

Chapter 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Foreword

This is a summary of the main section of the Final Report resulting from the Study on Environmental Criteria for Installation and Extension of Thermal Power Plants in Argentina (the Study).

At the request of the Government of Argentina, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as the Japanese executing agency, surveyed situations related to the Study in Argentina as the preliminary step and concluded the Scope of Work with its Argentine counterpart in July 2000. Based on this survey, JICA developed a plan, and awarded the full-scale study project to the consortium of Suuri-Keikaku Co. (SUR) and Tokyo Electric Power Environmental Engineering Co. (TEE) in November 2000, after a technical and commercial competition. The executing agencies on the Argentine side were Ente Nacional Regulador de la Electricidad (ENRE) and Comision Nacional de Energia Atomica (CNEA).

The Final Report contains the results of the Study carried out by the JICA Study Team composed of members from the consortium. It is divided into two sections: a summary and a main section. The Support Volume was prepared separately from the Final Report.

1.2 Objectives (as given in the Scope of Work)

“The main objective of the Study is to evaluate environmental criteria for installation and extension of thermal power plants in Argentina and to formulate necessary recommendations. The Study will be carried out in the model areas, where air quality is assumed to be seriously affected by pollutant emissions from existing power plants, industries and other pollutant sources. The Study will include review of existing data regarding pollutant emissions, measurement of present air conditions, development of a simulation model for air quality prediction, evaluation of measures to prevent air pollution, formulation of environmental criteria for installation and extension of thermal power plant. Technology transfer to counterpart personnel will also be conducted in the course of the Study to formulate the criteria in areas apart from the model areas.”

1.3 Summary of Study

Three model areas are listed in Table 1.1 including model (or target) power plants in the areas.

Table 1.1 Model Areas and Power Plants

	Model Area	Model Power Plant
A	City of Buenos Aires - Total area: around 200 km ²	a) Nuevo Puerto b) Puerto Nuevo c) Central Termica Costanera d) Central Buenos Aires
B	San Nicolas - 20 km from the Power Plants	a) Central Termica San Nicolas b) AES Parana
C	Lujan de Cuyo - 20 km from the Power Plant	a) Centrales Termicas Mendoza

The Study has been carried out over 14 months including 4 Field Work and 3 Analytical Work stages, from November 2000 to December 2001.

1.4 Introduction to Final Report and Support Volume

The Summary outlines the issues discussed in the Main Section that is prepared to follow the Scope of Work as needed. Chapters 5 and 6 are for the major interest of the Study.

The Support Volume is to assist understanding of the Main Section. The following is a brief introduction to the chapters in the Support Volume.

- Chapter S1 Compilation of Scope of Work, Minutes of Meetings on S/W and Ic/R, Organizations of Study Teams, Schedule and Work Flow, List of JICA Equipment
- Chapter S2 Background data of population, refineries and consumption of oil and gas
- Chapter S3 List of Thermal Power Plants, and Air Pollution Control in Thermal Power Plants
- Chapter S4 National and Local EIA Procedures in Argentina
- Chapter S5 Analyses of air qualities monitored by the Study and by other organization
- Chapter S6 Study results of emission sources other than power plants
- Chapter S7 Issues of air dispersion simulation in the modeled areas
- Chapter S8 Predicted activities of emission sources in 20 years

1.5 Remarks

Social and political chaos occurred from the economical slump after the final Field Work stage. The Argentine Government cut loose a decade-old fixed currency policy and devalued the peso in the early January 2002. The JICA Team was unable to reflect the events and outcomes in the Final Report and the Support Volume, because of timing.