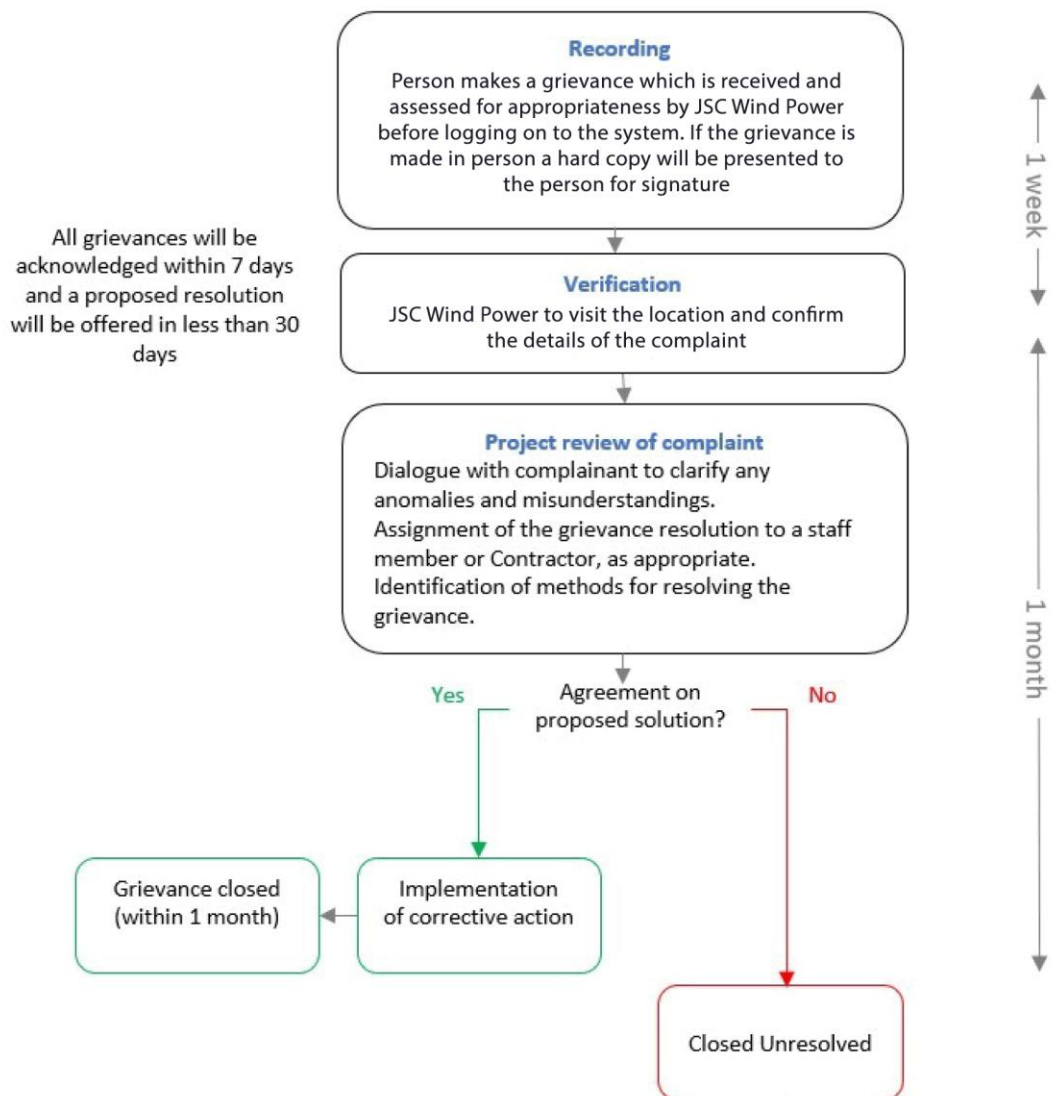
All grievances will be investigated by the responsible Project party within 2 weeks of submittal. Where grievances require a longer duration for investigation, the grievant will be informed of this delay and advised of the expected timeline for a response.

In cases of sensitive grievances - such as those involving multiple interests or those relating to sexual abuse and harassment or gender-based violence or community related conflict- it may help to engage outside organizations in a joint investigation, or allow for participation of local or national authorities only if the complainants agree to this approach.

### 7.3.5 Grievance Resolution Options and Response

The approach used in resolving various types of grievances will be different depending on the nature of the issue, frequency of occurrence and the number of grievances. Rather than prescribing a specific procedure for each particular type of complaint, the flexibility of the grievance mechanism allows for resolution options appropriate for different types of grievances to be provided. For example, these options may include altering or halting harmful activities or restricting their timing and scope (e.g. for construction dust, or access road noise), providing an apology and revising the stakeholder engagement strategy.

As a general procedure we present the scheme proposed for JSC Wind Power Grievance resolution.



Two tier general scheme for the grievance resolution is proposed as a basic structure:

- Tier 1 mechanisms envisages grievances, which could be easily resolved at site without engagement of top managers. The simple complaints could be received in written or orally and in case if they are resolved soon the only brief records are kept in the grievance records databases. Tier 1 process is limited to one week.
- In case if the grievances received at sites could not be resolved easily (as a tier 1 process), the responsible GRM representatives assist the complainants to draft properly and lodge the written grievance, which will be passed to the tier 2 mechanism; One month is a maximum time given for providing substantiated response based on the studies and review of the case.

Resolution to the grievance will be communicated to the grievant either in written format or verbally depending on what format the grievant has selected as preferred, but in all cases a written record will be kept by the Company. In cases where the grievance/claim is rejected or where the company does not require action, the company representative will be diplomatic when informing the grievant about the outcome of the eligibility review process so as to prevent conflict from escalating.

Where the claim is accepted, a proposed solution will be provided and communicated to the grievant within a stipulated period. If the grievant does not accept the proposed resolution, the company would re-assess the situation, discuss and clarify the finding with the grievant and make sure that all alternatives within the grievance mechanism are explored. If the grievant is still not satisfied with the proposed resolution, the grievant will be allowed to take the dispute resolution mechanism as tier 2 process or outside of the company grievance mechanism (external mechanism).

Where a proposed solution is accepted or agreed upon by all parties involved, the case will be closed out and evidence that necessary actions have taken place will be collected. Such evidence includes:

- Conducting a meeting with the complainant to reach a collective agreement or get a confirmation and file it along with the case documentation to close out the claim; and
- Take photos or collect other documentary evidence to create a comprehensive record of the grievance and how they were resolved.

Where the grievant is not satisfied with the outcome of the proposed resolution, actions concerning further discussion and re-assessment shall be completed and advised within 2- weeks of notification of dissatisfaction by the grievant.

By July 2025, a total of three grievances have been registered within the scope of the project. All three grievances were documented through initial telephone communication by the grievance manager, followed by in-person visits to the Ruisi Wind Power Project's information center. Each of these grievances was resolved in favor of the complainants and concerned land acquisition. Specifically, in all three cases, the owners of the land plots had an obligation to sell the land for the wind power project to the previous owners of the project area. Since all three landowners expressed their wish to sell the land to the new project owner, LLC Wind Power, rather than having the obligation canceled, their complaints were satisfied. As a result, the project acquired three additional land parcels. To protect personal information, the complaints are not made publicly accessible.

## 7.4 Grievance Mechanism for Construction and Commissioning Phase

The construction and commissioning phase will require two separate grievance mechanisms to be implemented for the following parties:

- **Workers** - Construction and commissioning personnel, workers, project staff, (including sub-contractors' staff and visitors); and
- **Third-parties** – All other parties not related to the Project.

Social teams of JSC Wind Power as well as LTD PERI and Goldwind are assigned the responsibility to manage the grievance mechanism during this time, to ensure that all received grievances are processed via the provisions in this SEP. The related staff is trained accordingly (as outlined below). Adequate resources are allocated to the assigned staff member responsible for managing grievances. An additional team or part of an existing team may support the member of staff;

However, the assigned staff are experienced in engagement processes and are familiar with the lender requirements for stakeholder engagement.

### 7.4.1 Workers Grievance Mechanism (Internal)

The workers' grievance mechanism are available for all construction and commissioning personnel associated with construction and commissioning activities to enable them make work related concerns. This includes all those employed by the Project Company, EPC contractor, sub-contractors, any other related contractors and project visitors. All construction and commissioning personnel are made aware of the grievance mechanism during their employment inductions. There is information on how to access the grievance mechanism posted at key locations on-site (e.g. noticeboards) and at dedicated worker accommodation.

Grievances from construction and commissioning personnel are either be made in writing to the EPC Contractor via a specific grievance form (ref. template in Appendix 4). The grievance form is made available at key locations on-site (e.g. administration block, canteen area, and office locations) as well as at any staff accommodation area. The grievance form is available in Georgian, English and other applicable languages of the workforce (for example Chinese). The complaints can also be made verbally in confidence to the manager of the grievance mechanism or other manager, and the manager will complete the grievance form on behalf of the grievant.

Grievance forms will include contact details of the complainant; however, a grievance can be raised anomalously if desired. Grievance forms are posted in a sealed and locked 'post box', located at all key locations where grievance forms are available. The grievance box are checked on a regular schedule several times a week. If a verbal grievance is preferred this can be specified by the complainant at the time of raising the grievance and the responsible staff will also record the grievance received and register it via the formal process.

Responses to grievances are transparent and free of retribution. Follow-up to grievances are completed on a grievance follow up form and also documented in the grievance register. The follow up form state all actions taken to resolve the grievance and any further dialogue that had ensued, as well as any future monitoring of the situation or other planned actions. The completed and signed off forms are kept in a dedicated grievance mechanism folder on site, which is made available for review to the external independent environmental and social auditors during the periodic environmental and social audits required during the construction and commissioning phase.

The Structure of the Workers GRM:

Members of the tier 1 GRM:

- EPC contractor's social specialist
- Trade union representative (in case such exists)
- Representative of EPC contractor's workers

Members of the tier 2 GRM:

- EPC contractor's Project Manager
- EPC contractor's Management staff
- Trade union representative (in case such exists)
- Representative of EPC contractor's workers
- JSC Wind Power Social Manager

Similar structure for internal grievance resolution will be established by JSC Wind Power to handle internal grievances of its employees.

#### 7.4.2 Third-Party Grievance Mechanism

Third-party grievance forms will be made available in Georgian at the PIC and key site/office locations. Sealed and locked 'grievance boxes' will be made available at these locations for grievance form submission. The contact details of the applicable Manager will be advertised at the notice board at the site's main entrance gate, once the individual has been appointed. The process for recording, reviewing, following up and responding to will be the same as detailed in sub-section 7.3.

Where third-party complaints are received by telephone, letters or email these will also be formally recorded and followed up appropriately by the designated representative. The solution to the grievance will be communicated to the grievant depending on the format the grievant has selected as preferred. In cases where the grievance/complaint is rejected, the company representative will be diplomatic when informing the grievant about the outcome of the resolution process so as to prevent conflict from escalating.

The company would re-assess the situation, organise a meeting with the complainant and local community members responsible for arbitration during conflicts or mediating of conflicting groups to discuss and clarify the findings and make sure that all alternatives within the grievance mechanism are explored.

Formal records of the grievance submission, investigation, determination of root cause (if any), corrective and preventative actions and any follow up (including monitoring) will be recorded in a grievance follow up form and maintained as documented information, with all other associated evidence of follow-up or corrective/close-out actions.

The follow up form will state all actions taken to resolve the grievance and any further dialogue that had ensued, as well as any future monitoring of the situation or other planned actions. The completed and signed off forms will be kept in a dedicated grievance mechanism folder, which will be made available for review to applicable third-parties such as independent environmental and social auditors.

The Structure of the Third Party GRM:

Members of the tier 1 GRM:

- EPC contractor's social specialist
- EPC contractor's H&S specialist
- The social expert of the Engineer (supervising company)
- The environmental expert of the Engineer (supervising company)
- Community liaison officer of JSC Wind Power
- Head of PIC

Members of the tier 2 GRM:

- EPC contractor's Project Manager and management staff
- The Engineer's (supervising company) manager and management staff
- The JSC Wind Power management



- Social Manager of JSC Wind Power
- Head of PIC

### 7.4.3 Monitoring

The process of monitoring grievance and complaints by the EPC will be under the scrutiny of JSC Wind Power who will discuss this in weekly and monthly EHS Meetings and through the site audit programme and supervising reports prepared by the Engineer. In addition, there will be quarterly third-party independent audits by an E&S Consultant that will verify the suitability of the process and the method for documenting complaints and responding to them.

The efficiency of the JSC Wind Power's engagement in the grievance resolution process is ensured through participation of the Company's representatives in GRM, as described in p. 7.4.2

The findings will be reported to the lenders and to the Board of the Project Company.

## 7.5 Grievance Mechanism during the Operational Phase

The grievance mechanism in the operational phase of the Project will be similar to that of the construction and commissioning phase. The grievance mechanism will be available for both workers and third-parties.

Grievance forms will be made available in Georgian at the PIC, as well as key locations on-site with a sealed and locked 'grievance box' available for submitting grievance at these locations. The grievance box will be checked regularly for submissions. The process for recording, reviewing, following up and responding to will be the same as detailed above. All grievances received during operations (including all follow up documentation) will be maintained for a minimum of 5 years, with records being available on site.

Where third-party grievances are received by letters or email, these will also be formally recorded and followed up appropriately by the designated representative. The contact details of the applicable manager will be advertised at the PIC and notice boards at the site's main entrance/office locations.

The Structure of the Third Party GRM:

Members of the tier 1 GRM:

- Community liaison officer of JSC Wind Power
- Head of PIC

Members of the tier 2 GRM:

- The JSC Wind Power management (Manager; Board)
- Social Manager of JSC Wind Power
- Head of PIC

There will be worker representatives selected by workers at sites who will be involved in grievance management and in coordination with representatives from trade unions.

The Structure of the Workers GRM:

Members of the tier 1 GRM:

- Trade union representative (in case such exists)
- Representative of JSC Wind Power workers

Members of the tier 2 GRM:

- The JSC Wind Power management (Manager; Board)
- Trade union representative (in case such exists)
- Representative of JSC Wind Power workers

## 7.6 Grievance Procedures for Women and Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups

### 7.6.1 Procedures to address gender-based violence and harassment (GBVH)

The following procedures will be implemented to ensure GBVH cases are reported:

- A Project specific GBVH Policy detailing the list of unacceptable behaviour among workers, provisions for reporting, sanctions for perpetrators and available resources & support systems for the victims will be prepared and implemented in accordance with lenders and Georgian requirements including JSC Wind Power's Environmental & Social Management System Implementation Manual;
- Workers will be provided with information regarding worker code of conduct in Georgian, English and other languages (if required) as part of their employment contract which will include provisions for reporting, investigations, termination and disciplinary action against those who perpetrate gender violence and harassment;
- The EPC Contractor and O&M Company will conduct mandatory regular training and awareness raising for the workforce on gender-based violence and harassment towards local community members and their colleagues especially women and the availability of a grievance mechanism to report any GBVH cases;
- The workers will be made aware of the laws and regulations that make sexual harassment and gender-based violence a punishable offence which is prosecuted;
- Ensure inclusion of a balanced representation of women on the HSE team and CLO who will be easily relatable and approachable to female workers.
- Develop tools for anonymous sexual harassment complaints by workers and host community members and protect the confidentiality of the complainants;
- EPC will train female GBVH focal point to address any GBVH cases between workers;
- The EPC Contractor and O&M Company will work in close coordination with the local authorities in investigating any complaints relating to gender violence and harassment in the host communities where it relates to Project workers;
- The EPC Contractor will provide targeted training (including in life skills such as leadership and decision-making) and awareness raising to vulnerable workers such as women; and
- Develop a monitoring system to monitor GBV activities to assess the effectiveness of the controls.

## 7.6.2 Reporting of Gender Based Violence and Harassment (GBVH)

Channels and tools for anonymous reporting of GBVH will be developed. The reporting channels will ensure safety and confidentiality to encourage reporting of such incidents. The reporting channels shall include any of the following:

- Community members: Channels may include complaint/feedback boxes, a toll-free telephone number, a designated community organisation (e.g. NGOs, etc.), service-user group or local women's organisation. Reporting channels shall include anonymous and child-friendly options to encourage children and young people to come forward.
- Workers: Channels may include complaint/feedback boxes at site/office, online reporting on company website or email.

On June 28, 2025, the project's social and environmental teams, as well as the personnel hired within the scope of the project, received training on gender-based violence. The social and complaints management team was equipped with all necessary information to handle and properly redirect complaints related to violence. The relevant contact information has been posted both at the wind power project's information center and in the contractor's residential camp, as well as in future site offices. *(Please refer to meeting notes #039, #040, #050, #051, #057, #058 and #300 in the appendix 7)*

### Hotline Phone Numbers

Public Safety Management Center (Ministry of Internal Affairs) 112	Consultative Helpline on Violence Issues 116 006
Child Rights Protection Helpline 111	Ombudsman's Helpline 14 81

Besides the trainings, the social team is providing leaflets on gender-based violence for all the project employees and people who are interested in employment within the project.

## 7.7 Grievance Mechanism Contact Details

Upon the establishment of the GRM the contact details and address of the entrance points for grievances will be available for public. At present the following details are proposed to the stakeholders in order to be able to submit their grievances or comments regarding the proposed Project.

**Table 7-1 Stakeholder Engagement - Grievance Mechanism Contact Details**

Company	Contact Details
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Project Company	JSC Wind Power
Project Social Team	<p>JSC Wind Power  Web page: <a href="http://www.windpower.ge">www.windpower.ge</a>  Tbilisi office  Address: Zurab Avalishvili Street No.12, 0179, Tbilisi, Georgia  Phone: +(995 595) 991 559  e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@windpower.ge">info@windpower.ge</a></p> <p>Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center  Location:  <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/GYgKPfJg6kngKxrEA?g_st=afm">https://maps.app.goo.gl/GYgKPfJg6kngKxrEA?g_st=afm</a>  Address: Mshvidoba street,  v. Ruisi, Georgia  Phone: +(995 591) 880 575  +(995 591) 802 821  +(995 591) 802 120  e-mail: <a href="mailto:social@windpower.ge">social@windpower.ge</a></p>
Social Manager	<p>Shorena Tchokhonelidze  Phone: +995 577 77 08 09  Email: <a href="mailto:shtchokhonelidze@gmail.com">shtchokhonelidze@gmail.com</a></p>

The Project Company, EPC Contractor and O&M Company's contact details will be confirmed before the commencement of the construction and operational phases as applicable.

## 7.8 Process Flow and Timeline

**Table 7-2 Grievance Process and Timeline**

Stage	Timeline
<b>Tier 1: Initial Grievance submission/reporting</b>	
Grievance Received/Submitted	-
Grievance logged and acknowledged	Within 1 week of grievance being submitted
Grievance investigated	Within 2 to 3 weeks of grievance being submitted*
Proposed resolution conveyed to grievant	Within 30 days of grievance being submitted
<b>Tier 2: Grievances that were not resolved through tier 1 mechanism</b>	
Actions to re-assess grievance/propose new solution/inform Grievant of final decision	Within 2 weeks of notification of dissatisfaction by Grievant

Stage	Timeline
In the event that a grievance cannot be resolved between the two parties a mediator will be involved i.e. local leaders who understand the culture and practices within the Project site.	Within 2 weeks of notification of dissatisfaction by the Grievant.

*Note: Where complex grievances, or other factors are extending the investigation time, the Grievant will be informed of this delay and advised of an updated expected timeline for response.*

Two tier general scheme for the grievance resolution is proposed as a basic structure:

- Tier 1 mechanisms envisages grievances, which could be easily resolved at site without engagement of top managers. The simple complaints could be received in written or orally and in case if they are resolved soon the only brief records are kept in the grievance records data-bases
- In case if the grievances received at sites could not be resolved easily (as a tier 1 process), the responsible GRM representatives assist the complainants to draft properly and lodge the written grievance, which will be passed to the tier 2 mechanism.

## 7.9 Training

The Project management endorsed the grievance mechanism and ensured that workers and relevant stakeholders are aware of its availability.

The Project management also ensured that personnel are allocated to manage the grievance mechanism (social teams of JSC Wind Power and its contractors). These personnel are fully aware of the outlined grievance mechanism and they have access to this document to ensure that they can undertake the necessary duties for effective implementation.

As grievances can be submitted/taken at the PIC and key Project site/office locations, the security staff are trained in regard to this process and have access to this document and any applicable forms, contact details of responsible project parties etc.

All project staff are informed of the availability of the grievance mechanism in the Project induction, including its key features such as how to submit gender-based violence & harassment incidences, processes and where to access it.

Grievance Boxes with the ready forms to complete them are available in front of the Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center, LTD PERI accommodation camp site, and two construction locations by November 2025. Besides, electronic forms can be completed on JSC Wind Power web page: <https://www.windpower.ge/grievance-form>

In addition, LTD PERI also provided electronic grievance completion forms for all the interested stakeholders and employees. QR codes are available at the construction sites as well as workers accommodation places and Ruisi Wind Power Information Centre:

SCAN HERE

LTD Peri - Grievance Electronic Platform created within the Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project



## 8 IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

In order for this Stakeholder Engagement Plan to function effectively, it is important to determine a management structure and assign suitable personnel(s) to implement and manage this Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

### 8.1 Roles and Responsibilities (Project Company)

**Note:** The roles below will need to be revised upon finalisation of Project staff and responsibilities on-site. The responsibilities of the HSE Manager, Environmental and Social Manager and Community Liaison Officer are to be outlined below once confirmed by the Project parties.

#### 8.1.1 Social Manager of JSC Wind Power

<b>NAME</b>	Shorena Tchokhnelidze
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	+995577770809

The Social Manager is responsible for:

- Implementation of all aspects of the SEP ensuring that the Project is compliant with lenders requirements;
- Ensuring stakeholders are recognised as partners in the development and delivery of strategic goals;
- Assisting the stakeholder management unit to effectively consult and engage stakeholders;
- Advising Senior Management of issues and/or risks to stakeholder relationship as soon as they arise so risk can be managed effectively;
- Supporting the implementation and management of the SEP;
- Engaging with any external stakeholders with respect to emergency planning, drills, and instances of emergency as appropriate.

The social manager will assign in a social team a person responsible for social media monitoring and fake news / campaigns management.

#### 8.1.2 Environmental and H&S Managers of JSC Wind Power

<b>NAME</b>	Maia Gikoshvili
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	+995577541080

JSC Wind Power will employ/nominate the Environmental and H&S Managers during the construction and commissioning phase and during the operation phase. The Project Company Environmental and HSE Managers will oversee the Environmental and Social performance of contractors. The Environmental and HSE Managers are responsible for:

- Identifying stakeholder issues and acting appropriately to address those issues.
- Ensuring that the SEP and the available engagement methods are publicised by the Community Liaison Officer;
- Ensuring that Project personnel are well briefed in regard to the SEP and grievance mechanism (including security personnel), and that the required resources (e.g. vehicles, company phones, office materials) are provided;
- Ensuring stakeholder meeting and disclosure of information are managed properly.
- Supervising the processing and resolution of all grievances; and
- Supervising the independent periodic monitoring and disclosure of the non- technical summary of the audit reports and of the full reports if required.
- Getting involved in stakeholder engagement activities that relate directly to HSE concerns or emergency planning; and

### 8.1.3 Community Liaison Officer (Grievance Manager)

<b>NAME</b>	Sofo Begijanashvili
<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	+995 591 880 575

In order to maintain regular communication with affected stakeholders, the social team was supplemented on April 1, 2024, by a Community Liaison Officer / Grievance Manager. The responsibilities of the Community Liaison Officer / Grievance Manager include:

- Identifying, informing and recording public views, opinions & grievances and or relaying them to the necessary personnel for follow up;
- Setting up a grievance complaint tracker system to keep track of the type of complaints filed, the complainant and status of each complaint;
- Publicising & Distributing information to applicable stakeholders and translation of the material into applicable languages;
- Handling minor, straightforward issues such as those related to a complainants request for information;
- Obtaining clarification from other members of management in regard to dealing with specific grievances, such as a need to notify the Project Company (or other Project parties) in regard to the content or response to specific grievances;
- Ensuring all received external grievances are properly recorded, addressed and managed within the specified timelines as detailed in this procedure; and
- Keeping up to date with any changes in compliance obligations with respect to stakeholder engagement and grievances.

### 8.1.4 Note: EPC will also hire a CLO for the project which will report grievances to PC. Community Liaison Officers

<b>NAME</b>	Nino Ghviniashvili Etuna Kvariantashvili
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<b>CONTACT DETAILS</b>	+995 591 802 821 +995 591 802 120
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To ensure regular communication with stakeholders affected by the project, the social team was expanded on April 1, 2025, by two Community Liaison Officers. The responsibilities of these Community Liaison Officers include:

- Informing stakeholders about project updates;
- Preparing meeting notes and updating communication logs on meetings held at the information center and other locations;
- Organizing public community meetings;
- Conducting visits to the project stakeholders: schools, kindergartens, local government offices, and other public institutions;
- Visiting vulnerable households;
- Organizing focus groups at the project's information center;
- Identifying job seekers and updating relevant databases;
- Assisting the Grievance Management Manager and Social Manager as needed.

### 8.1.5 Social Media Management

In order to manage fake news or anti-project campaigns that might be spread on the web, a special Social Media Manager will be assigned with following responsibilities:

- Track the popular social media web-sites (using key words, project name etc.)
- Track the web-sites of NGOs and other stakeholders engaged in the monitoring, information campaigns or otherwise expressing their interest towards the project
- Analyse the information and prepare brief memorandums for the Social Manager and the Project Manager
- Plan and conduct information campaigns engaging CLOs, PIC, NGOs, local population
- The tools to be used: dissemination of information through social mass media; arranging public meetings with target groups and with wider audience

**Note:** The Community Liaison Officers hired within the scope of the project also perform social media monitoring and management functions.

## 8.2 Monitoring and Reporting

The following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) should be considered to evaluate the progress or successful implementation of the SEP. KPIs should be accounted on a monthly basis.

- Number (per type) of grievances related to local community health, safety and security (injuries, damage, diseases, etc.);

- Number of incidents causing injuries/damage to community member(s);
- Number of incidents off-site that could have caused injuries or loss of life/property to community member(s);
- Number of project training/inductions provided to workers on a monthly basis, number of attendees and number of new employees;
- Number of women employed;
- Number of education and awareness training on reproductive health, STDs and HIV/AIDS provided to women & adolescent girls residing in the project's area of influence;
- Number of awareness training provided to all project workers in regard to SEA/SH risks;
- Number of mandatory regular training and awareness provided to workforce about gender-based violence and harassment towards local community members (including women) and their colleagues especially women; and
- Number of grievances received and resolved in regard to SEA, SH and GBV etc.

All engagement activities will be tracked and reported by Project Company.

### **8.3 REVIEW**

As stated herein, the SEP is a living document that will be utilised in the ESMS throughout the project's lifecycle as a reference document. As such, there is a need to update the SEP as necessary to include any relevant changes such as changes in projects circumstances, new requirements, new affected stakeholders, reviews of techniques, changes to engagement methods, changes of relevant personnel, changes to grievance mechanism, etc. There may also be a need to update the SEP and Grievance Mechanism as part of corrective actions linked to audit, or other findings.

As a minimum, the SEP will be reviewed on an annual basis, with the aim of achieving continual improvement.

## 9 Appendices

## Appendix 1 Proximity of the Facilities to the Residential Areas

### Ruisi WPP turbines and substation: proximity to the residential areas and cultural heritage objects

Turbine N	Distances (m)					
	Residential area/ closest house			Cultural Heritage Objects		
1	2055	S/W	Ruisi	2073	S/W	Ruisi St. Marine church cemetery
2	1500	S/W	Ruisi	1456	S/W	Ruisi St. Marine church cemetery
3	1447	S	Skra	1910	S	Skra Mother of God named church
4	2105	S/W	Ruisi	1933	S/W	Ruisi Kvirackhoveli church
5	903	S/W	Ruisi	610	S/W	St.Kvirike and Ivliita monastery cemetery
6	649	N/E	Arashenda	1081	N/E	Arashenda Mother of God named church
7	889	N/W	Ruisi	851	S/W	Ruisi Mother of God small church
8	1326	S/W	Urbnisi	1664	N/W	Ruisi Mother of God church
9	1015	S	Skra	1480	S	Skra Mother of God named church
10	1935	N/E	Arashenda	1633	S/W	St.Kvirike and Ivliita monastery cemetery
11	527	S/W	Ruisi	633	W	Ruisi St. Demetre church cemetery
12	594	S/W	Breti	610	S/W	Cemetery
13	714	S/W	Ruisi	446	S/W	St.Kvirike and Ivliita monastery cemetery
14	574	S/E	Ruisi	746	S/E	Ruisi St. Demetre church cemetery
15	1276	N/E	Arashenda	1872	N/E	Arashenda Mother of God named church
16	1221	N/E	Arashenda	1618	N/E	Arashenda Mother of God named church
17	2413	NW	Arashenda	1837	N/W	Ildaeti John The Baptist church
18	550	S/E	Sakasheti cottages	979	N/E	St. Nicholas church
19	1171	S/E	Ruisi	1255	S/E	Ruisi St. Demetre church cemetery
20	990	S/W	Breti	884	S/W	Cemetery
21	910	S/E	Bebnisi	2250	S	Kareli Khareba church
22	1156	N/W	Sagholasheni	1763	N/W	Sagholasheni Zion basilica
23	656	N/E	Variani Farm	1090	S/E	Variani Cylindrical Tower (417375.66, 4658639.37)
24	554	S/E	Bebnisi	1801	S	Kareli Khareba church
25	408	N/W	Dirbi	1309	N/W	Dirbi St. George church
26	515	W	Urbnisi	1628	S/W	Urbnisi Church
27	1497	N/E	Variani Farm	375	S/E	Variani Cylindrical Tower (417375.66, 4658639.37)
28	707	N/E	Sasireti	1210	N/E	Sasireti St. George church
29	868	S/W	Ruisi	616	S/W	Ruisi Kvirackhoveli church
30	1048	N/E	Variani Farm	670	S/E	Variani Cylindrical Tower (417375.66, 4658639.37)
31	570	N/E	Sakasheti cottages	1279	N/E	St. Nicholas church
32	611	N/W	Dzlevidjvari	2297	S/E	Sakasheti St.George church
33	816	N/E	Dzlevidjvari	2427	E	St. Nicholas church
34	607	N/E	Dzlevidjvari	2493	S/E	Sakasheti St.George church
35	731	S/E	Sakasheti cottages	1540	S/E	Sakasheti St.George church
36	549	N/W	Sasireti	823	N/W	Sasireti St. George church
37	916	N/W	Sakasheti	386	S/E	Ildaeti John The Baptis church

Turbine N	Distances (m)					
	Residential area/ closest house			Cultural Heritage Objects		
38	535	N/E	Sakasheti	783	N/W	Sakasheti St. George church
39	707	N/W	Sagholasheni	563	N/W	Cemetery
40	1221	N/W	Dzlevidjvari	1361	S/W	Cemetery
41	942	N/W	Sasireti	1288	N	Sasireti St. George church
42	512	N/E	Sakasheti	1116	N/W	Church of the Entry of the Most Holy Mother of God into the Temple
43	499	N/W	Dirbi	1489	N/W	Dirbi St. George church
44	809	N/W	Breti	730	S/W	Cemetery
45	673	S/W	Sagholasheni	347	N/W	Cemetery
46	1060	N/E	Dzlevidjvari	2191	N/W	Dirbi St. George church
Sub-station	1797	S/E	Ruisi	2379	S/E	Ruisi St. Demetre church cemetery

## Appendix 2 Preliminary Summary of Land Users within the Project Site

**Table: Summary of Land Users within the Project Site**

N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
1	1	2300	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
2	2	278534	Agricultural	State	No	State land
3	3	100000	Agricultural	Private/under registration	No	Arable land, annual crops
4	4	505874	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
5	5	5549	Agricultural	Private	No	Not specified
6		6454	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
7		8921	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
8		6000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
9		3000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
10		6000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
11	6	232194	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
12	7	119000	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Agro - 1959", ID:240895242 (Tamaz Kutkhashvili)	No	Arable land, annual crops
13		31000	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Agro - 1959", ID:240895242 (Tamaz Kutkhashvili)	No	Arable land, annual crops
14		2768	Non-Agricultural	Private	No	Non-Agricultural
15		4837	Non-Agricultural	Private	No	Non-Agricultural
16	8					Not specified
17	9	1522536	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
18	10	16358	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
19		6000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
20		9852	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Residential land, annual crops

N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
21	11	15391	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 8 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
22		5309	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
23		5835	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
24		11825	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
25		6004	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
26		5351	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
27		2422	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
28		4789	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
29		5948	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
30		2304	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
31	12	9870	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
32		6592	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
33			Agricultural	Private	No	Not specified
34		6000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
35	13	288500	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Agro - 1959" , ID:240895242 (Tamaz Kutkhashvili	No	Arable land, annual crops
36		31500	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Agro - 1959" , ID:240895242 (Tamaz Kutkhashvili	No	Arable land, annual crops
37	14	9100	Agricultural	<b>JSC Wind Power/ Private Nora Chkhikvadze</b>	No	Arable land, annual crops
38	15	242061	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
39	16	127452	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
40	17	505874	Agricultural	State	No	Arable land, State
41	18	45000	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops

N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
42	19	4278	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
43		12493	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
44						
45		6000	Agricultural		No	
46	20	3501	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
47		7913	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
48		3507	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
49		2528	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
50		2995	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
51		4033	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
52		2857	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
53		21	71201	Agricultural	Private	non-residential 267.m <sup>2</sup> and well
54	4117		Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
55	7559		Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
56	22	2500	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
57		9400	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Bebnisi Agro" 405320040 100% share: Eliso Katievskaja	No	Arable land, annual crops
58		5415	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
59	23	1715	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, perennials
60		2490	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, perennials
61		3219	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, perennials
62		6122	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
63		1715	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops



N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
64	24	5181	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
65		6062	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
66		2535	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
67		3893	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
68		4645	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
69		1788	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land, perennials
70		1401	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, perennials
71	25	146321	Agricultural	State	No	State
72	26	4450	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
73		2889	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
74		11945	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
75		4000	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
76	27	247706	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
77		257029	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
78	28	11341	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
79		17049	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
80		7740	Agricultural	Private	No	
81		7863	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
82		4851	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
83	29	4405	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
84		6279	Agricultural	<b>JSC Wind Power</b>	No	
85		3871	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
86		5478	Agricultural	Private	No	
87		6200	Agricultural	<b>JSC Wind Power</b>	No	
88	30	117107	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops


N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
89		114745	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
90	31	180009	Agricultural	Private Ltd "Agroinvest" 406152826 Dir. Shota Beridze, 01011070564	No	Arable land, annual crops
91	32	7800	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
92		11299	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
93		3884	Agricultural	State	No	
94		1987	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Arable land, perennials
95		4559	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
96	33	8087	Agricultural	Private	No	
97		22117	Agricultural	Private	No	
98		4575	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
99			Agricultural	Private	No	
100		4427	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, perennials
101	34	9056	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
102		6208	Agricultural	Private	No	Residential land; Perennials;
103		3373	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
104		6354	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land, annual crops
105	35	4549	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
106		8432	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Arable land, annual crops
107			Agricultural		No	
108	36	11254	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops. Year 2012 project
109		4421	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
110		7300	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
111		13074	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.

N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
112		3095	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Annual crops.
113		1806	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Annual crops.
114		1949	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Annual crops.
115	37	1509	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
116		3095	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Perennial crops
117		10012	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
118		23854	Agricultural	State	No	
119		3631	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
120		4490	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Annual crops.
121		3727	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Annual crops.
122	38	11741	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
123		7111	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
124		7547	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
125		10466	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Perennial crops
126	39	1914	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
127		985	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
128		3025	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
129		1771	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
130			Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
131		3358	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
132		9422	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
133		2025	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
134	40	248835	Agricultural	State	No	Annual crops.
135	41	8300	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Annual crops.
136		6805	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Annual crops.
137		10028	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
138		13497	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
139		5012	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
140		5833	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Annual crops.
141		7723	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
142	42	5423	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops

N	Turbine N or road between Turbines	Total Area (m <sup>2</sup> )	Status	Plot owner	Is there a building on the plot	Land Use
143		8881	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
144		9000	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
145		8901	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
146		7769	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Annual crops.
147		6160	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Annual crops.
148		6354	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 3 persons	No	Annual crops.
149		12485	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
150	43	5678	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 5 persons	No	Annual crops.
151		5537	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Annual crops.
152	44	9023	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 2 persons	No	Perennial crops
153		4319	Agricultural	Private	No	Annual crops.
154		2594	Agricultural	Under Registration	No	Annual crops.
155	45	4282	Agricultural	Private	No	Arable land; Partially annual crops, partially perennials;
156		1080	Agricultural	Private co-ownership 4 persons	No	Perennial crops
157		1139	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
158		1270	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
159		2932	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
160		2777	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
161		3717	Agricultural	Private	No	Perennial crops
162	46	248835	Agricultural	State	No	Annual crops.

## Appendix 3 Public Consultations at the Scoping Stage


### Meeting Note #01: Sharing Initial Information on Project

<b>Date:</b> 10.11.2022	<b>Time:</b> 10:00 AM	<b>Location:</b> Kareli Municipality Mayor's Office
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Identify any planned constructions and plans for settlement development of the Project affected villages in Kareli Municipality		
<b>Present:</b>	Deputy Mayor of Kareli Municipality – Ms. Natia Motsonadze Specialist in Land and Property Management from the Department of Economy of Kareli Municipality – Mr. Soso Godeladze Social Manager JSC Wind Power – Ms. Shorena Tchokhnelidze Head of Electricity Department JSC Wind Power – Mr. David Datashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power – Shorena Tchokhnelidze	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

#### Meeting Notes:

According to the Kareli Municipality representatives, there are no development plans for the Project affected villages. However, some areas were identified as having potential for commercial development (businesses may be built along the highway and connecting central roads). Besides, some auxiliary buildings may be built in the area between Ruisi and Breti Meurneoba. All potential development areas were added to the existing maps and they were confirmed by the municipality representatives.

**Meeting Note #02: Sharing Initial Information on Project**

<b>Date:</b> 10.11.2022	<b>Time:</b> 12:00 AM	<b>Location:</b> Local Government Office in Variani
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Identify any planned constructions and plans for settlement development of the Project affected villages in Gori Municipality		
<b>Present:</b>	Representative of the Mayor in Variani community – Ms. Tsira Khizanishvili Specialist of Variani Community – Mr. Ramaz Rostomashvili Specialist of Variani Community – Mr. Otar Babunashvili Specialist of Shindisi Community – Mr. Tamaz Beshkenashvili Specialist of Shindisi Community – Ms. Nana Babiashvili Social Manager JSC Wind Power – Ms. Shorena Tchokhnelidze Head of Electricity Department JSC Wind Power – Mr. David Datashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power – Shorena Tchokhnelidze	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:**  
 According to the local government representatives, there are no development plans for the Project affected villages in Gori municipality. However, some areas were identified as having potential for construction only in one village. All potential development areas were added to the existing maps and they were confirmed by the local government representatives.

Minutes of Public Hearing of the **Scoping Report** for the **210 MW** Wind Power Plant and the **220 kV** Substation Construction and Operation Project Implemented by JSC Wind Power in the Municipalities of Gori and Kareli

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 11, 2022, at 14:00, in the administrative building of Breti village of Kareli municipality. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Breti, as well as the residents of the villages of Breti and Sagholasheni.

The public hearing was opened by the representative of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, who introduced the agenda of the public hearing (sequence of presentation and question and answer (Q&A) session) to the attendees, spoke about the subject of discussion, the purpose of the meeting and the general structure of the scoping report of the proposed project. According to the relevant legislation, the attending public was explained the environmental impact assessment procedure, including the importance of the scoping stage in the environmental decision-making process. The representative of the agency emphasized the importance of holding a public hearing during the scoping procedure in order to consider public opinion. The representative of the agency informed the attending public of their right to express comments / opinions regarding the project, which, if there is a relevant basis, the agency will take into account in the process of preparing the scoping summary report. The representative of the agency urged the participants in the public hearing to first listen to the presentation of the scoping report, and after the presentation of the project, everyone would be given the opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions. At the public hearing, it was ensured that participants filled out the registration form.

The scoping report of the wind power plant and 220 kV substation construction and operation project was presented to the attendees by the representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC. During the presentation, schematic and layout drawings of the planned activities were discussed. The presentation included a general description of the planned activities, including a description of the infrastructure to be arranged, technical characteristics of the proposed wind power plant, analysis of alternative areas and types of expected impacts. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that the project envisages the construction and operation of a maximum of 50 wind turbines. It was explained to the population that the construction of wind turbines and the 220 kV substation is planned in the municipalities of Kareli and Gori, in the surrounding areas of the village of Dirbi, the village of Breti, the village of Ruisi and the village of Variani. For a better visualization of the project, schematic drawings of the project, including the project areas allocated for the arrangement of the turbines and substation, were presented to the population. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that turbines are planned to be arranged on approximately 150 plots of land, the majority of which belong to private owners and that the procurement of plots will be conducted through an active communication with the population and will be voluntary. Each turbine and supporting infrastructure will require the use of an area of 2 ha. The turbines will be located at a considerable distance from the nearest residential house. The speaker noted that the exact locations of the turbines will be defined at the EIA stage. The speaker also drew attention to the existing irrigation system in the project area and noted that it is important not to disrupt the structure of the irrigation network by implementing the project. It was mentioned that it is planned to employ the local population both at the construction (40-50 people) and at the operation stage (10-15 people).

After describing the general characteristics of the project, the speaker outlined the main types of impacts expected as a result of the planned activities. Special attention was paid to biodiversity, including the expected impact on ornithofauna. The speaker noted that a seasonal study of birds and bats is underway, which will be completed by the EIA stage, at which time it will be possible to provide more detailed information, including the outline of measures to be considered / implemented in terms of expected impacts. It was noted that based on the available data, the project area is not a sensitive area in terms of impact on birds and bats. The speaker explained that one of the turbines is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees, therefore it will be necessary to remove the trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree. The issue of the presence of cultural monuments in the project area was also emphasized during the public hearing. The speaker explained that all kinds of construction

works will be carried out in accordance with the relevant report prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

After the presentation, the attending public asked questions and expressed comments / opinions regarding the project, which are reflected in the Annex of the public hearing minutes (See Table below).

After the end of the public hearing, the representative of the agency, together with the representative of JSC Wind Power conducted an on-site inspection and visual assessment of the project area. They also photographed the project area.





Author of the comment	Comment / Opinion	Author(s) of the answer	Answer / Respond
Maia Japarishvili Resident of Breti village	The resident asked question regarding the number of turbines to be arranged near the village of Breti..	JSC Wind Power	The representative of the company explained that according to the preliminary assessment, around 6-8 turbines are planned to be arranged in the surroundings of the village of Breti. The representative of the company further explained that the planned activity is in the pre-design phase, therefore, detailed information about the number of turbines, including the number of turbines to be arranged in the vicinity of the village of Breti, will be specified at the detailed design phase and will be presented in the EIA report.
Tsiuri Bidzinashvili Resident of Breti village	The resident was interested when the construction of the project will be launched and whether it will be possible to plant agricultural crops in the locations near which the turbines are planned to be arranged.	JSC Wind Power	According to the explanation of the company's representative, the construction works will be launched after passing the permit procedures defined by the relevant legislation. The representative of the company explained that about 2 ha of land is planned to be utilized at the location of each turbine, and the population will be able to continue agricultural activities only in the area where the turbines and relevant supporting infrastructure will not be located. It was also noted that the presence of turbines in the vicinity of agricultural lands will not be related to the impact on agricultural crops.
Resident of Breti village	The resident asked question regarding the benefits to be received from the implementation of the project and the importance of the project.	JSC Wind Power	The representative of the company explained to the resident the current situation in the country in terms of electricity and emphasized the importance / role of the project in terms of energy independence of the country. 100% of the electricity generated during the operation stage will be consumed by the country. Revenue funds will be paid to the municipality as social benefits, and the company plans to offer various social packages to the population.

Author of the comment	Comment / Opinion	Author(s) of the answer	Answer / Respond
Tinatin Arveladze Representative of NGO Sabuko	<p>The resident asked question regarding the number of land plots to be crossed by the power transmission line and, accordingly, the number of land plots to be procured.</p> <p>As a recommendation, he explained that in the case of the power transmission line, the issue of cumulative impact should be discussed in detail in the EIA report. Among them, the issue of cumulative impact should be discussed in relation to the Gori wind power plant.</p> <p>The representative of NGO Sabuko noted that the methodology of conducting ornithofauna studies, including the seasons, should be properly organized at the EIA stage.</p> <p>The representative of NGO Sabuko also emphasized the importance of population involvement in the early stages of project planning.</p>	JSC Wind Power	<p>According to the representative of the company, the project plans to lay an underground power line connecting the turbines to the substation, therefore it will not be necessary to procure the plots. It was also noted that a separate project will be developed for the power transmission line connecting the proposed substation to the common electrical grid.</p> <p>The representative of the company said that the population was provided with information at the early stage of the scoping - planned activities and admitted that this public hearing was held for this purpose. In addition, the important role of the agency in terms of informing the population and organizing public hearing at the early stage of the project was emphasized.</p> <p>The representative of the company explained that the seasonal studies on birds will be conducted within the framework of the EIA procedure and detailed information about the possible impact on ornithofauna, including the Eastern imperial eagle, will be presented in the EIA report.</p>

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Minutes of Public Hearing of the Scoping Report for the 210 MW Wind Power Plant and the 220 kV Substation Construction and Operation Project Implemented by JSC Wind Power in the Municipalities of Gori and Kareli

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 11, 2022, at 11:00, in the administrative building of Dirbi village of Kareli municipality. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Dirbi, as well as the residents of the village of Dirbi.

The public hearing was opened by the representative of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, who introduced the agenda of the public hearing (sequence of presentation and question and answer (Q&A) session) to the attendees, spoke about the subject of discussion, the purpose of the meeting and the general structure of the scoping report of the proposed project. According to the relevant legislation, the attending public was explained the environmental impact assessment procedure, including the importance of the scoping stage in the environmental decision-making process. The representative of the agency emphasized the importance of holding a public hearing during the scoping procedure in order to consider public opinion. The representative of the agency informed the attending public of their right to express comments / opinions regarding the project, which, if there is a relevant basis, the agency will take into account in the process of preparing the scoping summery report. The representative of the agency urged the participants in the public hearing to first listen to the presentation of the scoping report, and after the presentation of the project, everyone would be given the opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions. At the public hearing, it was ensured that participants filled out the registration form.

The scoping report of the wind power plant and 220 kV substation construction and operation project was presented to the attendees by the representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC. During the presentation, schematic and layout drawings of the planned activities were discussed. The presentation included a general description of the planned activities, including a description of the infrastructure to be arranged, technical characteristics of the proposed wind power plant, analysis of alternative areas and types of expected impacts. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that the project envisages the construction and operation of a maximum of 50 wind turbines. It was explained to the population that the construction of wind turbines and the 220 kV substation is planned in the municipalities of Kareli and Gori, in the surrounding areas of the village of Dirbi, the village of Breti, the village of Ruisi and the village of Variani. For a better visualization of the project, schematic drawings of the project, including the project areas allocated for the arrangement of the turbines and substation, were presented to the population. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that turbines are planned to be arranged on approximately 150 plots of land, the majority of which belong to private owners and that the procurement of plots will be conducted through an active communication with the population and will be voluntary. Each turbine and supporting infrastructure will require the use of an area of 2 ha. The turbines will be located at a considerable distance from the nearest residential house. The speaker noted that the exact locations of the turbines will be defined at the EIA stage. The speaker also drew attention to the existing irrigation system in the project area and noted that it is important not to disrupt the structure of the irrigation network by implementing the project. It was mentioned that it is planned to employ the local population both at the construction (40-50 people) and at the operation stage (10-15 people).

After describing the general characteristics of the project, the speaker outlined the main types of impacts expected as a result of the planned activities. Special attention was paid to biodiversity, including the expected impact on ornithofauna. The speaker noted that a seasonal study of birds and bats is underway, which will be completed by the EIA stage, at which time it will be possible to provide more detailed information, including the outline of measures to be considered / implemented in terms of expected impacts. It was noted that based on the available data, the project area is not a sensitive area in terms of impact on birds and bats. The speaker explained that one of the turbines is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees, therefore it will be necessary to remove the trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree. The issue of the presence of cultural monuments in the project area was also emphasized during the public hearing. The speaker explained that all kinds of construction works will be carried out in

accordance with the relevant report prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

After the presentation, the attending public asked questions and expressed comments / opinions regarding the project, which are reflected in the Annex of the public hearing minutes (See Table below).



17.10.2022

Annex: Q&amp;A Table

Author of the comment	Comment / Opinion	Author(s) of the answer	Answer / Respond
Resident of Dirbi village	The resident was interested in the specific locations of the wind turbines. The resident also asked question about the area required for the arrangement of wind turbines.	WEG Envi Consulting LLC  LEPL National Environmental Agency  JSC Wind Power	The representative of the environmental consulting company explained to the resident the scoping procedure, which is carried out at the early stage of activity planning, and noted that at this stage, only approximate locations are discussed, which will be specified during the EIA procedure. The project is in the pre-design stage, after the completion of which more detailed and accurate information will be presented, both about the technical characteristics of the project and the locations of the turbines.
			In addition, the representative of the agency noted that a public hearing will be once again held at the EIA stage of the planned activity, during which detailed information about the project will be presented. Thus, the population will once again be given the opportunity to ask questions and receive appropriate explanations.  The representative of the company explained that no more than 50 and no less than 36 turbines are planned to be arranged within the planned activities, and approximately 2 ha of area will be used for each turbine. The population will have the opportunity to continue agricultural activities on the remaining area.
Resident of Dirbi village	The resident expressed positive attitude towards the project and asked question about the expected social benefits from the implementation of the project, as well as the provision of electricity benefits for the village in the case of the operation of the proposed wind power plant.	JSC Wind Power	The representative of the company explained to the resident that the operator cannot determine the price of electricity, the company will only generate energy, which will later be connected to the common electricity system. Revenue funds will be paid to the municipality as social benefits, and the company plans to offer various social packages to the population.

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Minutes of Public Hearing of the Scoping Report for the 210 MW Wind Power Plant and the 220 kV Substation Construction and Operation Project Implemented by JSC Wind Power in the Municipalities of Gori and Kareli

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 12, 2022, at 12:00, in the administrative building of Ruisi village. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Breti, as well as the residents of the village of Ruisi.

The public hearing was opened by the representative of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, who introduced the agenda of the public hearing (sequence of presentation and question and answer (Q&A) session) to the attendees, spoke about the subject of discussion, the purpose of the meeting and the general structure of the scoping report of the proposed project. According to the relevant legislation, the attending public was explained the environmental impact assessment procedure, including the importance of the scoping stage in the environmental decision-making process. The representative of the agency emphasized the importance of holding a public hearing during the scoping procedure in order to consider public opinion. The representative of the agency informed the attending public of their right to express comments / opinions regarding the project, which, if there is a relevant basis, the agency will take into account in the process of preparing the scoping summary report. The representative of the agency urged the participants in the public hearing to first listen to the presentation of the scoping report, and after the presentation of the project, everyone would be given the opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions. At the public hearing, it was ensured that participants filled out the registration form.

The scoping report of the wind power plant and 220 kV substation construction and operation project was presented to the attendees by the representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC. During the presentation, schematic and layout drawings of the planned activities were discussed. The presentation included a general description of the planned activities, including a description of the infrastructure to be arranged, technical characteristics of the proposed wind power plant, analysis of alternative areas and types of expected impacts. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that the project envisages the construction and operation of a maximum of 50 wind turbines. It was explained to the population that the construction of wind turbines and the 220 kV substation is planned in the municipalities of Kareli and Gori, in the surrounding areas of the village of Dirbi, the village of Breti, the village of Ruisi and the village of Variani. For a better visualization of the project, schematic drawings of the project, including the project areas allocated for the arrangement of the turbines and substation, were presented to the population. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that turbines are planned to be arranged on approximately 150 plots of land, the majority of which belong to private owners and that the procurement of plots will be conducted through an active communication with the population and will be voluntary. Each turbine and supporting infrastructure will require the use of an area of 2 ha. The turbines will be located at a considerable distance from the nearest residential house. The speaker noted that the exact locations of the turbines will be defined at the EIA stage. The speaker also drew attention to the existing irrigation system in the project area and noted that it is important not to disrupt the structure of the irrigation network by implementing the project. It was mentioned that it is planned to employ the local population both at the construction (40-50 people) and at the operation stage (10-15 people).

After describing the general characteristics of the project, the speaker outlined the main types of impacts expected as a result of the planned activities. Special attention was paid to biodiversity, including the expected impact on ornithofauna. The speaker noted that a seasonal study of birds and bats is underway, which will be completed by the EIA stage, at which time it will be possible to provide more detailed information, including the outline of measures to be considered / implemented in terms of expected impacts. It was noted that based on the available data, the project area is not a sensitive area in terms of impact on birds and bats. The speaker explained that one of the turbines is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees, therefore it will be necessary to remove the trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree. The issue of the presence of cultural monuments in the project area was also emphasized during the public hearing. The speaker explained that all kinds of construction works will be carried out in accordance with the relevant report prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

After the presentation, the representative of the agency asked the attending public to express their comments and opinions regarding the planned activities.

The comments/opinions expressed at the public hearing were related to issues of expected impact on pastures and private property, as well as on the forest area. The representative of the company noted that only the specific area of the pastures where the turbine should be located will be used. Residents will have limited access to the site where the turbine and supporting infrastructure will be installed, while the rest of the area will be used as usual. The representative of the company noted that in agreement with the population, any land owned by a private person, which falls within the area of the project implementation, both within the turbine location and in the diametrical radius of its wings (about 2 ha) will be purchased by the company and the defined compensation value will be paid. Regardless of the purchase of the plot, the population will have the opportunity to use the territory, except for the specific location of the turbine. Regarding the expected impact on the forest area, it was explained that only one turbine is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees. Accordingly, it will be necessary to remove trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree.

After the end of the public hearing, the representative of the agency, together with the representative of the company conducted an on-site inspection and visual assessment of the project area. They also photographed the project area



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Minutes of Public Hearing of the **Scoping Report** for the **210 MW Wind Power Plant** and the **220 kV Substation Construction and Operation Project** Implemented by JSC Wind Power in the Municipalities of Gori and Kareli

The public hearing of the scoping report of the planned activities was held on October 12, 2022, at 15:00, in the administrative building of Variani village. The public hearing was attended by the representatives of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, JSC Wind Power, WEG Envi Consulting LLC and the administrative unit of the village of Variani, as well as the residents of the villages of Variani, Arashenda and Sakasheti.

The public hearing was opened by the representative of the LEPL National Environmental Agency, who introduced the agenda of the public hearing (sequence of presentation and question and answer (Q&A) session) to the attendees, spoke about the subject of discussion, the purpose of the meeting and the general structure of the scoping report of the proposed project. According to the relevant legislation, the attending public was explained the environmental impact assessment procedure, including the importance of the scoping stage in the environmental decision-making process. The representative of the agency emphasized the importance of holding a public hearing during the scoping procedure in order to consider public opinion. The representative of the agency informed the attending public of their right to express comments / opinions regarding the project, which, if there is a relevant basis, the agency will take into account in the process of preparing the scoping summary report. The representative of the agency urged the participants in the public hearing to first listen to the presentation of the scoping report, and after the presentation of the project, everyone would be given the opportunity to express their opinion and ask questions. At the public hearing, it was ensured that participants filled out the registration form.

The scoping report of the wind power plant and 220 kV substation construction and operation project was presented to the attendees by the representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC. During the presentation, schematic and layout drawings of the planned activities were discussed. The presentation included a general description of the planned activities, including a description of the infrastructure to be arranged, technical characteristics of the proposed wind power plant, analysis of alternative areas and types of expected impacts. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that the project envisages the construction and operation of a maximum of 50 wind turbines. It was explained to the population that the construction of wind turbines and the 220 kV substation is planned in the municipalities of Kareli and Gori, in the surrounding areas of the village of Dirbi, the village of Breti, the village of Ruisi and the village of Variani. For a better visualization of the project, schematic drawings of the project, including the project areas allocated for the arrangement of the turbines and substation, were presented to the population. The representative of WEG Envi Consulting LLC explained that turbines are planned to be arranged on approximately 150 plots of land, the majority of which belong to private owners and that the procurement of plots will be conducted through an active communication with the population and will be voluntary. Each turbine and supporting infrastructure will require the use of an area of 2 ha. The turbines will be located at a considerable distance from the nearest residential house. The speaker noted that the exact locations of the turbines will be defined at the EIA stage. The speaker also drew attention to the existing irrigation system in the project area and noted that it is important not to disrupt the structure of the irrigation network by implementing the project. It was mentioned that it is planned to employ the local population both at the construction (40-50 people) and at the operation stage (10-15 people).

After describing the general characteristics of the project, the speaker outlined the main types of impacts expected as a result of the planned activities. Special attention was paid to biodiversity, including the expected impact on ornithofauna. The speaker noted that a seasonal study of birds and bats is underway, which will be completed by the EIA stage, at which time it will be possible to provide more detailed information, including the outline of measures to be considered / implemented in terms of expected impacts. It was noted that based on the available data, the project area is not a sensitive area in terms of impact on birds and bats. The speaker explained that one of the turbines is planned to be arranged in the forest of artificially planted pine trees, therefore it will be necessary to remove the trees from the environment. The planned mitigation measure is to plant three new trees in a similar habitat instead of each cut tree. The issue of the presence of cultural monuments in the project area was also emphasized during the public hearing. The speaker explained that all kinds of construction works will be carried out in accordance with the relevant report prepared by the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

After the presentation, the representative of the agency asked the attending public to express their comments and opinions regarding the planned activities.

The comments/opinions expressed at the public hearing were mainly related to the issue of arranging



turbines on private land plots and compensatory measures to be implemented. The residents were interested specifically on which land plots the project infrastructure is planned to be arranged. The representative of the company explained to the residents that the planned activity is in the pre-design phase, therefore, detailed information about the specific location and number of turbines will be defined in the detailed design stage and will be presented in the EIA report. No more than 50 and no less than 36 turbines will be arranged within the framework of the planned activity and for each turbine, an area of approximately 2 hectares will be used. It was noted that after the project areas are determined, the company's expert in the relevant field will determine the exact number of private land plots based on communication with the population, and appropriate compensation measures will be taken. The cost of both the area itself and the plantations on it will be compensated.

After the end of the public hearing, the representative of the agency, together with the representative of the company conducted an on-site inspection and visual assessment of the project area. They also photographed the project area.



## Appendix 4 Example Of Grievance Form

<b>GRIEVANCE FORM</b> <i>To be used for grievance(s) only. Shall not be used to raise comments, suggestions, or/and inquires or any other matters</i>	
INSTRUCTIONS	Please fill in this Grievance form in clear handwriting and submit through one of the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Directly to CLOs</li> <li>- By email to: JSC Wind Power or EPC Contractor</li> <li>- Deposit in a project grievance box at the PIC or Project entrances</li> </ul>
Full Name	First Name:
	Last Name:
	<input type="checkbox"/> I wish to raise my grievance anonymously ( <i>You can remain anonymous if you prefer but we will not be able to contact you with a response to your concern</i> )
Contact Information Please mark how you wish to be contacted (mail, telephone, e-mail).	<input type="checkbox"/> By Post: <i>Please provide mailing address:</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> By telephone:
	<input type="checkbox"/> By email:
Preferred Language of Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Georgian
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Description of Incident/Grievance	<i>What happened? Where did it happen? Who did it happen to? What is the result of the problem?</i>
Date of Incident/Grievance	<input type="checkbox"/> One-time incident/grievance (date...)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Happened more than once (how many times?)
	<input type="checkbox"/> On-going (currently experiencing problem)
What would you like to see happen to resolve the problem?	
Signature:	
Date:	

## Appendix 5 Grievance Registration Template and Register Records

### Registration Template

<b>Grievance Registration Form</b>	
საჩივრის რეგისტრაციის ფორმა	
Grievance N ----- :	
საჩივარი N ----- -ის აღწერა	
Date:	
თარიღი:	
<b>Project Recorder</b>	
<b>საჩივრის მიმღები:</b>	
Name:	
სახელი:	
Signature:	
ხელმოწერა:	

## REGISTER RECORD FORMS

ID	Date	Name of Grievant	Contact Details	Preferred Language	Requested Anonymity?	Description of Problem	Responsible Person	Actions to be undertaken	Due date	Results of the Actions	Closing Date	Evidence of Closure

## Appendix 6 Public consultation at the discloser stage

### The Schedule of Public Consultations (April-June 2024)

Date	Time	Village/Town	Municipality	Meeting Venue
19.04.2024	17:00	Ruisi	Kareli	Outside of the Ruisi Public Service Hall
22.04.2024	16:00	Urbnisi	Kareli	Administrative building of Urbnisi
25.04.2024	17:00	Sakasheti / Arashenda	Gori	Near the Church of the Virgin Mary in Sakasheti
30.05.2024	12:00	Bebnisi	Kareli	Administrative building of Bebnisi
30.05.2024	14:00	Breti	Kareli	Administrative building of Breti
06.06.2024	12:00	Dirbi	Kareli	Administrative building of Dirbi
06.06.2024	14:00	Shindisi	Gori	Administrative building of Shindisi
25.06.2024	12:00	Kareli	Kareli	Kareli, 4500, N3 Ninoshvili street
25.06.2024	15:00	Gori	Gori	Gori, 1400, N5 Grigol Peradze street
02.07.2024	12:00	Tbilisi	Tbilisi	N4 Freedom Square, Tbilisi Courtyard Marriott

## Documentation Delivery Schedule

Date	Address	Documentation	Meeting Notes (please see below)
12.04.2024	Ruisi Public Service Hall Building - Local government office	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	Meeting Note #001
16.04.2024	Local Government Administrative building in Urbnisi	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	Meeting Note #002
19.04.2024	Local Government Administrative building in Variani	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	Meeting Note #003
23.05.2024	Local Government Administrative building in Bebnisi	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	Meeting Note #007
23.05.2024	Local Government Administrative building in Breti	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	Meeting Note #008
23.05.2024	Kareli Municipality Office	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 1; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 2 - Annexes; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP); Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Framework; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS); Environmental and Social Action Plan; Supplementary Avifauna Analysis and Action Plan;</i>  <i>The Community Meeting Statement (at 12:00, on 25.06.2024) was also published on the information Board of the City Hall</i>	Meeting Note #009
28.05.2024	Local Government Administrative building in Dirbi	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two</i>	Meeting Note #010

		<i>leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	
<b>28.05.2024</b>	Local Government Administrative building in Shindisi	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms</i>	<b>Meeting Note #011</b>
<b>28.05.2024</b>	Gori Municipality Office	Delivered documentation: <i>Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 1; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 2 - Annexes; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP); Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Framework; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS); Environmental and Social Action Plan; Supplementary Avifauna Analysis and Action Plan;</i>  <i>The Community Meeting Statement (at 15:00, on 25.06.2024) was also published on the information Board of the City Hall</i>	<b>Meeting Note #012</b>


## The Schedule of Public Community Meetings

Date	Time	Village/Town	Municipality	Meeting Notes (please see below)
19.04.2024	17:00	Ruisi	Kareli	Meeting Note #004
22.04.2024	16:00	Urbnisi	Kareli	Meeting Note #005
25.04.2024	17:00	Sakasheti / Arashenda	Gori	Meeting Note #006
30.05.2024	12:00	Bebnisi	Kareli	Meeting Note #013
30.05.2024	14:00	Breti	Kareli	Meeting Note #014
06.06.2024	12:00	Dirbi	Kareli	Meeting Note #015
06.06.2024	14:00	Shindisi	Gori	Meeting Note #016
25.06.2024	12:00	Kareli, 4500, N3 Ninoshvili street	Kareli	Meeting Note #017
25.06.2024	15:00	Gori, 1400, N5 Grigol Peradze street	Gori	Meeting Note #018
02.07.2024	12:00	N4 Freedom Square, Tbilisi Courtyard Marriott	Tbilisi	Meeting Note #019
03.09.2024	16:00	Sakasheti	Gori	Meeting Note #020
19.09.2024	16:00	Ruisi	Kareli	Meeting Note #021
03.10.2024	16:00	Arashenda	Gori	Meeting Note #024
16.10.2024	16:00	Urbnisi	Kareli	Meeting Note #025



**Documentation Delivery Meeting Notes:**

**Meeting Note #001**

<b>Date:</b> 12/04/2024	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Public Service Hall (House of Justice).
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Ruisi.		
<b>Present:</b>	Representative of the Mayor in Ruisi: Shalva Malachini Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Ruisi. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on April 19 at 17:00 in the Ruisi Public Service Hall. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places in Ruisi and an announcement would be made via social networks (Facebook) as well. Apart from the above-mentioned activities short phone messages would be sent to all the project-affected households about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**The following documentation was delivered to the Ruisi local government:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, Grievance Forms*

### Meeting Note #002

<b>Date:</b> 16/04/2024	<b>Time:</b> 13:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Urbnisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Urbnisi		
<b>Present:</b>	Representative of the Mayor in Urbnisi : Genadi Makharashvili Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Specialist: Nana Mgeladze CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	

**Meeting Photos:**

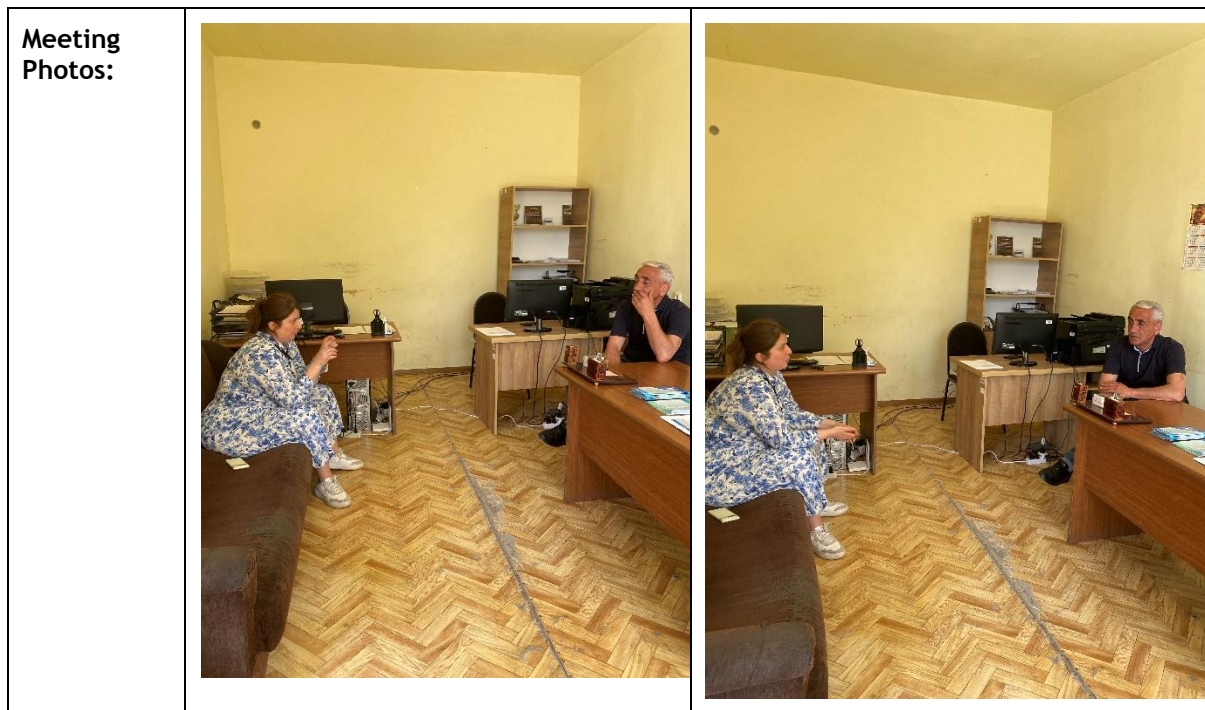


**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Urbnisi. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on April 22 at 16:00 in the administrative building of Urbnisi. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Urbnisi and an announcement would be made via social networks (Facebook) as well. Apart from the above-mentioned activities short phone messages would be sent to all the project affected households about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**The following documentation was delivered to Urbnisi local government:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, Grievance Forms*

**Meeting Note #003**

<b>Date:</b> 19/04/2024	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Variani.
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Variani.		
<b>Present:</b>	Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhnelidze Specialist of Saqasheti: Ramaz Rostomashvili CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	



**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Specialist in Variani. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held in Sakhsheti on April 25 at 17:00 near the Church of the Virgin Mary. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Variani and Sakhsheti. Apart from the above-mentioned activities short phone messages would be sent to all the project affected households about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**Delivered documentation:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms*

**Meeting Note #007**

<p><b>Date:</b> 23/5/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 13:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Bebnisi</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Bebnisi</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Representative of the Mayor in Bebnisi: Giorgi Imerlishvili                  Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze                  Representative of the Company: Giorgi Giunashvili                  CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	



**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Bebnisi. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on May 30 at 12:00 in the administrative building of Bebnisi. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Bebnisi. Apart from the above-mentioned activities Mayor’s representative helped us to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**Delivered documentation:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms*

**Meeting Note #008**

<b>Date:</b> 23/5/2024	<b>Time:</b> 14:30	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Breti
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Breti		
<b>Present:</b>	Representative of the Mayor in Breti: Roza Edilashvili Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	


**Meeting Photos:**



**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Brei. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on May 30 at 14:00 in the administrative building of Brei. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Brei. Apart from the above-mentioned activities Mayor’s representative helped us to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**Delivered documentation:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms*

Meeting Note #009

<p><b>Date:</b> 23/5/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 16:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Kareli Municipality Office</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Submission of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package of the project to the Kareli Municipality Office</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze          Representative of the Company: Giorgi Giunashvili          Representative of the administrative service of the Kareli City Hall: Aleko Ghambarashvili</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		

**Meeting Notes:** Information was provided to Kareli Municipality Office that the process of public consultations of the Ruisi wind power plant project is starting. A complete package of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment documentation of the project was handed over for anybody who shows interest to read. An announcement about the whereabouts of the documentation as well as the community meeting date and location was posted on the information board of the Kareli Municipality Office.

The following documentation was handed over to the administrative service of the Kareli Municipality Office:

- 1- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 1;
- 2- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 2 - Annexes;
- 3- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP);
- 4- Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Framework;
- 5- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS);
- 6- Environmental and Social Action Plan;
- 7- Supplementary Avifauna Analysis and Action Plan.

**Meeting Note #010**

<p><b>Date:</b> 28/5/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 12:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Dirbi</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Dirbi.</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Representative of the Mayor in Dirbi: Mzia Kopadze                  Specialist: Zaza Kurachashvili                  Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze                  CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		



**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Dirbi. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on June 6 at 12:00 in the administrative building of Dirbi. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Dirbi. Apart from the above-mentioned activities Mayor’s representative helped us to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**Delivered documentation:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms*

**Meeting Note #011**

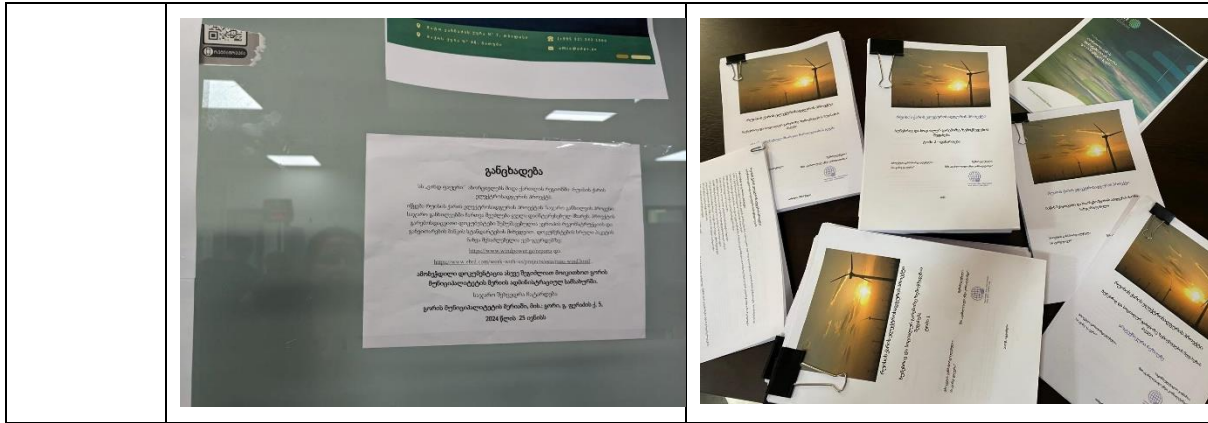
<b>Date:</b> 28/5/2024	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Shindisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Organizing an informational public meeting in the village Shindisi		
<b>Present:</b>	Representative of the Mayor in Shindisi: Zura Khajrishvili Specialists: Tskenia Gamgebeli, Tamazi and Nana Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** It was an introductory meeting with the Mayor’s representative in Shindisi. The following issues were discussed during the meeting: cooperation between the Project and the Local government and organizational details of the informational public meeting with the local community. It was agreed that the public meeting would be held on June 6 at 14:00 in the administrative building of Shindisi. It was decided that public meeting details would be posted in public places of Shindisi. Apart from the above-mentioned activities Mayor’s representative helped us to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

**Delivered documentation:** *Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) in Georgian, two leaflets about the Ruisi Wind Power Project, RWPP Grievance Forms*

**Meeting Note #012**

<p><b>Date:</b> 28/5/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 16:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Gori Municipality City Hall</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Submission of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package of the project to the City Hall</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze                  Representative of the Company: Giorgi Giunashvili                  Representative of City Council apparatus in Gori: Aleksandre Tarkhnishvili</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		



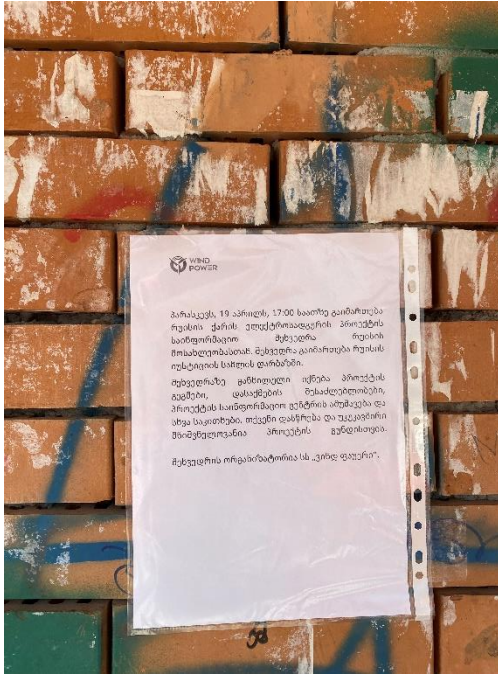


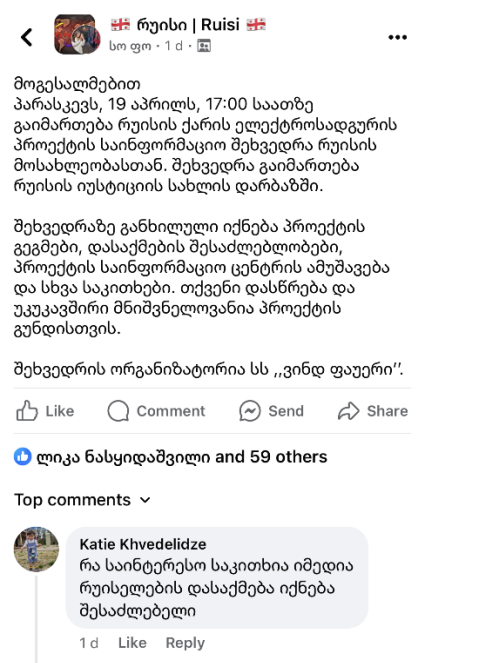
**Meeting Notes:** Information was provided to Gori Municipality Office that the process of public review of the Ruisi wind power plant project is starting. A complete package of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment documentation of the project was handed over for anybody who shows interest to read. An announcement about the whereabouts of the documentation as well as the community meeting date and location was posted on the information board of the Gori municipality Office.

The following documentation was handed over to the administrative service of the Gori City Hall:

- 1- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 1;
- 2- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Volume 2 - Annexes;
- 3- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP);
- 4- Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Framework;
- 5- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Package- Non-Technical Summary (NTS);
- 6- Environmental and Social Action Plan;
- 7- Supplementary Avifauna Analysis and Action Plan;

**Public Community Meeting Notes:  
Meeting Note #004**

<b>Date:</b> 19/04/2024	<b>Time:</b> 17:00	<b>Location:</b> Outside of the Ruisi Public Service Hall
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news		

<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Representative of the Mayor in Ruisi: Shalva Malachini                  Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhanelidze                  Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia                  Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili                  CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili                  The population of Ruisi - 16 people. (15- M, 1- F)</p>
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>	 
	



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which the social team of SS Wind Power was helped by Mr. Shalva Malachini, the representative of the Mayor in Ruisi. Information about the meeting was posted in the form of an announcement at the village bus stops, at the Justice House in Ruisi and near the SS Wind Power's information center. Information was provided to Ruisi residents with the help of a social network (Facebook), where an announcement was also posted on the village page. In addition, telephone messages were sent to all the project affected households (90 families). The meeting was planned in the reception of the Ruisi Public Service Hall, however, the sent request was rejected and the meeting was planned in the yard.

The meeting was held near the Ruisi Public Service Hall. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze, Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia and Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

**The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:**

**Question 1:** Why didn't the land acquisition happen anymore?

**Answer 1:** The final areas required for the project are selected taking into account several factors: if the owners want to sell the land, wind power in a particular location, availability of access roads, and minimal impact on the social and natural environment. Therefore, the process is not simple and consists of many factors. For example, if you want to sell land but the locations of adjacent turbines changed, this would have a chain effect on all other adjacent turbine locations.

**Question 2:** Is it planned to acquire more land?

**Answer 2:** Yes, we may need to acquire more land as access road areas are being specified.

**Question 3:** When will construction work start?

**Answer 3:** Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2024, although work on access roads may begin in late summer.

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**




რუისში საჯარო შეხვედრის ხელმოწერის ხელმო



რუისში საჯარო შეხვედრის ხელმოწერის ხელმო

**Meeting Note #005**

<b>Date:</b> 22/04/2024	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building of Urbnisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news.		
<b>Present:</b>	Social manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili The population of Urbnisi - 6 people (1- M, 5-F)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>	 The photograph captures an outdoor scene during sunset. On the left, a three-story green building with several windows is visible. In the foreground, a grey metal utility box is mounted on a concrete post, with two white notices pinned to it. A chain-link fence runs across the middle ground. The background features a bright sunset over a horizon, with a utility pole and trees silhouetted against the sky.	



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Mr. Genadi Makharashvili, the representative of the Mayor in Urbnisi, helped the social team of SS Wind Power. Information about the meeting was posted in the form of an announcement at the village. telephone messages were sent to all the project-affected households (10 families).

The meeting was held in the administrative building of Urbnisi. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze, CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:

**Question 1:** Is it planned to acquire more land?

**Answer 1:** Yes, we may need to acquire more land as access road areas are being specified.

**Question 2:** What about the salary?

**Answer 2:** The salary will depend on the work performed. The minimum wage has not been specified with the contractor at this stage.




ურბნისში საჯარო  
შეხვედრის ხელმო

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**



**Meeting Note #006**

<p><b>Date:</b> 25/04/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 17:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Near the Church of the Virgin Mary in Sakasheti</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news.</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhnelidze                  Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia                  Land Acquisition Specialist: Beka Shanidze                  CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili                  The population of the local community - 26 people from Sakasheti and Arashenda : (20- Sakasheti, 6- Arashenda).</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Mr. Ramaz Rostomashvili specialist helped the social team of SS Wind Power in Variani. Information about the meeting was posted in the form of an announcement in Sakasheti. In addition, telephone messages were sent to all the project-affected households in Variani. (30 family of Sakasheti. 4 family of Arashenda).

The meeting was held near the Church of the Virgin Mary. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze, Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia, and Land Acquisition Specialist: Beka Shanidze, and CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

**The following questions were asked from the population at the meeting:**

**Question 1:** Is it planned to acquire more land?

**Answer 1:** Yes, we may need to acquire more land as access road areas are being specified.

**Question 2:** When will construction work start?

**Answer 2:** Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2024, although work on access roads may begin in late summer.

**Question 3:** How dangerous is electromagnetic emissions of the turbines to the local population?

**Answer 3:** The wind farm project is not associated with significant exposure to electromagnetic field propagation and related health issues. Electromagnetic emission of the turbines is insignificant and is not harmful either to humans, animals or plants. Let's show the pictures.

**Question 4:** How will candidates be selected for employment?

**Answer 4:** First of all, all applicants will be considered for registration of information in the

information center of the Ruis wind power plant project. A public relations specialist will help you register your candidacy. Immediately before the start of work, the most suitable candidates for the position will be selected based on interviews from the list of applicants. The selection process will be transparent.



საქაშეთში



საქაშეთში

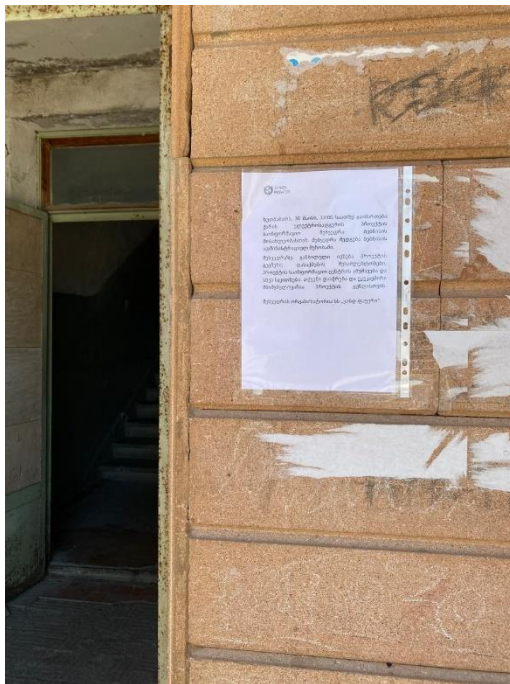
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**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**

**Meeting Note #013**

<b>Date:</b> 30/5/2024	<b>Time:</b> 12:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Bebnisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhoniidze Representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili Specialists in Bebnisi: Archil Begalishvili and Lia Ardemanashvili CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili The population of Bebnisi: 9 people (8-M, 1-F)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	

Meeting Photos:



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Mr. Giorgi Imerlishvili helped the social team of SS Wind Power. Information about the meeting was posted in the form of an announcement Bebnisi. In addition, the Mayor’s representative helped the WPP team to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

The meeting was held in the administrative building in Bebnisi. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhoniidze, representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashviliand, and CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:

**Question 1:** When will construction work start?

**Answer 1:** Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2024, although work on access roads may begin in late summer.

**Question 2:** What about the salary?

**Answer 2:** The salary will depend on the work performed. The minimum wage has not been specified with the contractor at this stage.



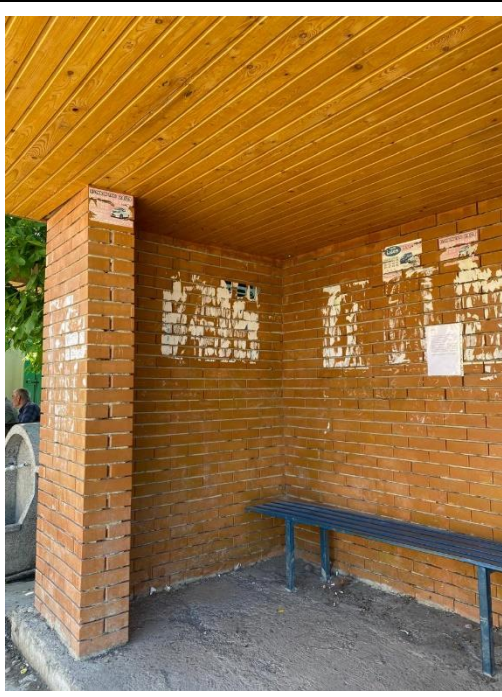
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შეხვედრის ხელმო

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**

**Meeting Note #014**

<b>Date:</b> 30/5/2024	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Breti.
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhoniidze Representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili Representative of the Mayor in Breti: Roza Edilashvili CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili The population of Breti: 11 people (8-M, 3-F)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	

Meeting Photos:



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Ms.Roza Edilashvili helped the social team of SS Wind Power. Information about the meeting was posted in the form of an announcement Breti. In addition, the Mayor’s representative helped us to inform the population about the date, time and location of the public meeting.

The meeting was held in the administrative building in Breti. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze, representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashviliand, and CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

**The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:**

**Question 1:** Is it planned to acquire more land?

**Answer 1:** Yes, we may need to acquire more land as access road areas are being specified.

**Question 2:** What about the salary?

**Answer 2:** The salary will depend on the work performed. The minimum wage has not been specified with the contractor at this stage.

**Question 3:** How dangerous are electromagnetic emissions of the turbines to the local population?

**Answer 3:** The wind farm project is not associated with significant exposure to electromagnetic field propagation and related health issues. Electromagnetic emission of the turbines is insignificant and is not harmful either to humans, animals or plants. Let's show the pictures.



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შეხვედრის ხელმო

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**

**Meeting Note #015**

<b>Date:</b> 6/6/2024	<b>Time:</b> 12:00	<b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Dirbi.
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news		

<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze          Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili          Representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili          CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili          Representative of the Mayor in Dirbi: Mzia Kopadze          Specialist in Dirbi: Zaza Kurachashvili.          The population of Dirbi 21 people. (13-M, 8- F)</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>	 <p>The photographs show the exterior of a building with white walls and large glass windows. In the top-left photo, a hand is pointing to a poster on the window. The top-right photo shows a Georgian flag on a balcony above the window. The bottom-left photo shows a building with a red roof and a yellow sign with Georgian text 'მამა' above a window with posters. The bottom-right photo shows a red door with posters on it, next to an air conditioning unit.</p>	





**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Mzia Kopadze helped the social team of JSC Wind Power. Information about the meeting was posted at public places in Dirbi (bus stops, shops, local government notice board). In addition, the Mayor’s representative helped JSC Wind Power team to inform the population about the date, time, and location of the public meeting.

The meeting was held in the administrative building in Dirbi. The company’s social manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze, Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili, representative of the JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashviliand, and CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact, and benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism, and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

**The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:**

**Question 1:** When will construction work start?

**Answer 1:** Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2024, although work on access roads may begin in late summer.

**Question 2:** What about the salary?

**Answer 2:** The salary will depend on the work performed. The minimum wage has not been specified with the contractor at this stage.

**Question 3:** How will candidates be selected for employment?

**Answer 3:** First of all, all applicants will be considered for registration of information in the information center of the Ruisi wind power plant project. A public relations specialist will help you register your candidacy. Immediately before the start of work, the most suitable candidates for the position will be selected based on interviews from the list of applicants. The selection process will be transparent.



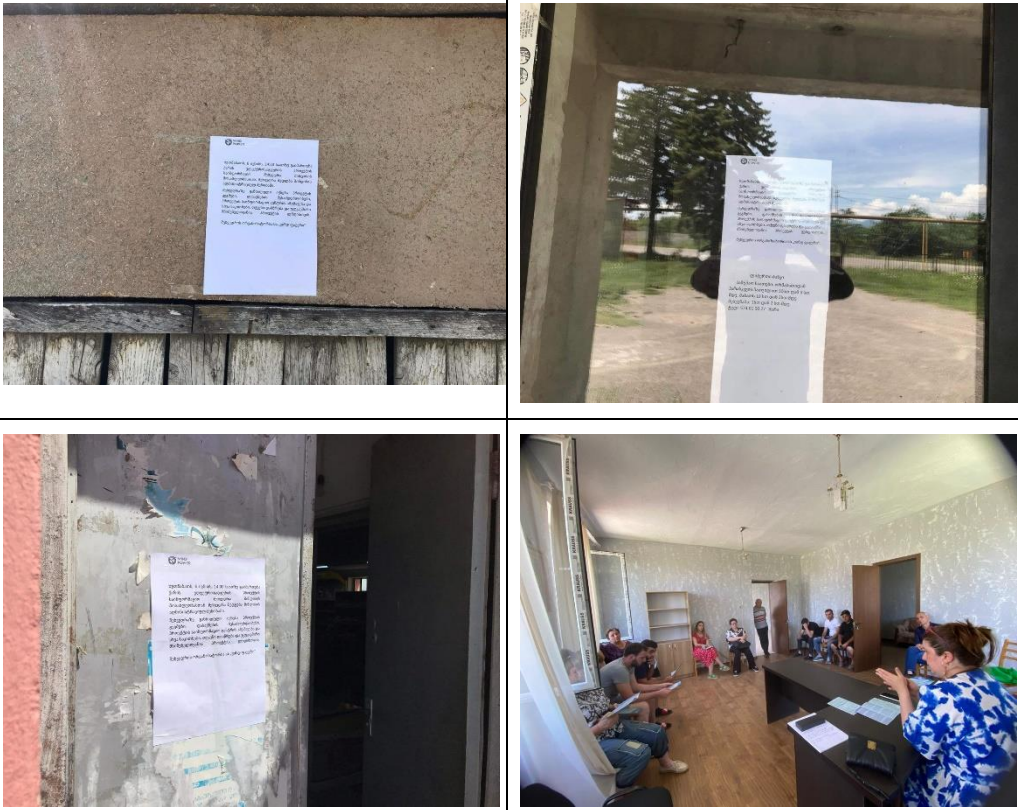
Dirbi\_1\_Redacted.pdf



Dirbi\_2\_Redacted.pdf

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**

**Meeting Note #016**

<p><b>Date:</b> 6/6/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 14:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Shindisi.</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing the population about project news</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhanelidze          Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili          Representative of JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili          CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili          Specialists in Shindisi: Mr. Tamaz Beshkenashvili, Ms. Wyenia Gamebeli and Nino Bediashvili.          The population of Shindisi 8 people. (6-M, 2-F)</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		



**Meeting Notes:** The meeting was organized in advance, in which Zura Khajrishvili helped the social team of JSC Wind Power. Information about the meeting was posted at public places in Shindisi (bus stops, shops, and the local government notice board). In addition, the Mayor’s representative helped the JSC Wind Power team to inform the population about the date, time, and location of the public meeting.

The meeting was held in the administrative building in Shindisi. The company's social manager: Shorena Tchokhoniidze, Environmental Protection Specialist: Maya Gikoshvili, representative of the JSC Wind Power: Giorgi Giunashvili, and CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili took part in the meeting.

During the meeting, the population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism, and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi.

**The following questions were asked of the population at the meeting:**

**Question 1:** When will construction work start?


**Answer 1:** Work is expected to begin in the fall of 2024, although work on access roads may begin in late summer.



Shindisi\_Redacted.pdf

**Signatures of Meeting Attendees:**

**Meeting Note #017**

<p><b>Date:</b> 25/6/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 12:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Kareli Municipality City Hall</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the natural and social environmental impact assessment of the project prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Presenter of ESIA results: Medgar Tchelidze                  Project Executive Director: Zaza Bakuradze                  Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze                  Environmental Protection Specialist: Maia Gikoshvili                  Consultant of EBRD: Nino Akhvlediani                  CLO JSC Wind Power: Sopho Begijanashvili                  The population of the villages of Kareli municipality and local government is 43 people. (34- M, 8- F).                  Representatives of three non-governmental organizations (AEGEE Tbilisi, Association for the Protection of Farmers' Rights, A/O New Vector)</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sopho Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>	 <p>The first photograph shows the exterior of a building with a grey metal roof and a concrete base. The second photograph shows an interior view of a brick structure with a wooden ceiling and a table, where a person is partially visible sitting at the table.</p>	





**Meeting Notes:** Kareli Municipality Mayor representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in their office. Information regarding the public meeting was published at the public places in all target villages of Kareli municipality. Besides, the announcement was published in social media pages (Facebook) of the target villages (Ruisi, Urbnisi, Bebnisi, Sasireti, Breti, Dirbi). The announcement was also available on the official social media page of Kareli Municipality City Hall (<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/35Y8xSa46EqVrAY8/?mibextid=WC7FNe>). Stakeholders were also informed via Kareli press (Kareli Moambe). The public consultation was held in Kareli Municipality City Hall.

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism, and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi. ESIA document brief presentation (40 minutes) was made by the consultant Medgar Tchelidze.

The participants were very active after the presentation. Several questions were asked. Project Executive Director Zaza Bakuradze answered all the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitude of the population towards the project is positive.



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**Signatures of the meeting:**

**Detailed Transcript of Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:**

**Question 1:**

*President of Association for Farmers' Rights Defense*

- Energy security of the project is very important in this project which is significantly in shortage in the district and region, probably political too, because any investment is a gain for the country and region, specific region, it provides economic, social, political, and even geopolitical sustainability and this energy novelty must take place in this region specifically, Georgia has been striving for a long time for focusing on renewable energy, to make a loud statement in terms of resources that we have, including wind, geothermal energy, biomass. It is also important that this project will generate employment. However, based on my experience and considering lots of other projects that were implemented in the energy field in Georgia, unfortunately, the practice was that sub-contractors often recruited those individuals who had skills and qualifications, certain certifications, who had licensed, certified skills, whether this would be a mechanic, a concrete machine operator, a welder, etc. It would be important if your company supported training courses for the skilled professionals I just mentioned, practical trainings for a workforce that are currently offered by many vocational schools, these are short-term but very useful qualifications these

people would use any time for any employment and this way they would gain knowledge that would comply with requirements of competitive employers or sub-contractors not once, not one-time, not only for this project but for future projects as well. It would be very important if your company provided support within the scope of corporate social responsibility because there are many good agricultural cooperatives and qualified individuals who would use these skills, and this experience in the future. I believe that it will be technically convenient and the rates that should be in this project as a benefit of this project how it will help the production of the local agricultural products and processing and how it will facilitate cheaper electricity rates of the local output, lower tariff plans, because based on my experience when I was visiting one of the largest farmer cooperatives in Germany, Brandenburg land, they showed us their model, how it works. This model should be incorporated everywhere – cooperative members have cheaper tariffs on energy generated by wind energy. I would like to ask you, do you plan to initiate the establishment of cooperation of renewable energy, association that will get these benefits and the products produced here will compete with electricity generated through other traditional sources. Based on every trend and every prognosis, energy will be constantly growing until wind energy and similar energy sources are constantly competitive in any case, I mean potential is really big and I'm thankful for your company for this large-scale project.

**Answer 1:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- First of all, thank you very much for the correct assessment of the importance of this project for the country and region, you asked several questions, and correct accents were made and I would like to say that first of all, we would gladly support that initiative and we will not only support certification programs utilized in construction work, but you mentioned correctly, that number one source of employment in the region is agriculture similar to the most non-highland regions of Georgia, we are separately working on the package of social projects, these meetings serve that purpose too to receive different feedback from local residents, local municipalities. We believe we are working actively and they are aware of existing problems and ways to address them. Our focus is on local residents and we are glad to receive feedback from experienced people like you and to improve and refine the packages we will provide in the future, to offer services and social packages that will be useful and efficient for people in the future. We can work on that not to support only welders' certification program, but agricultural programs too. I have some experience in agriculture, we are separately planting our almond fields and I'm very well aware that there is a shortage of people with specific skills in Georgia and I know how important it is to obtain education, so, we are ready to do this.

As for certification, those individuals who will obtain certification in technical fields, we will be able to hire them and afterwards, they will be able to compete on the labor market and will be competitive in any project.

As for cheaper electricity rates, that question is valid too, but we, as energy producers are limited by the law about supplying electricity, we are not suppliers, we are producers. We supply the state, this is the agreement we have defined by the legislation, we supply 100% of generated energy to local consumption, then this energy goes to the electricity grid and then the system decides where to supply this energy based on consumption. So, we are not allowed to supply electricity to anyone for cheaper, I cannot violate the law. We cannot technically do it anyway, because this region, district has another supplier, but when it comes to social packages, our vast experience showed us that direct impulsive support does not work, I mean vouchers and similar. If it turns out to be the most preferred type of support for residents, we may end up providing it, but overall, we prefer social projects that do not imply short-term financial allowance, but long-term utilization of the project that will have modification effect in the future. So, I mean this feedback is acceptable, we have our social manager Shorena, we have our team and we are working on this and we try to get as much feedback from locals as possible through meetings and consulting with local government. There are many international grants that we can additionally get and offer more services, we are working on this actively. So, after we collect information and listen to local residents, local government, hear what different experts have to say, we will offer packages and we will further discuss this, we will jointly decide on what areas to focus and allocate our budget on. Thank you.

**Question 2:**

*A resident of Ruisi village*

- Do you have a set date for the commencement of works?

**Answer 2:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

Very good question, thank you.

- Speaking of works, we will probably divide it into two parts:

One, the main works that require some time because this project is a large-scale one, it needs a separate construction permit, and lots of state institutions are involved in obtaining this permit. In addition, in order to start the main portion of the construction we need funding, we are working on that too. I think it will be a bit difficult to start this year, maybe in the end of the year, but it's probably more realistic to say that large-scale works will start after the winter passes. However, we are certain we want to start fixing infrastructural issues, such as access roads that are not attached to the main permit, we have already started working on that with the municipality and we can improve local roads for which we will start working at the end of the summer. We will be informed of that in advance. We will also update locals to maximize their engagement. It won't be large-scale works, but some heavy machinery will be provided and we will hire people and move forward.

As for the main part of the construction works, we think it will be the end of this year or if winter is too strict, probably from the spring, it's more realistic. If we do get the permit and funding sooner, it does not depend on us completely, because state bodies have their schedule for issuing permits, if they give us the permit sooner, we will start sooner. I just tell you what's more realistic to be sure.

And there is one more thing I want to refer to, you mentioned that sub-contracts then fail to implement the plan that was approved.

In this project, the main construction works include the construction of roads, and foundations, installing electricity cables underground, construction sites, and very large-scale work. Those works will be carried out by us, our mother company LTD Peri which is the most experienced company in Georgia in terms of infrastructural projects, construction of energy projects. Peri is our investor as well, we will be carrying out the project and employment will be in our hands.

However, there will be certain specific technology-related works, such as the assembly of the turbine itself, the company we will be purchasing from will assemble the turbine, because no one in Georgia has relevant experience in doing this job, secondly, the manufacturer company issues guarantee, this is why it needs to be the one to assemble the turbine and then launch into operation, but those works do not require lots of employees, this is why when it comes to employment, it will mostly imply construction works. These construction works will be under our management and there is no risk that some sub-contractor does something wrong and does not follow our instructions.

**Question 3:**

*President of the Association for Farmers' Rights Defense*

- What was the reason why the turbine design was modified? 150 m was reduced to 105 m, length of the wings is larger, was this a technical recommendation, or did we adjust to this landscape, noise minimization, or something else, what resulted in the changes?

**Answer 3:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- On the market of wind technology, improvements are made constantly. If you see a tendency in other countries, it shows that new turbines are always larger. All the companies and manufacturers



work on launching even stronger models because this is where the entire economic effect is demonstrated. In addition, one turbine on one site generates more energy. Thus, we had two assumptions in two directions:

One option was to maximally cover the area to see the maximal impact on the region, environment, and social aspects so that in the future we do not miss anything, I mean we applied a more conservative approach and selected many locations to see what was going on there; there are aspects to take into consideration such as birds, bats, cultural heritage, social aspects, and environmental impact. That was when we did not have the turbine selected, it required some time. Then we announced our final tender and several international companies participated and offered the best technologies they had, including specific for landscape, climate, and so on. In terms of the energy point of view, we get the same capacity, we are not losing anything, the installed capacity was 206 MW then and now too, while now we see the huge benefit on the environmental aspect as well as in terms of social impact in order to cut down the numbers. This resulted in the fact that we now need smaller land, we cross paths with fewer sensitive areas where the impact could have been more significant on birds and bats, and in the end, we saw that we would get the same result from an energy viewpoint, so, why not, let's do it in the way to reduce impact, to minimize area and get the same benefit.

This is why we reduced from the initial 50 to 46 and now 33. That was the reasoning behind this decision, but once again, I assure you that our project will utilize the most up-to-date technology offered by international companies operating on the market which is trusted, and certified, and at the same time, it enables us to get the same capacity with less impact.

**Question 4:**

*A resident of village Dirbi of Kareli district*

- You were talking about certified welders and so on. We are certified welders, we have experience in working with international companies, and Georgian companies, and my question is: what kind of reimbursement will they provide, will it be a fixed salary or will workers be paid hourly?

**Answer 4:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- First of all, thank you very much for your initiative, you may have already communicated with our employees, some people get updates all the time, some call the office, and some visit the office, have you visited our office?

- No (*the resident of village Derbi*)

- I would kindly ask you to consult with me or my employees, provide your contact details, and experience, and show us your certificate, we will certainly consider you as a potential candidate, we are looking for people like that.

- We cooperate with engineers and we can cooperate with sub-contractors as well as with constructors and so on (*the resident of village Derbi*)

- Visit the office in Ruisi village, behind the Begijanashvili store (someone from Ruisi responds)

- As for salary, it would be very wrong of me to tell you something specific, because you have your qualification and you know your worth. Our reimbursement will be relevant to the market. I can't really say the specific amount. Anyone with any qualification hired by us will receive the reimbursement relevant to the market or region or elsewhere you worked, if we manage to pay you more it will be even better, but it won't be less than what is paid on the market. So, you should expect that you will receive reimbursement relevant to the market and you won't have a feeling that someone made you inadequate offer.

Whether it will be fixed or hourly it will depend on how you work on the market. I need to ask my construction team who works on these, principles on how reimbursement is estimated. To tell you briefly, we will continue the practice which is already established on the market, in other companies. We won't come up with something new, you will work as it is accepted, comfortable on the market in similar construction projects. I would also like to ask you to be as active as possible, contact us, and communicate, we have all the means of communication, we have our office in Ruisi, leaflets have our contact information indicated, locals are also involved, we have local public

relations specialist in our local office – our employee Sopho who tries her best so that your voice is not lost, so, please, reach out, tell us who you are, what your skills are. We try to reach every village, we had many meetings, we visited all the villages within the project area, but we prefer you to be active so we do not lose each other.

- We are involved in construction works as well as with constructors who do drawings (*the resident of village Derbi*)

Our case is that it's wind energy, no one in Georgia has similar experience and this project was designed by foreigner experts. Local experts were involved as well, but the main technology solutions, foundations, concrete reinforcement details, how should it be entwisted, everything in the project has been designed, but I agree, they may need to make technical decisions on site and we will have engineers involved and we will go through everything with specialists. However, the project is so specific, that even minor details need to be verified by foreign experts, but we will have detailed instructions on what to do, we can present everything in Georgian, what needs to be done, after going through this, we will see if there are any difficulties and we may get an expert involved. This technology is so well-established in the world that I'm certain nothing will be unsolved, we just need to understand the task thoroughly.

**Question 5:**

*President of Association for Farmers' Rights Defense*

- How will you provide jobs for women? Many women could work in the family tourism field, and young people as well, many young people in the district create apps, and their engagement even in monitoring will be very interesting. I can recommend a few young people who won very good competitions and this will be very good asset for social projects.

**Answer 5:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Very nice, we are ready to meet all people like that, talk to them, see what we have in common if there are any paths crossed in the project if it's part of our social projects, then we will focus on social projects, we are ready, we are open. See, we are not carrying out this project for ourselves, but for our country and region first of all, so, we really want this project to be tailored to local needs. Let's sit together and discuss what to focus on more and what to focus on less, based on the specific nature of the project, it may not enable us to hire lots of women because it's construction-specific work, but there may be different jobs available, you know, personnel will need food on site, accommodation, we will do our best to utilize village infrastructure, this is the area women can engage. Our office is small now but once the construction starts, our office will be bigger and that office will need lots of work and women can take care of it. So, you tell us, you help us identify areas we can help and we will offer what we can do, I'm sure we will find lots of common interests.

- This place can be interesting for tourists, as we've seen, giant Enguri HPP is very popular among tourists, thus, our region may gain tourists. (*NGO representative*)

- By the way, we have similar experiences in Kazbegi, Dariali HPP, lots of visitors come to visit this place, and we have experience in that area. This will be a very large-scale and interesting project from a tourism viewpoint. For example, whenever I go abroad and see wind stations, I always want to go closer and see it up close. We could do projects focused on this. This can be done on the operation phase. (*Zaza Bakuradze*)

- This will be very good for investors too, the region will attract tourists. (*NGO representative*)

**Question 6:**

*Local business representative*

- As a business representative from village Bebnisi, how can I be of need for the project, we have a sand quarry. How can we cooperate?

**Answer 6:**

Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director



- That specific issue, that area is including in gathering construction materials, that is more in the competence of our sub-contractor company, construction company and they will go through that topic. I will record your information; they will call you and get details on the volume of your production. Please share your phone number. I promise that I will consult with our construction company on this matter and the construction company will call you, the personnel specializing in this matter and they will interact with you. If you do not have any questions, we would like to say goodbye. Thank you for your attention.

**Meeting Note #018**

<b>Date:</b> 25/6/2024	<b>Time:</b> 15:00	<b>Location:</b> Gori Municipality City Hall
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the natural and social environmental impact assessment of the project prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties		
<b>Present:</b>	Presenter of ESIA results: Medgar Tchelidze Project Executive Director: Zaza Bakuradze Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Environmental Protection Specialist: Maia Gikoshvili Consultant of EBRD: Nino Akhvlediani CLO JSC Wind Power: Sopho Begijanashvili The population of the villages of Gori municipality and local government is 34 people. (30- M, 4- F). Representatives of three non-governmental organizations (AEGEE Tbilisi, Association for the Protection of Farmers' Rights, A/O New Vector)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sopho Begijanashvili	

Meeting Photos:





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**განცხადება**

სა „ვიდ ფაუნდ“ ახორციელებს შიდა ქართლის რეგიონში რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურის პროექტს.





დინეხულია რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურის პროექტის საჯარო განხილვის პროცესი. საჯარო განხილვის ჩარევით შეუძლია კვლევა დამატებითი შიდა ქარის პროექტის გარემოსდაცვითი დოკუმენტის შექმნა და გეგმის რევიზია და განვიხილოთ შიდა ქარის ელექტროსადგურის მხედველი დოკუმენტის სრული ასაკის წინა შესახებ დამატებითი ინფორმაცია.


<https://www.windpower.ge/reports> და <https://www.ehsd.com/ask-with-us/projects/ruisi-wind.html>

ამისთვის დოკუმენტაცია ასევე შეგიძლიათ მოგიხდით გორის მუნიციპალიტეტის მერის საზოგადოებასთან ურთიერთობის განყოფილებას.

საჯარო შეხვედრა ჩატარდება გორის მუნიციპალიტეტის მერიაში, მის. გორი, ე. ღერასძის ქ. 5, 2024 წლის 25 თებლის 15:00 სთ-ზე

შეხვედრაზე დასასრულად ტრანსპარენტის მქონე მუხრანის მუნიციპალიტეტის მთავრობის ასევე ანალიზის შემთხვევაში დოკუმენტის მქონე ტელეფონის ნომერზე 597 880 575

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პოსტები ფოტოები

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 ვარიანის ადმინისტრაციული ერთეული 3 სთ · 

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შიდა ქართლის რეგიონში სს „ვინდ ფაუნდ“ ახორციელებს რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურის პროექტ... იხილეთ მეტი



**რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურის პროექტი**

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გორის მუნიციპალიტეტის მერია	
25 თებლის 15:00	



1 გაზიარება

 მონონება  კომენტირება  გაგზავნა  გაზიარება



**Meeting Notes:** Gori Municipality Mayor representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in their office. Information regarding the public meeting was published at the public places in all target villages of Gori municipality. Besides, the announcement was published in social media pages (Facebook) of the target villages (Shindisi, Sakasheti, Arashenda, Varianis Meurneoba). The announcement was also available on the official social media page of Gori Municipality City Hall (<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/T19hM3pEaxNr18ct/?mibextid=WC7FNe>). Stakeholders were also informed via Gori press (Gori Matsne) and TV (TV Monitoring and TV Dia). The public consultation was held in Gori Municipality City Hall.

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Employment opportunities, complaints mechanism, and land acquisition were also discussed, all attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, about the project web page and the information center of the newly opened project in Ruisi. ESIA document brief presentation (38 minutes) was made by the consultant Medgar Tchelidze.

The participants were very active after the presentation. Several questions were asked. Project Executive Director Zaza Bakuradze answered all the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitude of the population towards the project is positive.



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**Signatures of the meeting:**

**Detailed Transcript of Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:**

**Question 1:**

*A resident of Shindisi village*

- I would like to ask you regarding the employment, will there be a competition or shall I address to you directly?

**Response 1:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- It is a good question, as it concerns to our employment, we have following approach, maybe it is the right one, as we have stated, we have our office in Ruisi, plus, there is a contact information stated in the brochures, it will good if any person who wishes to find the work addresses us and provide us with their personal information, what is their profession, what they can do, there a lots of people, who have learnt some specific craftsmanship and would like to continue working based on their craftsmanship, or maybe they do not have some specific skills and would like to learn one, or wishes to find relatively easy work, therefore, at this phase, we have started to find out what kind of labor is available at the local market, what are their interests, what are their profession and what they are capable of doing, accordingly to it we will prioritize the villages, which will be in our area and unambiguously will consider the people, who come from such villages, after that, if we do not run out from resources, will proceed with the villages, which are located outside from our area, but the scope of project is so big that I am sure quite a large amount is necessary to run out from the resources, that is why I encourage everyone, more than 100 people have already come to our office, mainly the emphasis is focused on the employment and we are writing down this information, we will process it, depending on what the construction of the project envisages, the people who cannot be selected for the beginning of the project, maybe there shall be a lots of women, who have less interest towards construction and there was no way

for them, therefore, for such category, we will think separately towards what direction we can employ them. The third component is social projects, which will be executed by us and adapted to the needs of the village and the people who cannot participate neither in construction nor later, maybe will join in this social project. Thus, in order for us to decide who can be employed, firstly, we have to find out what is the local demand, what kind of labor is there and what are the resources. It is yet early to start the construction; we do not start it tomorrow or day after tomorrow. We have to obtain the permission first, then financing, we have couple of months, that is why on behalf of the entire team, I encourage everyone to express interest, people who are willing to find the work shall address us, we have wide communication tools, we have office, you can call us as well, send us an e-mail, whichever method you prefer, please notify us about your interest, profession and skills, after that we will process the data, will contact the people on our own to discuss further details.

**Question 2:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- Head of the Community Relations of the Gori Municipality City Hall: you have submitted the project entirely, as we are gathered in Gori right now, it will be quite interesting to know how many turbines will be located at the Gori territory, also if you have it already calculated, in terms of the property tax what will be the income for the local budget?

**Response 2:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Accordingly to the law, the property tax is 1% of the investment, approximately till 6,000 USD, it will be slightly decreased each year, as the value of the property is decreased, first 5 years, as per our assumption it will be like this, as it concerns to the turbines, I do not remember it by heart, I will ask my colleagues to assist me in this, if you would like, we can open the map and mark it on the map. When we have bought the land plots, as a criteria, we may have to select those land plots, which belonged to the village, territorially, the works may be executed away from the villages Variani or Shindisi, but as it may turn out, the village part maybe nearby, we consider it as we already have the connection to that village, if we follow like this, we may have obtain some sketch.
- I see, If we calculate like this, there will be 6 turbines in total, 3 are located at the Gori territory and 3 – at Kareli, regarding the property tax they had dispute between each other. What I would like to know is that do you have planned it already what will be our part, just to know whether this tax will be for Gori or for Kareli. (*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*)
- As it concerns to the locations, I cannot provide with the exact information now, yes, we have 33 places selected, but there is a chance that the turbines may change their location slightly, that is why, roughly there are 3 turbines in Arashenda, however, that turbine in terms of the land plot, may belong to the other village, it is very difficult to say. Let's open up this information after this meeting and process it or maybe my colleagues have the information about it? (*Zaza Bakuradze*)
- Out of 33 turbines 12 will be in Gori Municipality. (*the project land team member*)

**Question 3:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- As it concerns the distances between the technical infrastructure, here you have indicated that it was 500 meters distance from the houses. I could not figure it out, is it possible to have the settlements within 500 meters? Which standards did you consider?

**Response 3:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- When I mentioned 500 meters, I meant that, at the initial phase of the selection, when the configuration was created, they were following with this principle, Minimum distance between the house and turbine shall be 500 meters. Roughly, in fact there is no such requirement, if the noise modelling shows that the less distance is also allowable, we will proceed accordingly, there is no official restriction, this was the approximate assumption at the initial phase.
- Is the 500 meters way too close? I have seen it myself in European countries, for example in Austria, it is located way far away from the houses, literally they are on the fields. *(Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall)*
- Several components define the distance. One of them is spreading of the noise. The turbine makes the noise, when the wing is rotating, the pressure of the one side of the wing is high, on the other side it is low and this interaction creates the noise, as if it is cutting. The modelling of the noise distribution is performed, international standards have defined the amount of noise at the house wall, based on it, we know what noise does turbine have, officially, as per the supplier's information, after that the distribution of this noise is modelled and the distance is defined. When we have done the modelling, it allowed us to make distance approximately up to 550 meters, there is no other regulation, which defines the turbine separation distance nor in Europe, neither in Georgia. The only one is noise, we have taken this standard into account, none of our turbines is not on such a location, where it distributes more than allowable noise. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- I see it, but the river noise is also allowable, but if the person is living close to the river bank, then listening to it on a daily basis... *(Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall)*
- In fact, there is no allowable noise there, if you measure the background at the river, this is not acceptable noise. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Yes, just the person gets used to it and ... *(Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall)*
- That is exactly the case, acceptable means that it is not bothering you. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

**Question 4:***Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- This permissible 500 meters, which is acceptable from the turbine till the settlement will be in your possession right? The land plot exists there, maybe somebody would like to construct the house on its adjacent plot, 500-meter distance shall be from your till citizen's property.

**Response 4:***Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- It is the right question, but I would like to say with one clarification, the village has its development plan, some territories are intended for house construction, so at any place we could say that I wanted a house to be built here, relevantly, there are development zones, which come under the interaction and the price becomes lower there and this shall be considered.
- I am not talking about the price, the village increases, the houses are built, that 500-meter distance shall be in your possession and not in the citizen's one, because if I would like to build the house within my property, the problem shall not be risen as a result of this, the citizen shall not be restricted in such point of view. *(Deputy of Variani and Shindisi)*
- Yes, yes, it is the right question. First of all, we have bought off the turbine location's nearby area, approximately two, two and a half hectares, maybe there is slightly more. The turbines are placed in the middle of the field, which belong to agricultural purposes, we are not closed to the settlement point, which has its own purpose. When we are talking about the 500 meters, it means the distance till the settled area, where building up is allowed. It is less expectable for the house to be built in the middle of the field, as it shall be kilometers away from the village. We have selected the turbine locations in the territory which fall under the



agricultural purpose category, there are no plots which fall under the construction category. We went away from the settled area. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

- What is the distance between you and the settled area? *(Deputy of Variani and Shindisi)*
- By 500 meters. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- The years will pass and these 500 meters will cause problems again to the citizens, the village increases, will follow the settled area and the inhabitants will be restricted, I mean this that those 500 meters, protection line shall be in your possession, in the private plots the inhabitants shall not be limited. If the turbine needs 2.5 hectares, those 500 meters shall not be included in it. *(Deputy of Variani and Shindisi)*
- Accordingly, to the international standards, even in Europe they are doing in this way, in the world as well, we will not be an exception. There exist some criteria about how to design the wind project, here you shall consider existing situation and development perspective of the settled area. We had the communication regarding it with the both municipalities, requested the information and evaluated the places, we cannot agree with you, as per that logic, there is no place where the wind station can be built, as theoretically, someone would wish to construct the house anywhere. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- I do not know exactly which territories they are, are they in Variani... at Arashenda mountain... there on the mountain, maybe we will not get limited, I am just saying that the inhabitants shall be considered. *(Deputy of Variani and Shindisi)*
- I would like to show it on the map. Mainly the turbines are located in the middle of this area (pointing at the map), there are several turbines, which are directly nearby to the village. The Ruisi turbine is quite far away, 2 turbines may be close to Arashenda, the turbines are quite far away, we are talking about the kilometers. If we are talking about the case, that there is a chance that after 100 years this area may become settled, this turbine will no longer exist. Generally, building up development is considered. By the minimum distance, we mean for those turbines, which are close to the village, from the 33 turbines, most of the are in the middle, therefore, we do not interfere with the population in any way. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

#### Question 5:

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- Do these turbines have protection stripe or not? 100 and 200 high voltage electric lines have it 25 meters, Georgian Railway has its own protection stripe, do these turbines have protection stripe, inside of which no more construction is allowed, else as usual houses can be built on the agricultural land plots, there are the cables places under the ground. What are the protection mechanisms?

#### Response 5:

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- The distance between the turbine and transmission lines is regulated by the separate regulation, we have already discussed these distances with the electric system of Georgia, Energy Service, with BP as well, as their pipeline passes by, with railway, with whom we were close initially, but later this turbine was canceled. We had official communication with these institutions and spacing of the turbines was agreed with them. For example, from the highway it shall be 200 meters away. There exists Irish and International Standards. Accordingly, to these standards we have defined the spacings.
- On that land plot, which will be bought off for the turbine construction, there is the part of the territory, which will be used during the construction and after that will not be necessary and there is also the part, which is permanently occupied by the infrastructure. The company has proposed the initiative, that the territory which will not be necessary after the construction, despite the fact that is bought off, shall be given to the population for the symbolical price for

the further use. You can work there and the land plot does not have special protection stripes.  
(presenter)

**Question 6:**

*Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- The territory on which the turbine will be placed is the agricultural land plot. Will the category be changed or it remains the same?

**Response 6:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- We will change it for the part, where the construction will take place directly. The Law requests so, the remaining and non-used part will maintain the agricultural land plot purpose.

**Question 7:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- We are not insured against anything and during the natural disasters, how stable are the turbines? Is the 500 meters distance sufficient? Is there any chance that population may suffer from it? For example, in case of the hurricane it falls down? (*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*)

**Response 7:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- The hurricane cannot drive out the turbine, as if the wind speed exceeds 25 m/s, the turbine stops. (*Zaza Bakuradze*)
- In case of the earthquakes? In respect to the wind? (*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*)
- The earthquake is considered constructively. Is calculated on the maximum earthquake power. In respect to the wind the turbine has its specifics. It starts working only in case the wind power is 2.5 – 3 m/s, turbine stops automatically, right after the wind power reaches 25 m/s. This is common to the turbine industry, not only for us. (*Zaza Bakuradze*)

**Question 8:**

*Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- You need 2.5 hectares land plot for the turbines...

**Response 8:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- 2.5 hectares is if we imagine the blade of the turbine is spinning and touches to its end, if we imagine the area of this circle approximately, this is not the place where the infrastructure will be placed, this is the territory, we need accordingly to the Legislation to obtain the construction permit. Either you construct the infrastructure in the air or on the ground you still need this permit, approximate radius is 87 meters.

**Question 9:**

*Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- The mandatory distance from the houses is 500 meters, what is going on facilities having the other purpose? Also, you are close to the central highway, the development in terms of business is possible after some time at that place, did you also evaluate this?

**Response 9:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- There is less restriction for the industrial areas. It is possible to arrange it even closer. The main turbines are installed far away from everything, they are kilometers away from the highway. There are several turbines, which are installed relatively close to it, in such case, the highway has its own protection zone, you cannot get closer than 300 meters, there are several turbines in the settled area as well, on which the 500 meters restriction is distributed and still it is arranged in a way that it will be far away from the building up area of the village. While planning we have considered to separate turbines as from the settled area, as well as from infrastructure, even from the river too, some of the turbines were canceled. Mainly, we have assimilated the unprocessed territories.
- Theoretically, somebody may have plan to construct the touristic complex, he shall have other investments. *(Deputy of Variani and Shindisi)*
- You cannot build touristic complex here, the zone is not relevant, theoretically everything is possible and you may would like to construct the field in the empty field, just the risks shall be evaluated relevantly. We shall decide where we shall develop energetically and where touristically. We have selected the place, which will not come into conflict, as per the specifics of this region, in the open field and mainly there is a straight place, it is less expected to develop touristic infrastructure there. At the mountainous places, where the protected areas are, we have removed it from there, we have considered this as well while planning of this project. The decision shall be made accordingly to the region development perspective. The wind station will have no restriction in terms of the population development. If the question rises, whether is it possible or not to develop the separate village on this territory, of course there will be some limitations.

**Question 10:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- Is the road infrastructure included in the project?

**Response 10:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Thank you for this question, we will improve the existing roads, there will be a new road, without asphalt, there exists a technology, with sand-gravel, with which the territory will be leveled of, so that the transports carrying the heavy weights, such as turbine parts, can pass on it. The existing road cannot be used for this purpose. The majority of the village roads will be improved.

**Question 11:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- Will you use internal asphalt roads?

**Response 11:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- No, not the asphalted roads. The entrance will be from two sides, first will be cut the new one, there is existing road, but it does not connect to the highway and the other entrance will be at the Urbnisi territory, it is a mountainous area, just the existing road needs to be arranged properly. We do not touch the asphalt road, it cannot be used for the heavy weight cargos. The population is free from this heavy cargo, we are going through the unsettled area, in the field, we will arrange the old road properly, the new road shall used to reach the turbine directly.

**Question 12:**

*Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- I have the last question. These are the land plots for the agricultural development, the business is developed, some people wish to develop greenhouse, while some – cold storage and some – recycling farms, won't we restrict the business?

**Response 12:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Industrially, we will not interfere. On the contrary, even though we bought the land from the population with the price which was more than the market value, still we have the agreement, after the construction we will not need majority of it and we will give it back permanently free of charge. On the use of this land plot with the agricultural purpose, cultivation, planting the garden, we do not have any restriction. It is possible to have cold storage, warehouse farming. It is about living there, while the noise will interfere. You cannot work 10 and 20 meters away from the turbine, it is our protected area, you can start from 100 meters. In Europe, the turbines are installed even in ports as well and I have seen them in airport, lots of people think that it is not possible to proceed in terms of the aviation. In short, we do not have any limitation.

**Question 13:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- How long will the project last?

**Response 13:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- The construction will finish approximately in 1.5-2 years.

**Question 14:**

*Deputy of Variani and Shindisi*

- When does the construction start?

**Response 14:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- It is a good question. We will start the construction in two stages. The main phase includes construction of the main infrastructure, foundation. This requires construction permit and finances. Now we are working with the bank and are working on the permits as well. Thus, the construction will start as soon as we have both components ready, approximately from the end of this month, as it concerns to the arranging on the access roads, probably it will be done at the end of the summer.

**Question 15:**

*Representative of Gori Municipality City Hall*

- Where shall we address to you for the employment?

**Response 15:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- At the office, at the contact information indicated on the brochures. I mean Ruisi office. You can contact us with e-mail, or web-page.

**Question 16:**

*A resident of Shindisi village*

- Are you going to rent the equipment from the private company? Lots of people in the village have them, for example I have some type of equipment, or still the private company shall work?

**Response 16:**

Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director

- The main construction works, except turbine assembly, for which such kind of equipment is necessary, which we cannot afford here and specifically for this project we are importing the “crane” for construction, as for the remaining parts, which is pure construction works, we will execute it, our company is the project’s company, we have mother company, which is the most experienced in Georgia in terms of construction of the infrastructural project, we have constructed hydropower plants, tunnels, reservoirs, it is very experienced company. This company will be the executor of these construction works, will employ the local inhabitants and employ the local resources, therefore, if someone has the equipment, pure construction equipment, tripper, water truck, we will use them. It is better for us to use the local resources, provide us with the information, the sooner you provide us and the first one who provides us with the information we will take that into account.

**Meeting Note #019**

<b>Date:</b> 02/07/2024	<b>Time:</b> 12:00	<b>Location:</b> N4 Freedom Square, Tbilisi, Courtyard Marriott
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the natural and social environmental impact assessment of the project prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties		
<b>Present:</b>	Presenter of ESIA results: Medgar Tchelidze (WEG Envi Consulting LLC) Consultant: Maka Kimeridze (WEG Envi Consulting LLC) Project Executive Director: Zaza Bakuradze Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Environmental Protection Specialist: Maia Gikoshvili Consultant Alpage Caucasus: Nino Akhvlediani Total 14 representatives of Non-Governmental organizations and/or independent experts (9 NGOs: <i>CENN, UNA Georgia, Biliki, Association "Women and Business", Georgian Green Movement, NGO "Public Advocacy", Ecovision, PMCG, Wind Power Association</i> )	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze	

Meeting Photos:

The image displays two screenshots from a computer screen. The top screenshot shows a web browser at the URL [windpower.ge/ka/news/fsc-wind-power-announcement](http://windpower.ge/ka/news/fsc-wind-power-announcement). The page features the WIND POWER logo and navigation links in Georgian. The main text is in Georgian and discusses the Ruisi Wind Power Project, mentioning a public consultation period from June 27 to July 12, 2024. It provides contact information for the project, including a phone number (577770809) and an email address (social@windpower.ge). A link to the project reports is also provided: <https://www.windpower.ge/ka/reports>. The bottom screenshot shows a Gmail inbox with an email from Shorena Tchokhnelidze (shchokhnelidze@gmail.com) titled "Ruisi Wind Power Project - Public Consultation". The email content is in Georgian and repeats the information from the website, including the consultation dates and contact details. The email was received on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 5:30 PM.



**Meeting Notes:** Information about the public meeting with NGOs and independent experts was published on the Project web site. In total including all public consultations twenty NGOs have been invited personally (email, phone calls). Only three NGOs managed to attend the meetings in Gori and Kareli on June 25, 2024. Accordingly, it was decided to hold an additional meeting in Tbilisi separately for NGO sector and independent experts of the field.

At the beginning brief presentation of ESIA was made by the consultant Medgar Tchelidze (45 minutes). After the presentation the audience was quite active and many questions were asked. The responses were given by the consultant and the Project manager Zaza Bakuradze. In general, it should be mentioned that attitude of presented NGO representatives and independent experts were positive.



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**Signatures of the meeting:**

**Detailed Transcript of Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:**

**Additional comment after the presentation 1:**

*WEG Envi Consulting LLC representative*

- Everyone usually pays more attention to zoology and Mr. Medgar, flora, group of habitats was rather serious, even though this was agro landscape, according to requirement 6 of EBRD, we were required to perform this study. As you may know, Dato Chelidze led this group and he thoroughly inspected every section and we did classification according to UNIS habitat classification and discovered what we discovered. We performed seasonal research which is generally rare for this type of project in botany because for some reason, flora is always somewhat neglected, study of habitat is omitted in investment projects and I believe and our group believes that this is wrong, it was very stressful examination of habitats and flora. We have assessed by biodiversity specifications and made assessment based on critical habitats which is not required by the Georgian legislation, this was a requirement of EBRD and international financial institutes and we did not discover any negative impact on this vegetative surface. In general, as this territory is of agro landscape, we still found endemic species to Caucasus which were assess according to action requirement 6. Alekandre Abuladze led 2 groups but he had additional 4 employees who studied together with them because the area was rather large and we were also asked to examine the eco system and I personally did this according to IFC standards and I am satisfied with the work performed by our consulting company and everything is posted on company's and EBRD website in Georgian and English languages and you can look through if you have any specific question, we are ready to renew working regime. Deadline is July 10, the report was posted on May 10 and I urge you all to look through it if you are interested.

**Question 1:**

*NGO representative*

- I've looked through the EIA document that you made available and I had one question, you have mentioned compensation package in terms of blinking impact of shadows and I was interested, is this compensation package requirement of our legislation, is it EBRD's requirement or the company made the decision to provide this compensation and how will it be compensated?

**Response 1:**

*Medgar Tchelidze, presenter*

- This is rather interesting question because compensation option, as an opportunity was included in the early version that was posited and we said that this issue is being processed. As earlier, we still do not think that it is necessary to focus on termination only, because this is the requirement of some countries and it's not established practice in entire Europe and is not universally recognized approach, but as this bank asked us to envisage as strict conditions as possible, we have temporarily changed our approach and we focus on what we said today and not on what is published. It's about termination and return to the norm



limits and this can be achieved, because there is no need of compensation, but obviously, monitoring will be performed further on operation phase and if there are any issues emerged, the company is open for discussion and at the moment, no compensation is being envisaged, am I right?

**Response 1:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Very good question, thank you for your question. As noted by Mr. Medgar, compensation is one of the prevalent methods when impact is very significant and practically, by termination of turbines, economic and generation impact is so big that implementation of the project is threatened, in that case there is another priority when compensation is paid. In this case, we have conducted studies, identified receptors, the turbines that require to be terminated for certain amount of time. Special system will be installed which will detect the moment when weight exceeds the allowed limit and in that case, turbines are automatically terminated and by means of this smart, control system we can control impact of the weight. This will result in somewhat loss of generation, but this damage as noted by Mr. Medgar, it's not as substantial to threaten the project, thus, our priority is to ensure termination of turbines as endured by the project and then consider compensation. Based on studies performed by this day, there is no need of paying compensation.

**Question 2:**

*NGO representative*

- I have a question too, thank you everyone, this presentation was interesting. Of course, wind energy is deemed as one of the safest energy, volume of migratory birds and assessment of noise are taken into consideration as I saw in the project. Mr. Medgar, in this document you mentioned that there is no reactive impact within 40 m radius, I wonder, that is the impact area from each section, because as I know, 15, 25, 35 m separation is required from high voltage lines. If there is a settlement, construction is prohibited in this area and in addition, this kind of masts must have its safety areas, I understand this area will be privately owned, but will you keep the buffer zone for safety of locals or tourists?

**Response 2:**

*Medgar Tchelidze, presenter*

- This is interesting and versatile question, what I've not said yet is that the area under masts will be utilized by the company, infrastructure and everything that will be required for construction, this is rather permanent area, but the part that is designated for construction personnel only and will not be permanent, it can be further used for agriculture, it will be returned to owner for practically symbolic price and they will be able to plant annual crops, there are no restrictions, it's remote. Mr. Zaza will tell you all about it and I will tell you about the regulation, there are no special regulations, such as sanitary zones, restricted areas and regulations that is set for electricity transmission lines, there are no such regulations for wind stations, but actual physical impact is estimated by noise and radiation is barely there, you may have more radiation at home from computers, there are no special factors. As for settlements, there are layout of houses in more than 500 meters and main impact factor is noise in this case, not beaming or radiation, as for activities, it will be allowed directly under the wind station and you can see on images that houses are located between them, people and structures are allowed very close to the station.

**Response 2:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- I will add, that is a good question, thank you. When we planned this project, we requested information from different agencies. Wind turbine has no buffer zone, but there is

international regulation that defines how to keep distance from the transmission line, how to keep distance from highway, railway, pipeline. We have made research and followed standards when allowing infrastructure around the turbine. Accordingly, implementation of our project will not have any impact on the existing infrastructure and as mentioned above, there is no restriction of the activities people perform, agriculture, so on. Once again, this project will not cause any additional restrictions.

**Question 3:**

*NGO representative*

- My question is quite basic. Have you discovered massive landfills within this territory, because this poses actual threat, it attracts massive amounts of birds and will there any regulations for local self-governments not to allow such landfills there?

**Response 3:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Good question, but we did not have to deal with this for one simple reason – this area is very well taken care of, there are cultivated agricultural land parcels, very tidy villages, nice to look at, thus, there is no landfill, no danger of attracting strays and birds, but for caution and monitoring we will pay attention to this issue and will envisage in action plan. There are no risks of that at the moment, but we will be paying attention.
- I'm saying that because of what happened about the water pipe, it's absolutely impossible. *(NGO representative)*
- We also see what's going on Batumi landfill. *(presenter)*

**Question 4:**

*NGO representative*

- I have another question. This region in general is very close to the conflict and have you considered these norms?

**Response 4:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Yes, the project consists of the chapter on this matter. In reality, facilities are rather remote from the zone that can be considered as border area, but due to a mad neighbor, you cannot exclude anything, but there are no increased risks in regard with this project.

**Question 5:**

*NGO representative*

- I looked through and will not it be a problem if drones are not prohibited in the area? Because it's poses certain threats and our legislation does not envisage anything like that and should we not be thinking about some sort of regulations?

**Response 5:**

*Medgar Tchelidze, presenter*

- Excellent point, no one has thought of it regardless of intense use of drones for military purposes. We have not seen anything like that, but considering modern tendencies, this may be important to take into consideration, let's write it down and Zaza and Maia, please keep in mind to share it with residents, especially with young people during social communication.
- Someone may suddenly use it. *(NGO representative)*
- Yes. *(presenter)*
- They already use it in agriculture to apply chemical *(NGO representative)*
- Yes. *(presenter)*

- But it flies down for agricultural purposes and up in the sky for shooting purposes. When turbine spins, it may absorb the drone. *(NGO representative)*
- I've not mentioned by EBRD representatives often remind us, drone is another issue, but use of pesticides within the territory needs to be regulated, management plan instructs us so, I have not mentioned it yet. I mean on the area where agricultural activity is performed, this needs to be taken into consideration to avoid any impact on personnel during construction and then on operational phase. *(presenter)*

**Question 6:***NGO representative*

- First of all, thank you very much for interesting presentation, I have 3 questions, they may be more technical rather than environment-related, but still. First of all, what is generation? Second, height of masts is decreased in a new model and diameter has increased. I understand why you increased the diameter, because the number of turbines decreased, but what was the reason you reduced height? Is everything envisaged? I'm sure it is but what is factual distance to residents as of today? I personally think that energy is the field that can contribute into moving the country forwards. I do not personally see other resources. This is why I want everything to be done so that people do not have questions, complaints, the station not to stop operation similar to many stations that no longer function. This is why I want everything to be taken into consideration. And my fourth question is, will you take pastures into consideration? EBRD pays a lot attention to this, because when we had different EIA documents, EBRD pays attention to this matter in social perspective, you probably perform this social survey for EBRD.

**Response 6:***Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Thank you very much for your questions, I think I've recorded all of them. As for the diameter, you are right, it was increased as the turbine capacity has increased, we reduced it to 53, capacity of the turbine has increased and main turbine requires a big wing. As for the height, we included the height during primary surveys for the only purpose – to maximally aggravate impact, distance from infrastructure, or birds in the study. Theoretically, turbine has been installed on that height, we had 145 in the project, but when we conducted the final tender and invited companies, lots of companies participated and activity was intense and, in the end, we agreed on the proposal, lots of companies made proposals based on our landscape, our wind information, our region, different companies have different strategies on offering the right turbines suitable for this landscape, thus, we agreed to this offer made by manufacturers. In addition, technically, higher turbine has been done, but there are logistical questions how transportable are those larger parts, I mean, there are different issues that require further exploring. If you do high, when you increase the height, it's not just one component laid down, it's actually the foundation, foot of the turbine. Thus, we selected the height that is optimal considering our current wind system, adding height does not give us as much energy additionally that can potentially compensate for additional expenses and additional risks this may require. This is what I have to say about the height. Now, as for pastures, you should answer this question. As for distance, let's return the largest turbine and discuss it. As for generation, we are at 41, 42 %, if you mean capacity utilization coefficient, we are in this range which is believed to be rather decent for wind energy, this region in general is very attractive in terms of wind. As for distance, you can see that the majority of turbines are kilometers away from the settlement, there are only a few turbines, we performed studies, this is mostly based on noise simulation which then determines this minimal distance. There is only 1 turbine that is approximately 500 meters away from the residential house. There is a church at the house, it is included in the noise estimation and this is the nearest point. There are a few turbines upwards at Sakasheti, one is at Sasireti,

there are 4-5 turbines near settlements and minimal distance is 540, 550 meters. The majority of them are kilometers away.

- You have probably had meetings with residents, right? *(NGO representative)*
- We started meetings with locals early in 2022 when we went through the scoping phase. We had meetings with every village several times, Shorena went door to door and we performed additional surveys, in addition, we recently had a meeting in Kareli, Gori. We have not seen or heard even one negative attitude, none at all. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- It's very rare. *(NGO representative)*
- Which slightly exceeded our expectations because we are still in the field of power plant development, they have very good understanding of this project. We tried to explain everything in the language they understand, I chose very good communication with citizens from the beginning and that's presumably thanks to it. In general, people do not have negative attitude towards wind energy, at the moment, we do not see problems. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- As for pastures, impact on agriculture, private land parcels and including impact on small land parcels, a separate document dedicated to this topic will be prepared for EBRD that reflects acquired land and the entire process how this is done, part of it will be life restoration plan as we call it and it covers the pasture topic. To have understanding of the importance of pastures, to know in advance, we performed surveys and we studied who brought their livestock to our land area, from which villages, what volume of pasturing are we talking about. We are already informed about this, we will be negotiating with them and it will be assessed what part do pastures play in their animal husbandry system, that type of compensation will be acceptable for them and accordingly, all of it will be compensated. This process may not be thoroughly described in EIA, there will be methodology and approaches, but the process is in progress and these issues will be addressed prior commencement of construction. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

#### **Question 7:**

*NGO representative*

- Greetings. I have a couple of questions. Thank you, Mr. Medgar, for presentation. As for shadows, as we do not have national legislation on this matter and the last resort approach is compensation and even termination. I've been recently observing on practices in other countries from different perspective, for example, I've recently visited Germany, wind stations that are located within the UNESCO protected area, specifically in ---- and Mosel valley, it's rich with diversity, history, cultural heritage and taste, important vineyards and masts there are not 100 meter high, but as the speed is low, in often cases their height even reaches 160 and "visual pollution" is not 500 meter distance from houses, but 60, 70 km. and even more if the horizon allows it, but if compensation practice had been prevalent there, than it would be 2, 3 states and they do not have such approach. I'm interested to know why do we need this approach at all – this is one question. Another question is – you mentioned that there is a forest here, but artificial and concern that it might not be feasible to construct in the forest and what if it works? Based on examples of Germany and other countries, they have this kind of structure in wild forests and for different reasons, that forests may be totally untouched by humans and the last question, the only thing that distinguishes other countries from us, the only station we have, restoration of green surface has not been performed so far around the turbine, is there any regulation regarding this and what is your plan? We acquire land and we state everywhere that yes, we acquire it but we do not plan on doing fence or limit its use in any form, whether it will remain for ploughing or for pasture, what I've seen in Germany, turbines are restored with green surface, field at the edge of the turbine is not visible and what is your approach towards this topic?

**Response 7:**

Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director

- You addressed a number of topics. Let's begin with beaming, I agree with your approach and we confirm it. They demanded very strict approach and this is their position.
- I will specify, these are turbines constructed 20 and 30 years ago and we are talking about turbine in 2, 3 years. *(NGO representative)*
- Different regulations are applied, it's strict in Germany but in terms of implementation, not all these norms are applied, Germany has the exact same requirements that IFC has, others – England, Britain, Germany do not have it. other countries have much stricter approach, thus, the bank did not deem it necessary to take extra risks and determined very strict conditions which we do not deem relevant, but we cannot change bank's requirements. As for restoration, our legislation too, you know the territory we will be using will not need re-cultivation, as we've mentioned before, we are not in wild nature, there are land parcels and as they will be returned to old owners, they will continue their usual agricultural activity on the land they did before, the rest of it will be concealed. If there is territory left without foundation and it is also owned, the company will have to do re-cultivation there. The last question was... *(presenter)*
- Regarding forest ownership. *(NGO representative)*
- Obviously, there is no problem and if the relevant assessment is made, compensation is paid and if there is any particular impact. It could have been 30 turbines and not 1 turbine and it may have caused impact on bats, because turbines are designed to be installed 200 meters from the forest where bats are prevalent and with international regulations. In our case, we do not have similar restrictions first of all and second of all, compensation will be paid for every cut down tree, 3 trees will be planted instead and in addition, this artificial forum is rather damaged due to spread diseases, so, together with the Ministry we provide recommendations on performing phyto-sanitary measures, applying solutions, relevant special methods that will help the grove in regeneration. *(presenter)*
- Thank you very much for questions and I absolutely agree with you. As far as I see, the problem is that there is no relevant experience in Georgia. I'm sure wind stations are more frequently constructed in Europe and they have fewer requirements compared to what we have to go through. However, we have to comply with certain requirements as there is no practice, the standard that is applied by the bank. This is the situation. Once again, I've seen lots of wind stations in airports and here if you decide to build wind stations in the airport... while other countries have wind stations in airports, ports and everywhere. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Coastline is a separate topic. *(NGO representative)*
- This is why your opinion is valid and I'm concerned too that this project goes through very strict requirements and we have to comply with standards, but we have no other way. Probably, when certain amount of projects is done, certain standards will be established and lots of people will see that these projects do not bring anything negative and then requirements will probably get milder. The Ministry is involved too, watching what bank will say. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- The Ministry is not interested in bank's requirements at all because the Ministry has its own heavy requirements. For example, the Ministry does not require critical habitat assessment and priority biodiverse assessment and when you provide them, they tell you that they have their own legislation, their own directives. The only thing they require is you remember it well, Environmental Impact Assessment. The rest of it we go through, strict requirements, today's scoping report was easily issued and it is believed to be one of the best projects in wind station projects and including all of its aspects. Thus, in general, when we do projects, as a consulting company we did not expect any difficulties from the Ministry in the process of environmental decisions, as they are aware of the quality of documents we prepare, Kaspi EIA which is located inside the Emerald Network and is deemed as one of the exemplary projects for the Ministry, because this EIA document, it included transmission line and this

strict requirements come from the bank rather than from our local requirements, the ministry has more technical requirements, in terms of technical documents, while bank's standards involve other standards rather than this. *(WEG Envi Consulting LLC representative)*

- When you mentioned land parcels, there is one thing to be taken into consideration as a recommendation, that in the reality, the area you need for construction should be deemed as permanent area, if any component goes out of order, if wing needs to be replaced, you cannot just give this area to anyone, so, the area you use for construction should be considered as permanently taken area and the rest of it can be handed over for free use. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Thank you for your answers. As a general assessment, I would like to make a comment. As for bank's standards, our Ministry of Agriculture and Environment is not as "behind" as many may think, judging based on a country. It is a part of many European conventions and has many obligations, many EU directives on how to develop, Berlin convention and so on. This topic may go beyond format of this meeting, but I would love EBRD to work on the strategy level and establish this standard in the country which will be once and forever recognized and trusted by the bank. *(NGO representative)*
- I agree. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Playing cool for two bosses should not be necessary, especially on topics, such as indigence. *(NGO representative)*
- I truly agree. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

**Question 8:**

*NGO representative*

- Hello. Environmental protection organization. I wonder that is the lifespan of this turbines and is it a subject of repair or what happens if we put it in the perspective of waste?

**Response 8:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Thank you for your question. 20 years officially and after 20 years, I mean manufacturers always guarantee the amount of time they know for sure it will work. The practice established in wind industry is that whoever is a manufacturer is responsible for operation in the future. In our case, this company will be in charge of operation for at least 10, 15 years, I mean technical operation, this is bank's requirement and very important for us too, because there is no similar experience in Georgia. Thus, it is in manufacturer's interest to take good care of the station, there are incentivizing mechanisms and there are cases when it works for more than 20 years. When it's lifespan is over, not only because it's old and expired, but in general, technologies in the wind industry are developing so fast, unlike hydro industry where there are no revolutionary solutions and in case of wind, it develops very fast, this is why it is recommended commercially and technically to de-install it and installing a new turbine on the same spot is additional project. This project with this infrastructure has guaranteed 20 years of lifespan.
- Afterwards, after disassembling, then there is waste utilization, we are talking about rather solid volume of turbines, we need to think about what we will do about waste in 20 or 15 years and is this envisaged in the project, I mean waste management? *(NGO representative)*
- Exactly because there are no disassembling conditions, maybe in 20 years, but time will come, so, we need to process and include this topic, but who knows what will be in 20 years in terms of landscape development, there are big question marks, but if we are talking about main waste, these are metal parts that metallurgy can utilize and this job will be done according to principles. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- We have worked on this issue, we are carrying out the project which as no polluted waste, main materials are valuable, metal, there are valuable metals inside the turbine waste, gear and everything are metals and they are not thrown away, main recycling applies to wings,

which is compost material – glass-fiber, whole world is working on this and we will act per established practice. It can be re-used for many purposes, it can be used as dikes where land needs to be retained, after sawing this into two parts, we have a beautiful, very useful roofing and for example, roofs of bus stops in Sweden are made only with recycled turbine wings. This is valuable material, it will no longer be used in turbines, as it may have cracks and not be suitable for wings, but it's all recyclable, re-usable, wont' be thrown away. *(NGO representative)*

- We are now working on approaches of circular economy strategy with Mr. Dariusz leading the team, we are working on how these approaches will be utilized, etc. those will be required on the strategy level. *(presenter)*

**Question 9:**

*NGO representative*

- I'm interested in your organization's policy, do you plan on constructing and installing on your own, or do you allow other companies to join?

**Response 9:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- The approach in this industry, established standard is that turbine supplier's job is to manufacture the turbine, delivery, assemble and launch into operation and then coordinate operation. The only part that is left is construction works that are not related to assembly of the turbine. For example, access road, installation of electric transmission cables that connects turbines, we do not have overhead transmission line in the project, there is preparation of the turbine foundation which is mostly reinforcement work and there is preparation for laying down the turbine. These construction works will be performed by our company Peri which is our founder company and one of the most experienced companies in Georgia in the field of construction, thus, this part I mentioned will be done by experienced team of the company, we will manage the project and supplier we are buying from will be in charge of installation, launch and operation.

**Comment 2:**

*Social Manager*

- Thank you for your questions, very different questions were asked in Tbilisi. The attendees in the villages have much different interests. Their interest mostly applies to employment. Employment is number one issue in the target villages. I would like to tell you that we opened our office in Ruisi, apart to Tbilisi office to be more accessible for local population. We have hired local employees and since the day it was opened, more than 150 people already visited it and everyone is interested in employment. Questions could refer to land parcels, additional compensation and employment and certification issues. Many locals have this experience but they do not have the relevant certificates and we are planning to include certification programs in our social projects. I just wanted to mention our local office because it is important for us to hire locals and be close to local inhabitants so that they do not have to commute to Tbilisi and as impact area is in Ruisi and Ruisi is close to other impacted areas, we enabled easier communication whether this is visit, phone call, or website. However, it should be mentioned that not everyone has access to internet locally. It should be noted that population within our impact area are mostly involved in agricultural activities and they do not have extra time for communication. It is very difficult to get hold of this people at home. I had to take interviews at 7 o'clock in the morning because people in Ruisi are the busiest where 4 generations of the family work in fields. I'm glad that our project impact covers non-irrigated land, mostly annual crops, grains, but not actively. As for orchards, very little share of orchards is impacted, mostly annual crops. Ruisi territory can be considered as non-irrigated land and part of land parcels will be returned to people because working on land is

very important for them. I would love to mention a problem related with pastures, we observed some of the sensitive areas last year, but these are not typical pastures as Mr. Medgar noted, these are non-irrigated fields and the problem was that sheep and cows were already sold after conducting the survey because water is not supplied to those fields, it's all desolate wilderness and it's no longer worth having cows there. I was surprised that when I had interviews later (in two months or later), they no longer had cows, most of them had sold them. We have some of the sensitive areas marked and we will be very cautious and constantly observe these areas before commencement of construction, during construction and afterwards. We will make sure not to disturb animal husbandry, but those are non-irrigated lands, even grass is scarce, mostly rocks and it's not worth.

- I live at Vazha-Pshavela and last year I saw 1-2 cows in the square. *(presenter)*
- It is more common locally to use their own land plots for pastures. *(social manager)*
- Amelioration did the network development and we had communication with Amelioration and requested updated information and compared with our project, we do not have any impact whatsoever, no paths crossed, no influence. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Do they plan on rehabilitation in there too? *(NGO representatives)*
- We want to develop social projects that will have certain modification effect that utilized resources will have long-term effect. Locals are involved in agricultural activities. Many of them are willing to train in construction field to expand their employment area and we are thinking of making some steps in this direction. We plan on finding different certification agencies or institutes that will provide this service and we will provide funding. We want to come up with something educational for agriculture, something that will increase productivity of farmers or to teach them something. This can be a mix of educational and commercial assistance. We have lots of ideas, we are working on this, we invite people who have experience in this, some of them represented NGOs, some – Farmers' Association and they offered really good ideas. We want to utilize these ideas if you have any suggestions, we can cooperate on specific program. USAID has certain grant funding mechanisms and we already had meetings and you have vast experience in that and share it with us. Thus, I wanted to mention this initially and I also wanted to reach out, that we would love to meet, discuss, listen to people who work in this area, I'm sure there are better ideas we do not know of yet, we want to spend our resources on things that will have long-term effect and we would love to get all the help we can in that. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- You should definitely establish some kind of professional development center on your site where you will train people from local population that you will need in long-term perspective and not only during the construction phase, because these young people are motivated and are ready to work, study and improve qualification and this would be very good. *(NGO representatives)*
- Clearly. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*

**Question 10:**

*NGO representative*

- That was exactly my question. Let me introduce myself, I am a coordinator of Shida Kartli network in my NGO. We've been working on waste management for years, for strengthening green businesses, we implemented green-focused start-up businesses. As far as I know, there are many stations in Kareli municipality villages and this is a question and information at the same time, as I know, our neighbor countries – Turkey, Armenia are very productive, farmers claim that electricity costs are very high for them. If they could benefit from these projects, certain subsidies, to make products cheaper and our stations could keep working actively. We can do better in agriculture but costs are very high, while Turks and Armenians are better and business actors prefer to pay for transportation and import products rather than selling local products, this is a major problem in Kareli, Gori, Shida Kartli municipalities,



have you thought about it and what can be done to help farmers to facilitate local production instead of importing from abroad?

**Response 10:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Thank you very much. I will divide this question into two parts. As for electricity supply, we are not allowed in terms of direct supply. We are producers and we are not allowed to supply electricity to residents directly, we cannot physically do that. This question is frequently asked, why cannot we supply electricity if we can generate so much. We are not allowed to do so, it's technically impossible. As for subsidies, we are ready to take requests of any local group, farmers into consideration, what do they prefer. However, I would like to comment on electricity, electricity is much more expensive in Turkey than in Georgia, but Turks have advanced technologies and knowledge on how to increase productivity, they are more qualified in this field. This is why, we need to work on both direction, first of all, in terms of helping farmers.
- Armenians have very cheap rate on electricity. *(NGO representative)*
- Armenians have a nuclear station. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Maybe state provides subsidies. *(NGO representative)*
- Maybe. We can work on that, subsidies for groups, but it needs to be long-term to help agricultural development. I personally have experience, I planted almond gardens and that is when I realized how far behind, we are to Europe and Turkey in agricultural field, how much we lack utilization of technologies, how less productive our workforce is, how there is shortage on knowledge on effective measures, trimming in garden or increasing yield of annual crops. Agriculture is the most important field there, we understand that, we want to study the situation thoroughly and we will do better with help of people like you, so that we can help people understand what products can be produced better. Your experience is very helpful, please share your experience, we will do more thorough research on details, our approach is to achieve multi-effect – every spent GEL to have the effect of 3 GEL. So, it depends, I think that it is important to develop technologies and improve knowledge, but financial aspect is important too. If we see that it is important, this is where they see problem and we are ready to keep it in mind. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Work needs to be done in that area, we should not be using natural gas and we should entirely switch to electricity in greenhouses, it is very important for the environment. *(NGO representative)*

**Comment 3:**

*NGO representative*

- Allow me to use this meeting for a little beneficial advertising purpose. As for vocational education, in cooperation with USAID, GIPA and Skills Agency developed educational standards for Renewable Energy Manager and Energy Efficiency manager. Based on this, GIPA will start offering this program from the following year. This is educational program which only requires school graduation certificate and not higher education. This will be very useful to train people for entering energy sector. Standard of this profession covers the position for the work we will need from planning through operation. There was serious shortage and with our help, USAID did it very right. Within the same program, there are different standards developed in the construction field and they are already incorporated in different vocational schools. I wanted to inform you on this and it would be great if you could disseminate this information, recommend this program to people.
- Is it available in Tbilisi? *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Yes, at GIPA. GIPA will be one of the universities to offer this program. If other universities are willing, they can offer too. Standard has been approved at the moment.



- As a course? *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- Professional standard, it does not require higher education, the course will last more than a year, up to 2 years. This is very serious and the same type of standard can be approved on professions. It's been discussed for a while that we need vocational education. Thanks God, now we have standard, courses will begin soon and these courses have practical component which implies practical work at construction sites.
- It's interesting to offer that program in regions as well. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- It's not like 2-week training, this program provides comprehensive education and after finishing this course, you can be a project manager who can be trusted with project development. You obtain very thorough education and it may not be less than bachelor's programs and, in some cases, may be even better, because it is specific and targeted. This program involves teaching legislation in environmental direction, construction-technical regulations, Mr. Paata Tsintsadze was involved in this and many other professionals who have practical knowledge on what skills are required in energy sector and what is demanded, there is a shortage on workforce with this qualification.
- It becomes highly demanded because according to legislation in energy efficiency field, it becomes mandatory to involve energy efficiency manager. *(NGO representative)*
- GIPA will be starting this course in autumn, I don't know when other universities begin, but the standard is already in place. *(NGO representative)*
- Any examination institute can prepare. Is certification required? *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- I don't know about educational aspect, but higher education institutes need accreditation anyway.
- Very interesting. *(Zaza Bakuradze)*
- You can teach according to this standard. *(NGO representative)*
- Interesting, that can be further explored onsite. *(NGO representative)*
- If no one is on site, they could send someone. *(NGO representative)*
- Anyone can use it, very useful. By the way, GREDA has it too, but it's not that long-term. *(NGO representative)*

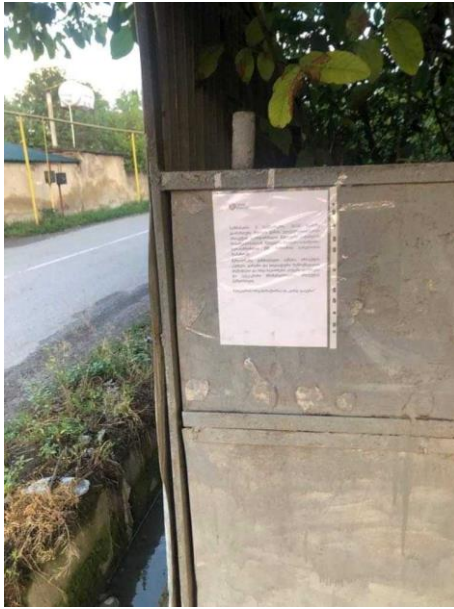
**Farewell:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- If you have more questions, if not now, we are always ready to response. Our contact information is provided on the leaflet, we have our website, windpower.ge. Please contact us any time if you have any questions, if you want to ask something or give or get recommendation, we are ready. Thank you very much for coming and see you later.

Meeting Note #020

<p><b>Date:</b> 03/09/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 16:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Shindisi.</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the project's natural and social environmental impact assessment prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties (updated information on Noise, Flickering, and Visual impact)</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Project Executive Director: Zaza Bakuradze                  Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonielidze                  Environmental Protection Specialist: Maia Gikoshvili</p> <p>The population of Sakasheti village: 20 people (20 men and 8 women in additional FG meeting)</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonielidze</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>	<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> <div style="flex: 1;">  </div> </div>	





**Meeting Notes:** Variani Community local government representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in Sakasheti. Information regarding the public meeting was published 10 days before the meeting: JSC Wind Power web page, and Variani administration Facebook Page. The newspaper announcement was published only one day before the meeting (because of the specific publication schedule). Besides, printed announcements were put in every public place in Sakasheti 10 days before the meeting. The social team representatives visited every tenth household in Sakasheti handing the leaflets and inviting them to the meeting. The visits started 10 days before the meeting and continued till the first of September. The target audience for the visits were vulnerable households, plus households dwelling in the closest vicinity of the turbines (the most affected by noise and flickering). The public consultation was held in Sakasheti, next to the St. Mary's church. Once again, women avoid involvement in public discussion, which is why separate focus group discussions were conducted with local women in the office providing transportation and a comfortable environment for open questions on September 28, 2024 (8 women).

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Results of noise, flickering, and visual impact assessments were presented in a common language. All attendees were given two brochures about the project and provided contact details. In particular, information was provided on the project web page and the information center in Ruisi. The attendees were also shown several photos (A4 format) of the project's visual impact from their village and well-known nearby places.

The participants were very active after the presentation. Several questions were asked. All the questions were focused on employment issues. Project Executive Director Zaza Bakuradze answered all the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitudes of the local population towards the project are positive.

#### Signatures of the meeting:



Sakasheti  
Sinatures.pdf

#### Detailed Transcript of Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:

##### Question 1:

*A resident of Sakasheti village*

- When will the construction start?

##### Answer 1:

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Speaking of works, we will probably divide it into two parts: One, the main works that require some time because this project is a large-scale one, it needs a separate construction permit, and lots of state institutions are involved in obtaining this permit. In addition, to start the main portion of the construction we need funding, we are working on that too. It's probably more realistic to say that large-scale works will start after the winter passes. However, we are certain we want to start fixing infrastructural issues, such as access roads that are not attached to the main permit, we have already started working on that with the municipality and we can improve local roads for which we will start working at the end of this year. You will be informed of that in advance. We will also update locals to maximize their engagement. It won't be large-scale works, but some heavy machinery will be provided and we will hire people and move forward.

- As for the main part of the construction works, we think it will be the first quarter of the next year or if winter is too strict, probably from the spring, it's more realistic. If we do get the permit and funding sooner, it does not depend on us completely, because state bodies have their schedule for issuing permits, if they give us the permit sooner, we will start sooner. I'm just telling you what's more realistic to be sure.
- And there is one more thing I want to refer to. In this project, the main construction works include the construction of roads, and foundations, installing electricity cables underground, construction sites, and very large-scale work. Those works will be carried out by us, our mother company LTD Peri which is the most experienced company in Georgia in terms of infrastructural projects, construction of energy projects. Peri is our investor as well, we will be carrying out the project and employment will be under our supervision.
- However, there will be certain specific technology-related works, such as the assembly of the turbine itself, the company we will be purchasing from will assemble the turbine, because no one in Georgia has relevant experience in doing this job, secondly, the manufacturer company issues guarantee, this is why it needs to be the one to assemble the turbine and then launch into operation, but those works do not require lots of employees, this is why when it comes to employment, it will mostly imply construction works. These construction works will be under our management and there is no risk that some sub-contractor does something wrong and does not follow our instructions.

**Question 2:**

*A resident of village Sakasheti:*

- Will the certificates be required? What kind of reimbursement will they provide, will it be a fixed salary or will workers be paid hourly?

**Answer 2:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- I would kindly ask you to consult with me or my employees, provide your contact details, and experience, and show us your certificate if you have one. Certificates may be important for some positions. We are also thinking of helping locals in getting some certificates as a part of our social projects. It is not certain at the moment but we are considering it.
- As for salary, it would be right from my side to tell you something specific at this stage, because you have your qualification and you know your worth. Our reimbursement will be relevant to the market. I can't name the specific amount at the moment. Anyone with any qualification hired by us will receive the reimbursement relevant to the market or region or elsewhere you worked, if we manage to pay you more it will be even better, but it won't be less than what is paid on the market. So, you should expect that you will receive reimbursement relevant to the market and you won't have a feeling that someone made you inadequate offer.
- Whether it will be fixed or hourly it will depend on how you work on the market. I need to ask my construction team who works on these, principles on how reimbursement is estimated. To tell you briefly, we will continue the practice which is already established on the market, in other companies. We won't come up with something new, you will work as it is accepted, comfortable on the market in similar construction projects. I would also like to ask you to be as active as possible, contact us, and communicate, we have all the means of communication, we have our office in Ruisi, leaflets have our contact information indicated, locals are also involved, we have local public relations specialist in our local office – our employee Sopho who tries her best so that your voice is not lost, so, please, reach out, tell us who you are, what your skills are.

**Question 3:**

*A resident of village Sakasheti:*

- How many residents will be employed in Sakasheti? What is our share in the employment?

**Answer 3:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- In total, about 120 locals will be employed. Most construction works are planned near Ruisi and Sakasheti villages. We accept that most workers will be from these two villages as people prefer working near their dwelling places. You mentioned earlier that most locals are employed in Tbilisi now in construction works. Of course, it would be better for them to work next door instead of Tbilisi. At the moment up to 200 locals addressed us providing their contact details for employment. As soon as we have the exact list of positions and salaries, we will contact all candidates from the list and find out who is willing to participate in the recruitment process.

**Question 4:**

*A resident of village Sakasheti:*

- Will there be jobs for women too?

**Answer 4:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- It may not enable us to hire lots of women because it's construction-specific work, but there may be different jobs available, you know, personnel will need food on site, accommodation, we will do our best to utilize village infrastructure, this is the area women can engage. Our office is small now but once the construction starts, our office will be bigger and that office will need lots of work and women can take care of it. So, you tell us, you help us identify areas we can help and we will offer what we can do, I'm sure we will find lots of common interests.

**Meeting Note #021**

<b>Date:</b> 19/09/2024	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> Information office yard in Ruisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the project's natural and social environmental impact assessment prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties (updated information on Noise, Flickering, and Visual impact)		
<b>Present:</b>	Project Executive Director: Zaza Bakuradze Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Environmental Protection Specialist: Maia Gikoshvili  CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili Consultant from Earth Active The population of Ruisi: 34 people. (F- 6, M- 28 plus 10 women at additional FG)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO JSC Wind Power: Sofo Begijanashvili	




Meeting Photos:







  
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საინფორმაციო შეხვედრის  
საინფორმაციო შედეგები

Signatures of the meeting:

**Meeting Notes:** Ruisi Community local government representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in Ruisi. Information regarding the public meeting was published 27 days before the meeting: JSC Wind Power web page, and 10 days before on Ruisi administration Facebook Page. The newspaper announcement was published 5 days before the meeting (because of the specific publication schedule). Besides, printed announcements were put in every public place in Ruisi 10 days before the meeting. The social team representatives visited every tenth household in Ruisi handing the leaflets and inviting them to the meeting. The visits started 10 days before the meeting and continued until 19th September. Besides, the project Executive Director and Social Manager visited the local church in Ruisi (the closest to the project area, impacted by noise), delivered project leaflets, shared the information, and invited to the public meeting. The target audience for the visits were vulnerable households, plus households dwelling in the closest vicinity of the turbines (the most affected by noise and flickering). The public consultation was held in Ruisi, Ruisi Wind Power project information office area. Once again, women avoid involvement in public discussion, which is why separate focus group discussions were planned with local women in the office providing transportation and a comfortable environment for open questions on September 28, 2024 (10 women).

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Results of noise, flickering, and visual impact assessments were presented in a common language. All attendees were given two leaflets about the project, and they were informed about the project web page and the information center in Ruisi. The attendees were also shown several photos (A4 format) of the project's visual impact from their village and well-known nearby places.

The participants were very active after the presentation. Several questions were asked. All the questions were focused on employment issues. Project Executive Director Zaza Bakuradze answered all the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitudes of the local population towards the project are positive.

#### **Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:**

##### **Question 1:**

*A resident of Ruisi village*

- Is it planned to acquire more land?

##### **Answer 1:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Yes, we may need to acquire more land as access road areas are being specified.

##### **Question 2:**

*A resident of Ruisi village*

- When will the construction start?

##### **Answer 2:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- Speaking of works, we will probably divide it into two parts: One, the main works that require some time because this project is a large-scale one, it needs a separate construction permit, and lots of state institutions are involved in obtaining this permit. In addition, to start the main portion of the construction we need funding, we are working on that too. It's probably more realistic to say that large-scale works will start after the winter passes. However, we are certain we want to start fixing infrastructural issues, such as access roads that are not attached to the main permit, we have already started working on that with the municipality and we can improve local roads for which we will start working at the end of this year. You will be informed

of that in advance. We will also update locals to maximize their engagement. It won't be large-scale works, but some heavy machinery will be provided and we will hire people and move forward.

- As for the main part of the construction works, we think it will be the first quarter of the next year or if winter is too strict, probably from the spring, it's more realistic. If we do get the permit and funding sooner, it does not depend on us completely, because state bodies have their schedule for issuing permits, if they give us the permit sooner, we will start sooner. I'm just telling you what's more realistic to be sure.

- And there is one more thing I want to refer to. In this project, the main construction works include the construction of roads, and foundations, installing electricity cables underground, construction sites, and very large-scale work. Those works will be carried out by us, our mother company LTD Peri which is the most experienced company in Georgia in terms of infrastructural projects, construction of energy projects. Peri is our investor as well, we will be carrying out the project and employment will be under our supervision.

- However, there will be certain specific technology-related works, such as the assembly of the turbine itself, the company we will be purchasing from will assemble the turbine, because no one in Georgia has relevant experience in doing this job, secondly, the manufacturer company issues guarantee, this is why it needs to be the one to assemble the turbine and then launch into operation, but those works do not require lots of employees, this is why when it comes to employment, it will mostly imply construction works. These construction works will be under our management and there is no risk that some sub-contractor does something wrong and does not follow our instructions.

**Question 3:**

*A resident of Ruisi village*

- Will there be jobs for women too?

**Answer 3:**

*Zaza Bakuradze, Project Executive Director*

- It may not enable us to hire lots of women because it's construction-specific work, but there may be different jobs available, you know, personnel will need food on site, accommodation, we will do our best to utilize village infrastructure, this is the area women can engage. Our office is small now but once the construction starts, our office will be bigger and that office will need lots of work and women can take care of it. So, you tell us, you help us identify areas we can help and we will offer what we can do, I'm sure we will find lots of common interests.

**Meeting Note #024**

<b>Date:</b> 03/10/2024	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> Village Arashenda
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the project's natural and social environmental impact assessment prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties (updated information on Noise, Flickering, and Visual impact)		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Land Acquisition Manager: Irakli Bodokia CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili  The population of Arashenda 11 people. ( F- 1, M- 10)	
<b>Note</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	

<p><b>Prepared by:</b></p>		
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		
		





საინფორმაციო  
შეხვედრა არაშენდა

### Signatures of the meeting:

**Meeting Notes:** Variani Community local government representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in Arashenda. Information regarding the public meeting was published 40 days before the meeting on the JSC Wind Power web page and 14 days before on the Variani administration Facebook Page. The newspaper announcement was published 17 days before the meeting (because of the specific publication schedule). Besides, printed announcements were put in every public place in Arashenda 14 days before the meeting. The social team representatives visited every tenth household in Arashenda handing the leaflets and inviting them to the meeting. The visits started 15 days before the meeting and continued until 3 October. The target audience for the visits were vulnerable households, plus households dwelling in the closest vicinity of the turbines (the most affected by noise and flickering). The public consultation was held in Arashenda, In the center of the village.

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Results of noise, flickering, and visual impact assessments were presented in a common language. All attendees were given two leaflets about the project, and they were informed about the project web page and the information center in Ruisi. The attendees were also shown several photos (A4 format) of the project's visual impact from their village and well-known nearby places.

The participants were active after the presentation. The questions were focused on construction dates and employment issues. Social manager Shorena Tchokhoniidze answered the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitudes of the local population towards the project are positive.

### Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:

#### Question 1:

*A resident of Arashenda village:*



- When will the construction start?

**Answer 1:**

*A social manager of the project, Shorena Tchokhnelidze:*

- Speaking of works, we will probably divide it into two parts:

One, the main works that require some time because this project is a large-scale one, it needs a separate construction permit, and lots of state institutions are involved in obtaining this permit. In addition, to start the main portion of the construction we need funding, we are working on that too. It's probably more realistic to say that large-scale works will start after the winter passes. However, we are certain we want to start fixing infrastructural issues, such as access roads that are not attached to the main permit, we have already started working on that with the municipality and we can improve local roads for which we will start working at the end of this year. You will be informed of that in advance. We will also update locals to maximize their engagement. It won't be large-scale works, but some heavy machinery will be provided and we will hire people and move forward.

- As for the main part of the construction works, we think it will be the first quarter of the next year or if winter is too strict, probably from the spring, it's more realistic. If we do get the permit and funding sooner, it does not depend on us completely, because state bodies have their schedule for issuing permits, if they give us the permit sooner, we will start sooner. I'm just telling you what's more realistic to be sure.

- And there is one more thing I want to refer to. In this project, the main construction works include the construction of roads, and foundations, installing electricity cables underground, construction sites, and very large-scale work. Those works will be carried out by us, our mother company LTD Peri which is the most experienced company in Georgia in terms of infrastructural projects, construction of energy projects. Peri is our investor as well, we will be carrying out the project and employment will be under our supervision.

- However, there will be certain specific technology-related works, such as the assembly of the turbine itself, the company we will be purchasing from will assemble the turbine, because no one in Georgia has relevant experience in doing this job, secondly, the manufacturer company issues guarantee, this is why it needs to be the one to assemble the turbine and then launch into operation, but those works do not require lots of employees, this is why when it comes to employment, it will mostly imply construction works. These construction works will be under our management and there is no risk that some sub-contractor does something wrong and does not follow our instructions.

**Question 2:**

*A resident of village Arashenda:*

- How many residents will be employed in Arashenda? What is our share in the employment?

**Answer 2:**

*A social manager of the project, Shorena Tchokhnelidze:*

- In total, about 120 locals will be employed. Most construction works are planned near Ruisi and Sakasheti villages. We think that most workers will be from these two villages as people prefer working near their dwelling places, however, people from Arashenda will also be employed according to the scale of construction activities nearby the village. At the moment up to 200 locals addressed us providing their contact details for employment. As soon as we have the exact list of positions and salaries, we will contact all candidates from the list and find out who is willing to participate in the recruitment process. Information will be transparent and available to the local population through various channels.

Meeting Note #025

<p><b>Date:</b> 16/10/2024</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 16:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative building in Urbnisi</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Acquaintance with the results of the project's natural and social environmental impact assessment prepared for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development within the framework of consultations with interested parties (updated information on Noise, Flickering, and Visual impact)</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager JSC Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p> <p>The population in Urbnisi 15 people. (F- 3, M- 12 plus 4 women at additional FG)</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CRO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		





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შეხვედრა ურბნისში

**Signatures of the meeting:**

**Meeting Notes:** Urbnisi Community local government representatives assisted the social team of JSC Wind Power in organizing the meeting in Urbnisi. Information regarding the public meeting was published 52 days before the meeting on JSC Wind Power web page, and 14 days before on the Urbnisi administration Facebook Page. The newspaper announcement was published 16 days before the meeting. Besides, printed announcements were put in every public place in Urbnisi 14 days before the meeting. The social team representatives visited every tenth household in Urbnisi handing the leaflets and inviting them to the meeting. The visits started 15 days before the meeting and continued until 16 October. The target audience for the visits were vulnerable households, plus households dwelling in the closest vicinity of the turbines (the most affected by noise and flickering). The public consultation was held at Urbnisi local administration office. To involve local women in the discussion, a separate focus group was held on September 28, 2024, in the project office providing transportation and a comfortable environment for open questions.

The target population was informed about the project, its impact, and its benefits for the locals. Results of noise, flickering, and visual impact assessments were presented in a common language. All attendees were given two leaflets about the project, and they were informed about the project web page and the information center in Ruisi. The attendees were also shown several photos (A4 format) of the project's visual impact from their village and well-known nearby places.

The participants asked questions after the presentation. The main focus of the questions was employment issues. Social manager Shorena Tchokhonelidze answered the questions. In general, it should be noted that the attitudes of the local population towards the project are positive.

**Questions & Answer Section of the Meeting:**

**Question 1:**

A resident of village Urbnisi:

- Will there be jobs for women too?

Answer 1:

*Shorena Tchokhonelidze, Social Manager*

- It may not enable us to hire lots of women because it's construction-specific work, but there may be different jobs available, you know, personnel will need food on site, accommodation, we will do our best to utilize village infrastructure, this is the area women can engage. Our office is small now but once the construction starts, our office will be bigger and that office will need lots of work and women can take care of it.

**Question 2:**

A resident of village Urbnisi:

- How many residents will be employed in Urbnisi? What is our share in the employment?

Answer 2:

*A social manager of the project, Shorena Tchokhonelidze:*

In total, about 120 locals will be employed. Most construction works are planned near Ruisi and Sakasheti villages. We think that most workers will be from these two villages as people prefer working near their dwelling places, however, people from Urbnisi will also be employed according to the scale of construction activities nearby the village. At the moment up to 200 locals addressed us providing their contact details for employment. As soon as we have the exact list of positions and salaries, we will contact all candidates from the list and find out who is willing to participate in the recruitment process. Information will be transparent and available to the local population through various channels.

**Question 3:**

A resident of Urbnisi village

- When will the construction start?

Answer 3:

*Shorena Tchokhonelidze, Social Manager*

- One, the main works that require some time because this project is a large-scale one, it needs a separate construction permit, and lots of state institutions are involved in obtaining this permit. In addition, to start the main portion of the construction we need funding, we are working on that too. It's probably more realistic to say that large-scale work will start after the winter passes. However, we are certain we want to start fixing infrastructural issues, such as access roads that are not attached to the main permit, we have already started working on that with the municipality and we can improve local roads for which we will start working at the end of this year. You will be informed of that in advance. We will also update locals to maximize their engagement. It won't be large-scale work, but some heavy machinery will be provided and we will hire people and move forward.
- As for the main part of the construction works, we think it will be the first quarter of the next year or if winter is too strict, probably from the spring, it's more realistic. If we do get the permit and funding sooner, it does not depend on us completely, because state bodies

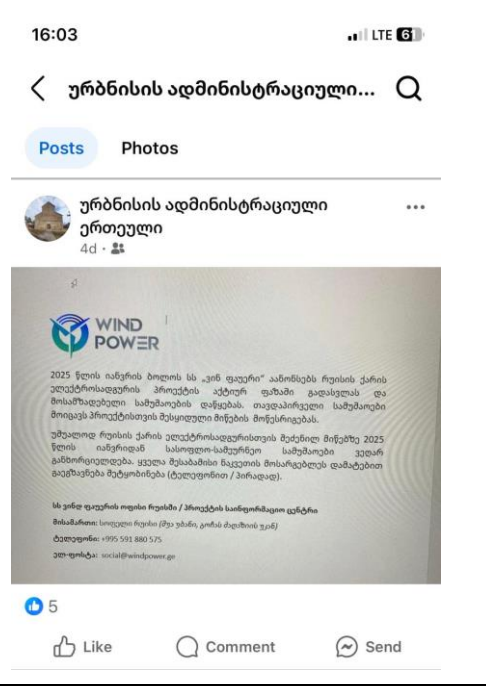
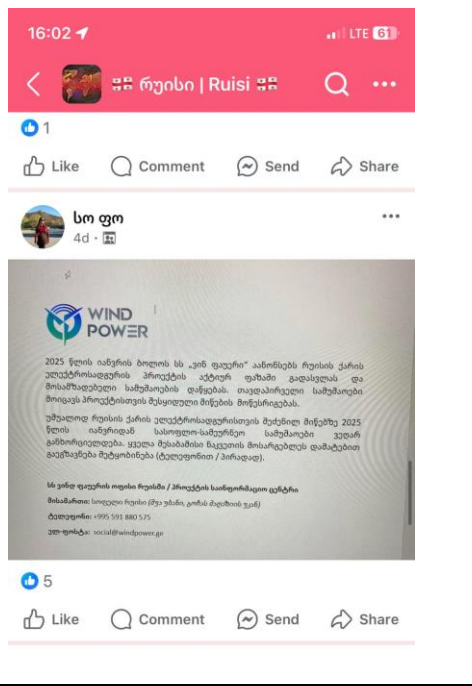
have their schedule for issuing permits, if they give us the permit sooner, we will start sooner. I'm just telling you what's more realistic to be sure.





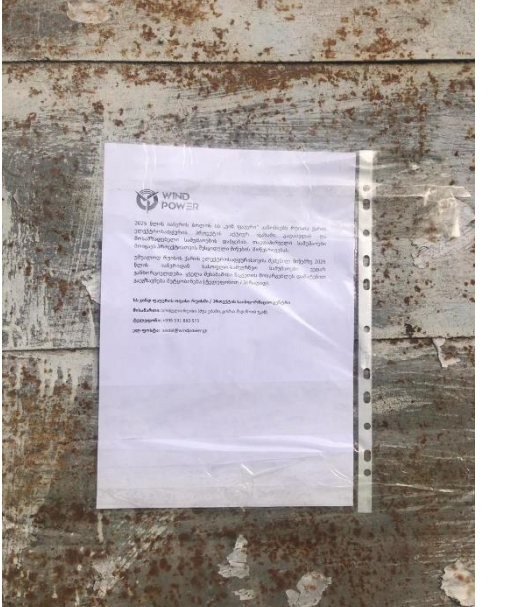
- Construction works will be carried out by our mother company LTD Peri which is the most experienced company in Georgia in terms of infrastructural projects, and construction of energy projects. Peri is our investor as well, we will be carrying out the project and employment will be under our supervision.
- However, there will be certain specific technology-related works, such as the assembly of the turbine itself, the company we will be purchasing from will assemble the turbine, because no one in Georgia has relevant experience in doing this job, secondly, the manufacturer company issues guarantee, this is why it needs to be the one to assemble the turbine and then launch into operation, but those works do not require lots of employees, this is why when it comes to employment, it will mostly imply construction works. These construction works will be under our management and there is no risk that some sub-contractor does something wrong and does not follow our instructions.

### Meeting Note #026

<b>Date:</b> 3-20 December, 2024	<b>Time:</b> NA	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi, Sakasheti, Gori, Tbilisi
<p><b>Purpose of the Meetings:</b> Agricultural activities will no longer be conducted on the lands acquired for the Ruisi Wind Power Plant starting in January 2025. Notifications were sent to all stakeholders of the relevant plots (via phone and in person) regarding this change. Personal meetings were held with all vulnerable families, where this information was communicated verbally, and official letters from the company were also provided.</p>		
<b>Present:</b>	Sopho Begijanashvili Shorena Tchokhonelidze Koba Gvinisvili Bacho Goginashvili Aleko Chkhikvadze Gia Lazarashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CRO: Sopho Begijanashvili	

Meeting Photos:



<p>16:03 ♥ <span style="float: right;">LTE 60</span></p> <p>← ვარიანის ადმინისტრაციული... 🔍</p> <p>Posts Photos</p> <p>👍 Like 🗨 Comment 📄 Send ➦ Share</p> <hr/> <p> ვარიანის ადმინისტრაციული ერთეული 3d · 🌐</p> <div data-bbox="375 526 817 851">  <p>2025 წლის იანვრის ბოლოს სს „ენდ ფაუნდ“ აპროექტს რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურის პროექტის აქტიურ ფაზაში გადასვლას. ეს მოსამზადებელი სამუშაოების დარგებია. თავდაირველი სამუშაოები მოიცავს პროექტისთვის მესიფილი მიწების მოწესრიგებას.</p> <p>უშუალოდ რუისის ქარის ელექტროსადგურისთვის შეტანილ მიწებზე 2025 წლის იანვრიდან სასოფლო-სამეურნეო სამუშაოები ვეღარ განხორციელდება. ყველა შესაბამისი ნაკვეთის მონარდებულს დამატებით გაუზიარდება მატყობინება (ტელეფონით / პირადად).</p> <p>სს ენდ ფაუნდის ოფისი რუისში / შრომების საინფორმაციო ცენტრი მისამართი: სოფელი რუისი (ჭაუ უბანი, გოგის მუდრის ქუჩა) ტელეფონი: +995 591 880 525 ელ-ფოსტა: info@end-foundation.ge</p> </div> <p>👍 7 <span style="float: right;">1 share</span></p> <p>👍 Like 🗨 Comment 📄 Send ➦ Share</p>	
	






**Brief Description of the activities:** JSC "Wind Power" conducted the following activities as part of the communication campaign regarding the commencement of preparatory works:

- An announcement was posted on the JSC "Wind Power" website on December 3, 2024.
- Text messages were sent, and phone calls were made to all families affected on December 9 and 10, 2024.
- Announcements were posted in the village of Ruisi on December 6, 2024, and in the villages of Sakasheti, Urbnisi, Shindisi, and Arashenda by December 10.
- An announcement was published on social media on December 10, 2024 (on the Facebook pages of the administrative units of Ruisi, Urbnisi, and Variani).
- Announcements were sent for publication in the newspapers "Kareli Moambe" and "Gori Matzne" on December 5, 2024. The announcements were published by December 16, 2024.
- Visits were conducted with vulnerable households in the villages of Ruisi and Sakasheti on December 9 and 10, 2024.

- 
- Two household visits were made in Gori and Tbilisi by December 20, 2024.

## Appendix 7 Meeting Notes 2025

### Meeting Note #027



<p><b>Date:</b> 13/01/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 10:30</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Ruisi Monastery for Nuns</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> As part of a social project, representatives of the USAID Georgia Energy Future Secure Program and the company "Wind Power" visited the monastery to assess the potential for installing solar panels.</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>JSC Wind Power Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhanelidze                  Deputy Director for Promoting Energy Investments; Lead for Pilot Projects: Tornike Kazarashvili                  Lead for Energy Planning Component; Participant in Pilot Projects: Davit Mujirishvili                  Solar Engineer: Zuka Omiadze                  Senior Advisor on Environmental Issues: Nino Gvazava</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		



**Meeting Notes:** As part of a social project, representatives of JSC Wind Power and the USAID Georgia Energy Future Secure Program visited the Ruisi Convent, where they conducted a site assessment and planning for the implementation of the project. The goal is to reduce energy costs for the nuns’ production activities by installing solar panels on or near the residential building.

### Meeting Note #029

<p><b>Date:</b> 03/02/202 5 / 04/02/202 5</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 17:00 / 12:00 – 15:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Administrative buildings of Ruisi, Urbnisi, Variani, and Shindisi</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Public Discussion of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Result (The meeting was organized by the LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center)</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Project Manager: Zaza Bakuradze Presenter of the ESIA Results: Medgar Chelidze (LLC "WG Envi Consulting") Representatives of the LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center and the LEPL National Environmental Agency</p>	





<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		

**Meeting Notes:**


During the meeting, the local community was informed about the project, its impacts, and the benefits for the residents. Following a detailed presentation, representatives of JSC Wind Power answered the community’s questions.

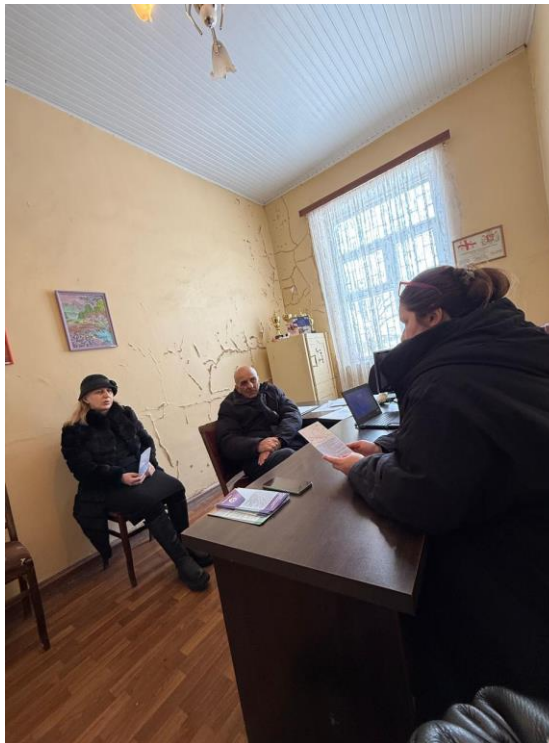
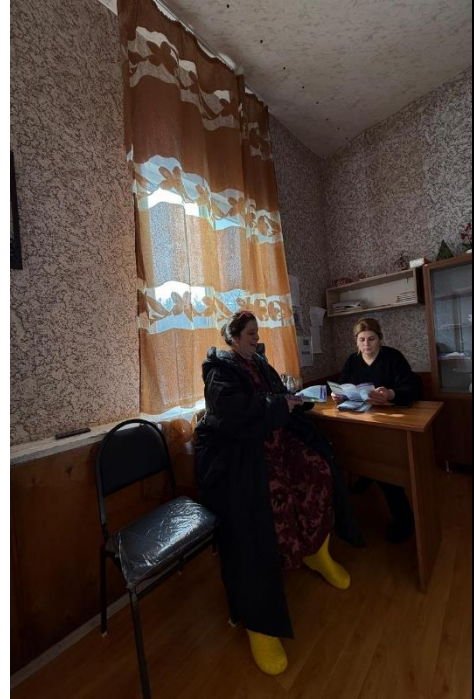
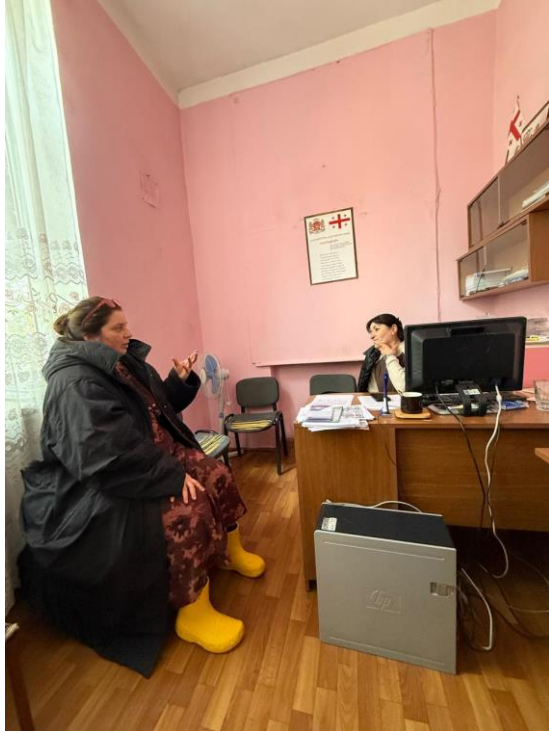
Detailed minutes of the meetings were prepared by the LEPL Environmental Information and Education Center and are attached to this document.

*To view the minutes, please double-click the document provided below:*

-   
 Public  
[consultation\\_Ruisi\\_03](#)
-   
 Public  
[Consultation\\_Urbnisi\\_](#)
-   
 Public  
[Consultation\\_Shindisi\\_](#)
-   
 Public  
[Consultation\\_Variani\\_](#)

### Meeting Note #030

<b>Date:</b> 24/02/2025	<b>Time:</b> NA	<b>Location:</b> Public schools and kindergartens in the village of Ruisi
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Notification to Ruisi Schools and Kindergartens Regarding the Start of Construction Works		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Sofo Begijanashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		



**Meeting Notes:** One month prior to the start of the first phase of preparatory works for the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, the project's social team conducted an initial round of outreach in the implementation area. Public Schools and kindergartens in the village of Ruisi were informed about the upcoming works. Representatives of the institutions were provided with detailed information about the planned work schedule and the distance of their institutions from the construction zone.

Given the distance, no direct impact (such as noise, traffic, dust, etc.) is expected on any public institution in the village during the construction works. However, all representatives were given the contact details of the social team and they expressed their readiness to promptly report any discomfort caused by the construction activities, should such situations arise.

In addition to informing local institutions, announcements about the start of construction works were posted in all public areas of Ruisi and Arashenda (including bus stops, shops, and other locations), as well as on the village and municipality social media pages and the project's official website.

### Meeting Note #031

<b>Date:</b> 04.03.2025	<b>Time:</b> 12:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Monastery for Nuns
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> To inform local churches about the start of construction works. Additionally, the nuns at the Ruisi Convent were informed about the suspension of the USAID-funded project, which had planned the installation of solar panels on the monastery premises.		
<b>Present:</b>	CLOs (Community Liaison Officers): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager) Nino Ghviniashvili Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Nino Ghviniashvili	



**Meeting  
Photos:**



**Meeting Notes:**

One month prior to the start of the first phase of preparatory works for the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, the project's social team conducted initial outreach within the implementation area, specifically informing the churches in the village of Ruisi. Representatives of the churches were provided with detailed information about the planned work schedule and the distance of their churches from the construction zone.

Given the distance, no direct impact (such as noise, traffic, dust, etc.) is expected on any church in the village during the construction works. However, all representatives were given the social team's contact information and they expressed their readiness to promptly notify the social team of any discomfort caused by the construction activities, should such situations arise.

Additionally, the Ruisi Convent was informed about the suspension of the USAID-funded project, which had planned the installation of solar panels on the monastery's residential premises.

### Meeting Note #032

<b>Date:</b> 15.04.2025	<b>Time:</b> 08:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Trainings conducted by the contractor (LLC "Peri") for employees within the project scope		
<b>Present:</b>	HSE (Health and Safety) Manager: Zura Chkonia Archaeologist: David Darejanashvili Environmental Manager: Maia Gikoshvili Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze On-site Project Manager: Irakli Bodokia Giorgi Giunashvili Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager) Etuna Kvariantashvili Nino Ghviniashvili Contractor's (LLC "Peri") hired workforce: 53 persons	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:**

A training session was conducted by LLC "Peri" for the employees hired for the construction works of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, focusing on occupational health and safety during the course of the works. The attendees were also informed about the proper procedures to follow in the event of discovering potential archaeological artifacts, as well as general information regarding the company's Code of Conduct for workers.

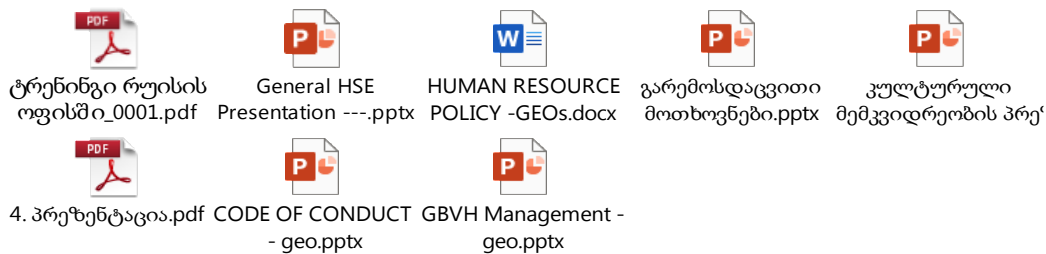
Mr. David Darejanashvili presented a presentation on the protection of cultural heritage, explaining how it is defined under Georgian law and the current regulations of the bank.

The HSE Manager, Mr. Zurab Chkonia, provided the workforce with a general overview of occupational health and safety aspects.

Ms. Maia Gikoshvili delivered a presentation on environmental requirements and their protection according to Georgian legislation and the bank’s regulations.

The Social Manager, Ms. Shorena Tchokhonelidze, spoke about managing gender-based violence and harassment, as well as the company’s Code of Conduct and grievance mechanisms.

**The presentations and attendees’ signatures are electronically attached to the meeting minutes. Please double-click the files to open them.**



### Meeting Note #033

<b>Date:</b> 01.04.2025	<b>Time:</b> 16:30	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> As part of the project employment process, interviews were conducted by representatives of LLC “Peri” with 63 local candidates for selected positions, including heavy machinery operator, welder, operator, and skilled laborer.		
<b>Present:</b>	On-site Project Manager: Irakli Bodokia General Director of Peri Construction Company: Soso Mchedlishvili Supply Chain Manager: Gogi Chkhetia Employment Representative in Kareli: Gogita Ghvinashvili Supervisor of Hired Workers: Jambuli Kvatarashvili Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager) Nino Ghvinashvili Etuna Kvariantashvili 63 Candidates Interested in Employment from Villages within the Project Area	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	

**Meeting Photos:****Meeting Notes:**

From the database of local employment seekers (the social team records all local job seekers, their contact information, and work experience), the social team selected and invited 85 candidates to an interview at the Ruisi Information Center, based on the current needs of LLC "Peri." The selection criteria included the following positions: heavy machinery operator, welder, operator, and skilled laborer.

Of those invited, 63 candidates attended the interview. No skilled laborers appeared due to lack of qualifications.

The candidates were interviewed by Mr. Soso Mchedlishvili, Gogi Chkhetia, and Gogita Ghvinashvili.

The purpose of the interviews was to better understand the existing working conditions, needs, and opinions of the candidates. During the meeting, the employees had the opportunity to express their views and ask important questions.

### Meeting Note#34

<b>Date:</b> 16.05.2025	<b>Time:</b> N/A	<b>Location:</b> Public Schools of Ruisi and Urbnisi Villages (4 public schools)
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> An informational meeting with the public schools of Ruisi and Urbnisi was held to present the results of the archaeological excavations conducted within the project area, as well as to discuss the social initiatives (community development programs) planned by JSC Wind Power. The meeting was attended by the principals and representatives of the respective schools.</p>		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhanelidze Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Nini Ghvinishvili Principal of Public School No. 2 Ruisi: Neli Beruashvili Principal of Public School No. 3 Ruisi: Tania Svianadze Deputy Principal of Public School No. 1 Ruisi: Bondo Razmiashvili Principal of Urbnisi Public School: Lia Beliashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Nino Ghvinishvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** A visit to the public schools of Ruisi and Urbnisi was planned. During the meetings, the schools were provided with updates about the project, including information about the archaeological excavations conducted within the project area. As a result of these excavations, burial sites were discovered in the Ruisi-Urbnisi region. The unearthed artifacts were transferred to the Gori Museum, where they will be available for public viewing.

Following the review of brochures detailing the archaeological findings, an agreement was reached to organize a presentation for students by the project’s archaeologist. A tentative date was set, along with an estimate of the number of students and teachers who will attend the session.

In addition, discussions were held with school principals about the potential implementation of social projects. The tentative timeline for these initiatives is the upcoming academic year (from September 2025 to July 2026). One of the key topics discussed was the possibility of providing financial support for students to pursue higher education in 2026. The selection of students for funding will be based on criteria agreed upon with the schools.

Other possible educational activities to be funded by the project were also discussed, including academic competitions, thematic lectures, and more. Once the projects and budgets are approved, each school will have the autonomy to decide how the allocated funds will be distributed. This decision will be made in consultation with the teaching staff.

### Meeting Note #036

<b>Date:</b> 29.05.2025	<b>Time:</b> 11:30	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Public School No. 3
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Archaeologist Davit Darejanashvili gave a presentation to the students about the artifacts discovered during the archaeological research conducted within the framework of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project		
<b>Present:</b> :	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Archaeologist: Davit Darejanashvili CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili Students from all three schools in Ruisi: 100 students 12 teachers, including 2 school principals	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	

**Meeting  
Photos:**


**Meeting Notes:** Before the start of the presentation, the Social Manager of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, Ms. Shorena Tchokhnelidze, addressed the audience. She introduced the activities of the company "Wind Power" and presented its main areas of focus.

As part of the event, students attended an educational presentation led by archaeologist Davit Darejanashvili. The main topic of the presentation was the discovery of archaeological monuments and the processes of their identification—particularly in cases where such monuments are not detected during the initial stages of construction but are revealed at later phases.

The aim of the presentation was to raise students' awareness about the importance of archaeological research and the protection of cultural heritage.

Mr. Darejanashvili spoke in detail about the methods used to identify archaeological sites, the challenges encountered during the fieldwork, and the various circumstances that may hinder the timely discovery of artifacts. During the session, a replica of one of the discovered artifacts was also presented, which sparked great interest among the students.


At the end of the meeting, the archaeologist engaged in a discussion with the attending teachers, who expressed strong interest in the material. He also shared additional practical information relevant to the topic.

**To view the presentation, double-click on the document.**



Presentation\_Archeology\_Schools\_RWPP\_2024

## Meeting Note #037

<b>Date:</b> 29.05.2025	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Urbnisi Public School
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Archaeologist Davit Darejanashvili presented a lecture to the students about the artifacts discovered during the archaeological research conducted as part of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Archaeologist: Davit Darejanashvili CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili Students from Urbnisi Public School: 20 students 4 teachers, including 1 school principal	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** Before the presentation began, the Social Manager of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, Ms. Shorena Tchokhonelidze, addressed the audience. She introduced the activities of the company “Wind Power” and presented its main areas of focus.

As part of the event, students attended an educational presentation led by archaeologist Davit Darejanashvili. The main topic of the presentation was the discovery of archaeological monuments and the processes of their identification, particularly in cases where such monuments are not detected during the initial stages of construction but are revealed later in the process. The aim of the presentation was to raise students’ awareness of the importance of archaeological research and the protection of cultural heritage.

Mr. Darejanashvili spoke in detail about the methods used to identify archaeological sites, the challenges faced during the excavation process, and the various circumstances that hinder the



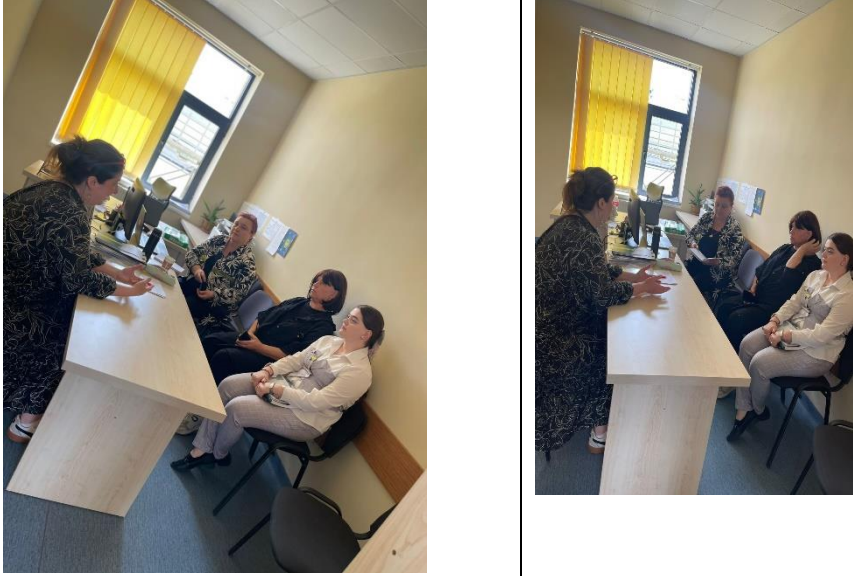
timely discovery of monuments. During the presentation, a replica of one of the discovered artifacts was shown to the students, which generated great interest.

**To view the presentation, double-click on the document**



Presentation\_Archeology\_Schools\_RWPP\_2025

### Meeting Note #038

<b>Date:</b> 29.05.2025	<b>Time:</b> 14:15	<b>Location:</b> Urbnisi Public School
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Informing Urbnisi public school regarding the schedule of construction works nearby the village. Also, discussion of possible social projects in educational field and potential cooperation in this regard.		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze Principal of Urbnisi Public School: Lia Beliashvili Teachers from Urbnisi School: 2 representatives CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Note Prepared By:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:**

The Social Manager, Shorena Tchokhnelidze, introduced the administration of Urbnisi Public School to the activities of Wind Power LLC within the Ruisi-Urbnisi area. The commence of construction works nearby Urbnisi was discussed as well. Representatives of the school were provided with detailed information about the planned work schedule and the distance of their institution from the construction zone. Given the distance, no direct impact (such as noise, traffic, dust, etc.) is expected on any public institution in the village during the construction works. However, all representatives were given the contact details of the social team and they expressed their readiness to promptly report any discomfort caused by the construction activities, should such situations arise.

During the meeting, the Social Manager also discussed the possibility of funding social projects, which the company plans to initiate starting from September of this year.

**Meeting Note #039**

<b>Date</b> 28.06.2025	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> "Training on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence"		
<b>Present:</b>	<b>Expert on Gender-Based Violence / Criminal Lawyer:</b> Goga Khatiashvili <b>Social Manager:</b> Shorena Tchokhnelidze <b>Environmental Manager:</b> Maia Gikoshvili Giorgi Giunashvili <b>Community Liaison Officers (CLOs):</b> Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Etuna Kvariantashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:**

As part of the meeting, the criminal lawyer conducted a training session on the topic: Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence.

During the training, the following issues were discussed:

- Forms and types of violence;
- Existing mechanisms for combating violence against women and domestic violence;
- Mechanisms for the protection of victims, including hotline numbers and instructions on how to use them.

The training aimed to inform participants and raise awareness regarding the prevention of gender-based and domestic violence.

Attendees were provided with essential information and recommendations on how to access relevant institutions and support services.

**To view the presentations, double-click the link**



გენდერულ  
ძალადობაზე რეაგენდერული ნიშნი



ძალადობა

### Meeting Note #040

<b>Date:</b> 28.06.2025	<b>Time:</b> 18:00	<b>Location:</b> Employee Housing Camp
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Training on Gender-Based and Domestic Violence and Presentation of Environmental Recommendations.		
<b>Present:</b>	Expert on Gender-Based Violence / Criminal Lawyer: Goga Khatiashvili Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze Environmental Manager: Maia Gikoshvili HSE PERi: Tamar Tolordava Giorgi Giunashvili Community Liaison Officers CLOs: Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Etuna Kvariantashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili 30 Hired Workers	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	

**Meeting Photos:**



**Meeting Notes:**

The Expert on Gender-Based Violence conducted an educational training session, during which he discussed the forms and types of violence. Participants were introduced to the legal mechanisms for combating violence against women and domestic violence, as well as the available means of victim protection. Emphasis was placed on the importance of existing support services and the role of hotline numbers.

The environmental specialist presented environmental recommendations to the hired workers. The discussion focused on the importance of adhering to ecological standards during work processes, ways to minimize environmental impact, and general environmental obligations.

**To view the presentations, double-click the link**



გარემოსდაცვითი გენდერულ ტრენინგის ძალადობა რეკომენდაციები.ძძალადობაზე რეაგხელმოწერები 28.0გენდერული ნიშნი

## Meeting note #041

<b>Date:</b> 27.06.2025	<b>Time:</b> 13:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Interview with Employment Candidates		
<b>Present:</b>	<b>LLC „Peri“ Site Chief Engineer:</b> Luka Murvanidze <b>LLC „Peri“ Site Chief Officer:</b> Vako Khatiashvili <b>CLO:</b> Etuna Kvariantashvili 30 Job Applicants	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		


**Meeting Notes:**

As part of the employment process, the contractor's Site Chief Engineer and the Site Chief Officer conducted interviews with job applicants. The criteria were as follows: from the employment file, unqualified or qualified workers were selected. A total of 30 applicants attended the job interviews.

During the meeting, candidates from target villages were provided with information on important issues related to their employment relationship. The main duties and rights of employees in case of employment were discussed in detail.

Rules of work procedures, safety standards, and key requirements of organizational discipline were also covered.

**Meeting Note #042**



<p><b>Date:</b> 02.07.2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 11:00-16:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Vulnerable Families' homes (Ruisi Village)</p>
<p><b>Meeting purpose :</b> Visit to Vulnerable Families, Project Updates, and Household Information Review</p>		
<p><b>Attendees:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	
<p><b>Note prepared by</b></p>	<p>CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting photos:</b></p>	 <p>The collage consists of four photographs documenting the meeting. The top-left photo shows a woman in a purple patterned dress and a man in a grey shirt sitting at a table with a laptop. The top-right photo shows three people sitting around a table with laptops, with a woman in a pink shirt resting her head on her hand. The bottom-left photo shows a woman in a purple dress sitting on a red chair, looking towards another woman who is working on a laptop. The bottom-right photo shows a woman in a black top and green pants sitting on a red chair, looking at a woman in a purple dress who is using a laptop.</p>	

Meeting photos:



**Meeting Note:** JSC Wind Power Social Manager and CLOs visited 10 vulnerable households and informed them about the progress of the project and recent updates. During the visit, a survey was also conducted to assess the families' social conditions in order to identify their needs and possible forms of support.

### Meeting Note #043

<b>Date:</b> 05.07.2025	<b>Time:</b> 15:00-17:30	<b>Location:</b> Vulnerable Families' homes (Ruisi Village)
<b>Meeting purpose:</b> Visit to vulnerable families, introducing project updates and gathering updated information on households		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Etuna Kvariantashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili	
<b>Note prepared by</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	



Meeting photos:



**Meeting Note:** JSC Wind Power’s Social Manager and CLOs visited 4 vulnerable households in Ruisi and informed them about the progress of the project and recent updates. During the visit, a survey was also conducted to assess the families’ social conditions in order to identify their needs and possible forms of support.

### Meeting Note #044

<b>Date:</b> 08.07.2025	<b>Time:</b> 10:00-15:00	<b>Location:</b> Vulnerable Families’ homes (Ruisi and Urbnisi villages)
<b>Meeting purpose:</b> Visit to vulnerable families, presenting project updates and updating household information.		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Etuna Kvariantashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili	
<b>Note prepared by</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	

Meeting photos:



Meeting photos:



**Meeting Note:** JSC Wind Power’s Social Manager and CLOs visited 11 vulnerable households in Ruisi and Urbnisi and informed them about the progress of the project and recent updates. During the visit, a survey was also conducted to assess the families’ social conditions in order to identify their needs and possible forms of support.

### Meeting Note #045

<b>Date:</b> 10.07.2025	<b>Time:</b> 10:00-17:00	<b>Location:</b> Vulnerable Families' homes (Sakasheti village, Variani Farm, and Arashenda)
<b>Meeting purpose:</b> Visit to vulnerable families, presenting project updates and updating household information.		
<b>Attendees:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhoniidze Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Nino Ghviniashvili	
<b>Note prepared by</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		

**Meeting Note:** JSC Wind Power’s Social Manager and CLOs visited 12 vulnerable households in Sakasheti, Variani Farm and Arashenda and informed them about the progress of the project and recent updates. During the visit, a survey was also conducted to assess the families’ social conditions in order to identify their needs and possible forms of support.

### Meeting Note #046

<b>Date:</b> 05.07.2025	<b>Time:</b> 14:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of the meeting:</b> Meeting between the contractor company Goldwind and the local community		
<b>Present:</b>	<p>Representatives of Goldwind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior Engineer for Health, Occupational Safety, and Environmental Protection – Giorgi Alavidze</li> <li>• Site Manager – Yongjin Luo</li> <li>• Project Manager – Xinrui Ji</li> </ul> <p>Representatives of JSC Wind Power:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Manager – Shorena Tchokhnelidze</li> <li>• Community Liaison Officers (CLOs): Etuna Kvariantashvili, Sofo Begijanashvili (Grievance Manager), Nino Gviniaishvili</li> </ul> <p>Interested Parties: 14 people (residents of Ruisi village)</p>	
<b>Note preparing by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	





**Meeting note:** On July 5, 2025, the Chinese company Goldwind held a presentation for interested stakeholders at the Ruisi Information Center. The invitation and notification of the interested parties were organized by the social team of JSC Wind Power.

During the presentation, participants were shown a detailed video demonstrating the assembly process of wind turbines — starting from the production of key components to their on-site installation and full commissioning.

The purpose of the meeting was to share information and ensure transparent communication with the local community and other interested groups. A discussion followed at the end of the meeting. The main concern of the community was employment opportunities. According to the contractor, the need for local labor will arise from the end of September. The social team will contact all interested persons registered in their database, taking into account their profiles and experience.

At the end of the meeting, all attendees received updated project brochures as well as souvenirs prepared by Goldwind (t-shirts, thermoses).

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### Meeting Note#047

<b>Date:</b> 22/07/2025	<b>Time:</b> 09:00-15:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center and Home Visits (Ruisi and Sakasheti villages)
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Assessment of Pesticide Use Practices by Farmers Utilizing Land Plots Along the Construction Area and Informing Target Farmers About Construction Safety Issues		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhonelidze CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili Farmers from Land Plots Along the Project Area: 31 farmers in total (22 from Ruisi, 9 from Sakhasheti)	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		



**Meeting Notes:**

The primary objective of the meetings held in the villages of Ruisi and Sakasheti was to survey the local population regarding the time periods during which pesticides are used on agricultural land. To this end, the target group consisted of farmers who cultivate plots of land located along the construction zone.

In addition to the survey, informational brochures were distributed to the farmers. They were also updated on recent developments in the project and informed about safety measures during construction activities. These included speed limits for vehicles, suspension of work during pesticide application to ensure worker safety, and other relevant guidelines.

Due to the sensitivity of the topic and the reluctance of many farmers to openly discuss pesticide use, most of the meetings were conducted individually at the farmers’ homes. Some group meetings were also held at the Ruisi Information Center. Despite the topic's sensitivity, consistent information was eventually obtained from all interviewed farmers.

Specifically, regarding annual crops (such as grains, onions, garlic, etc., grown in Ruisi), the active pesticide application period is typically April through May. As of the reporting period, there was no pesticide spraying taking place along the agricultural plots near the construction zone in Ruisi. It is worth noting that by the time active construction began (late May to early June), pesticide application in the target area had already been completed.


As for orchards, such perennial crops are primarily found in the village of Sakasheti along the construction area, mostly apple trees. According to local farmers, spraying typically begins in April and can continue through mid-September. However, in 2025, spring frosts significantly reduced the likelihood of harvest, leading many target farmers to abandon pesticide use after initial spraying due to a lack of expectation for any yield.

Therefore, in the case of Sakasheti, by the time the project’s construction activities commence (end of September 2025), pesticide application in the orchards will already have concluded.

**Meeting Notes #048**

<p><b>Date:</b> 05/09/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 10:00-13:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Urbnisi and Sakasheti Kindergartens</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Providing information about the Ruisi Wind Power Plant and giving notice about the commencement of works.</p>		



<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social Manager of Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhnelidze          Social Manager of LLC PERI: Nino Matashvili          CLO: Sopo Begijanashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili, Etuna Kvariantashvili          Director of Sakasheni Kindergarten: Nana Khutsishvili          Teacher at Sakasheni Kindergarten: Inga Taruashvili          Teacher at Sakasheni Kindergarten: Veriko Bezhanishvili          Interested Person: Ketli Lazarashvili          Caretaker at Sakasheni Kindergarten: Lia Naskidashvili          Cleaner at Sakasheni Kindergarten: Tamuna Menabdisvili          Acting Director of Urbnisi Kindergarten: Tsira Gharibashvili          Cook at Urbnisi Kindergarten: Marine Kakashvili          Assistant Cook at Urbnisi Kindergarten: Nato Agashenashvili</p>
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>	

**Meeting notes:** The social managers of *Wind Power* and LLC *PERI* provided the kindergarten staff with comprehensive information regarding the scale and development stages of the ongoing Ruisi Wind Power Plant project. During the meeting, possible prospects for local employment, opportunities for implementing educational initiatives funded by the company, as well as the existing mechanisms for submitting and reviewing grievances, were discussed.


### Meeting Note #049

<b>Date:</b> 05/09/2025	<b>Time:</b> 13:40	<b>Location:</b> Sakasheti's Public School
<b>Purpose of meeting:</b> Information meeting about Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project and notice of commencement of works.		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager of <i>Wind Power</i> : Shorena Tchokhonelidze Social Manager of PERI: Nino Mateshvili CLO: Sopo Begijanashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili, Etuna Kvariantashvili Sakasheti Public School Principal: Tsitsino Taruashvili	
<b>Note prepared by:</b>	CLO : Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Notes :</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** The school principal was provided with updated information regarding the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project, including the commencement of works on the Sakasheti site. Special attention was given to the potential funding of educational initiatives by Wind Power.

The school principal also informed the social manager about issues with the sewage system, and undertook to provide additional information regarding the scope of necessary works and associated costs. Discussion of this matter is planned for the next meeting.

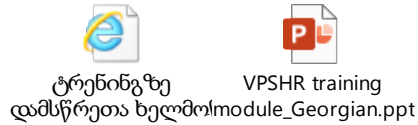
### Meeting Notes #050

<b>Date:</b> 06/09/2025	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> Workers' Accommodation Camp Hired by LLC PERI within the Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project.
<b>Purpose of meeting :</b> Training for hired security personnel on the topic of „UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights”.		
<b>Presents :</b>	Social Manager of <i>Wind Power</i> : Shorena Tchokhonelidze Social Manager of LLC PERI: Nino Matashvili Environmental Manager: Maia Gikoshvili Trainer: Ana Kvernadze CLO: Sopho Begijanashvili, Etuna Kvariantashvili Hired Security Personnel: 5 persons	
<b>Note prepared by:</b>	CLO : Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos :</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** The meeting aimed to raise awareness among the hired security personnel regarding the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, enabling them to perform their professional duties with respect for human rights and within the lawful use-of-force framework.

The trainer also discussed how to assess conflict situations, apply de-escalation techniques, recognize unacceptable behaviors (such as harassment, discrimination, rights violations, and excessive use of force), and prevent or mitigate such incidents.

See the list of attendees at the training and the presentation used during the training  
 Double-click on the file to open it.



### Meeting Notes #051







<b>Date:</b> 06/09/2025	<b>Time:</b> 18:00	<b>Location:</b> Workers' Accommodation Camp Hired by LLC PERI within the Ruisi Wind Power Plant Project.
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Training on the topic: Introduction to Environmental and Social Recommendations		
<b>Presents:</b>	Social Manager of Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhonelidze Environmental Manager: Maia Gikoshvili Social Manager of LLC PERI: Nino Mateshvili HSE Site Manager of LLC PERI: Tamar Tolordava Giorgi Giunashvili Public Relations Representative (Grievance Manager): Sopo Begijanashvili Hired Workers: 132 persons	
<b>Notes prepared by :</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	
<b>Meeting Photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:** The Environmental Specialist, Ms. Maia Gikoshvili, presented environmental recommendations to the hired workers. The discussion covered the necessity of adhering to ecological standards during the work process, ways to minimize environmental impact, and general environmental responsibilities.

Attendees were also informed about the procedures to follow in case of the discovery of an archaeological artifact and provided with general information on the protection of cultural heritage.

Shorena Tchokhanelidze, the Social Manager, spoke about the management of gender-based violence and harassment, as well as the company's Code of Conduct and grievance mechanism.

**To view the presentations, double-click on the document**

 Environmental recommendations.pptx  
 ტრენინგზე მონაწილეობის წესები.pdf  
 WORKERS CODE OF CONDUCT rev.2 (Gec  
 HUMAN RESOURCE POLICY -GEOs.docx  
 მალაღობა გენდერული ნიშნი  
 Cultural heritage.pdf

### Meeting Notes #052

<b>Date:</b> 6/09/2025	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> "Nuns' Convent
<b>Meeting of purpose:</b> Planning the Installation of Solar Panels.		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager of Wind Power: Shorena Tchokhanelidze CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili Head of the Monastery: Marta Chkhikvishvili Giorgi Giunashvili Solar Panel Installation Specialist	
<b>Note Prepared By:</b>	CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili	



**Meeting Notes:** The solar panel installation specialist assessed the site’s surface strength, optimal solar orientation, the impact of shadows, safety standards, and technical installation requirements to ensure the panels operate as efficiently as possible.

### Meeting Notes #053

<p><b>Date:</b> 09/09/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 12:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Variani Farm</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Assisting a vulnerable family as part of a social Project.</p>		
<p><b>Presents:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Sopo Begijanashvili ( Grievence Manager ), Etuna Kvariantashvili, Nino Ghviniashvili.</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by</b></p>	<p>CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	

**Meeting Photos:**



**Meeting Notes:** As part of a social project, Wind Power provided support to a vulnerable family with four kids. The children received school supplies, helping them start the new school year better prepared and more motivated. Initiatives like this aim to show solidarity and promote education for families who need assistance the most.

**Meeting Note #054**

<p><b>Date:</b> 1/10/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> N/A</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> During hunting activities</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Seasonal hunting activities within the project area</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Wind Power Social Manager Shorena Tchokhonelidze                  PERI Social Manager Nino Mateshvili                  CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili, Sopo Begijanashvili</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	

<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		

**Meeting Notes:** As a result of the meetings with local hunters, it was determined that in the areas surrounding the project site of the Ruisi Wind Power Plant, which are located at a distance from the main construction zone, hunting is primarily focused on birds. Specifically, quail hunting takes place during August and September, while two different species of ducks are hunted in November and December. In both cases, hunting typically occurs early in the morning before 8:00 AM or in the evening between 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM. Hunters use smoothbore shotguns and No. 10 buckshot for hunting these bird species.

### Meeting Note #055

<p><b>Date:</b> August-September 2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 08:00 – 13:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Pasturelands adjacent to the construction site of the Ruisi HPP (field visits)</p>
<p><b>Purpose of the Meeting:</b> Field visits with the local population during harvest season to discuss seasonal sanitary fires and safe transportation within the project area (speed limit enforcement).</p>		



<b>Present:</b>	Wind Power Social Manager Shorena Tchokhnelidze PERI Social Manager Nino Mateshvili Local residents – 6 meetings, 120 individuals	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	PERI Social Manager: Nino Mateshvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		

**Description of the meeting:** Social managers from „Wind Power“ and „PERI“ met with local residents involved in the harvest process — including fruit and vegetable collection — to share scientifically grounded and evidence-based information about the negative impact of seasonal sanitary fires on soil health and biodiversity.

During the discussion, two common justifications raised by the community — that burning is a cheap method for clearing agricultural waste and that it improves soil health — were addressed. The second argument, regarding soil improvement, was easily refuted with scientific evidence. The meeting also covered the social and legal responsibilities associated with these artificial fires, which are regulated under Georgian law. Additionally, residents were informed about the speed limit of 20 km/h for vehicles within the construction area, a measure aimed at ensuring the safety of both project workers and local residents.

### Meeting Note #056

<b>Date:</b> 16/10/2025	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> Ruisi Wind Power Project Information Center
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> "Distribution of pharmacy vouchers to vulnerable households"		
<b>Present:</b>	Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze Social Manager of PERI: Nino Mateshvili Environmental Manager: Maia Gikoshvili  CLOs: Sopho Begijanashvili, Etuna Kvariantashvili, Mariam Gigashvili	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	CLO: Mariam Gigashvili.	



**Meeting Notes:** The members of the social team of JSC "Wind Power" distributed pharmacy vouchers to vulnerable households. Each vulnerable household received a voucher worth 1200 GEL, which they can use over a period of three months. A total of eight vulnerable households received vouchers. The household selection took place during field visits in July–August 2025.

**Signed Act of Acceptances for received Vouchers:**

  
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**Meeting Note #057**

<p><b>Date:</b> 18/10/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 14:00</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> "Gold Wind" company office in Gori</p>
<p><b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> Environmental and social recommendations review</p>		
<p><b>Present:</b></p>	<p>Social manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze.                  Environmental protection manager: Maia Gikoshvili.                  Representatives of the "Gold Wind" company.</p>	
<p><b>Note Prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO: Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	








**Meeting Photos:**




**Meeting Notes:** Mrs. Maia Gikoshvili presented environmental protection and recommendations to the hired workforce. The discussion touched on the necessity of observing ecological norms in the work process, ways to minimize environmental impact, and general environmental protection obligations. The attendees were also introduced to how to act in the event of a possible archaeological artifact discovery and other general information on the protection of cultural heritage.

Social Manager, Shorena Tchokhoniidze, spoke about managing gender-based violence and harassment, as well as the company's employee code of conduct and grievance mechanism.

**Presentations and Signatures of the Attendees:**

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**Meeting Note #058**


<p><b>Date:</b> 23/10/2025</p>	<p><b>Time:</b> 18:00 5</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Accommodation camp for hired workers within the Ruisi Wind Power Plant project implemented by LLC „PERI”</p>
<p><b>Purpose of the meeting:</b> Training on Familiarization with Environmental and Social Recommendations</p>		
<p><b>Presents:</b></p>	<p>Wind Power Social Manager: Shorena Tchokhnelidze                  LLC “PERI” Social Manager: Nino Mateshvili                  LLC “PERI” Occupational Safety Representative: Tamar Tolordava                  Hired Workers: 5 persons</p>	
<p><b>Note prepared by:</b></p>	<p>CLO:Etuna Kvariantashvili</p>	
<p><b>Meeting Photos:</b></p>		

**Meeting Note:** Ms. Shorena Tchokhnelidze and Ms. Nino Mateshvili presented the environmental and social recommendations to the hired workers. The discussion covered the necessity of complying with environmental standards during work processes, ways to minimize environmental impact, and general environmental obligations. Attendees were also informed on how to act in case of discovering potential archaeological artifacts and were provided with general information on the protection of cultural heritage.

The Social Manager, Ms. Shorena Tchokhnelidze, addressed gender-based violence and harassment management, as well as the company’s code of conduct for workers and the grievance mechanism.

**Double-click to view the presentation.**

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  WORKERS CODE OF CONDUCT\_GEO.docx
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### Meeting Note #300

<b>Date</b> 11.09.2025	<b>Time:</b> 16:00	<b>Location:</b> 45G Merab Kostava str., Tbilisi - Business Center Inoffice, the office of Gold Wind
<b>Purpose of Meeting:</b> "Training on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence"		
<b>Present:</b>	<b>Expert on Gender-Based Violence / Criminal Lawyer:</b> Goga Khatiashvili <b>PERI Social Manager:</b> Nino Mateshvili <b>Gold Wind QHSE Supervisor:</b> Giorgi Alavidze	
<b>Note Prepared by:</b>	PERI Social Manager: Nino Mateshvili	
<b>Meeting photos:</b>		

**Meeting Notes:**

During the meeting, a criminal lawyer led a training session focused on Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence.

The session covered key topics such as:

- Different forms and types of violence.
- Tools and systems in place to fight violence against women and domestic abuse.
- Support options for victims, including hotline numbers and how to use them.
- The goal of the training was to raise awareness and educate participants on how to prevent gender-based and domestic violence.

Attendees received practical information and guidance on how to reach out to the right organizations and access support services when needed.

**To view the presentations, double-click the link**



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