

Mean Annual Rainfall Isohyetal Map of Lao PDR







Design Floods in Laos

The Lao Electric Power Technical Standards was established by MIH/DOE on February 12, 2004 under the technical cooperation between the Governments of Lao PDR and Japan. This Standards prescribes the fundamental requirements for power facilities and technical contents that should satisfy the fundamental requirements.

Article 17 of the Standards provides the Inflow Design Flood for dams as quoted below

Article 17 Inflow Design Flood

1. Inflow design flood shall be set as follows, according to the dam classification specified in Paragraph 2.

Dam Classification	Inflow design flood
High	Probable maximum flood (PMF)
Significant	Between PMF and annual exceedance probability 1/1,000
Low	Between PMF and annual exceedance probability 1/100

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2. Each dam shall be classified in terms of the reasonably foreseeable consequences of failure. Consideration of potential damage shall not be confirmed to conditions existing at the time of construction. Probable future development in the downstream flood plain shall be evaluated in estimating damages and hazards to human life that would result from failure of the dam.

Dam Classification	Loss of life	Impact on economy, society and environment
High	Large increase in loss expected	Excessive increase in economic, social and/or environmental impact
Significant	Some increase in loss expected	Substantial increase in economic, social and/or environmental impact
Low	No increase in loss expected	Low increase in economic, social and/or environmental impact

Table: Dam classification

An Example of Site Reconnaissance Memo (1/5)

SITE RECON MEM	0														
Project	Nam Gnone		Code	2											
River	Nam Gnone (Na	m Gnone Basin)	CA	121 km²											
Province	Bokeo	District	Houaysay	Load Center Grid connection											
Village at I/T			Village at P/H	B. Namkat											
Recon Date	Dec. 03, 2004														
Recon Members	JICA S/T: Kataok	ka, Ohuchi, Mochiz	uki, Nishimaki Ya	amamura, ;											
	DOE: Sannya, V	thouniabandith;	PDIH: Thongay, r	NIM											
General Conditio	n (Access, Electrif	cation Status, etc)													
 Access to B. Namkat From Houaysay to the crossroad is 45 min on paved road. From crossroad to B. Phouxai is 20 min on dirt road. Electrification Status of B. Namkat 															
 B. Namkat is electrified by pico hydro but not so much. 															
Access to Power S • There is a foot p go to paddy fiel tributary during	 Access to Power Station Site There is a foot path to area of the P/H site, which cross a tributary of Nam Gnone. This footpath is used to go to paddy fields along Nam Gnone and to go to see Nam Gnone Falls. It seems difficult to cross the tributary during rainy season. 														
	Nito	wate failws at dow	fistream end is 3	minutes of root.											
The same footp bridge. The co P/H. The time taken	wath which leads to addition of the foot	o water falls exter bath near I/T is co	nds to the I/T with vered with bamb	h crossing the Nam Gnone by a log oo grove and not the same as to the											
I he time taken t	rom Powernouse s	site to the I/T is ap	prox. 1.0 nours.												
Access to Staff Ga Staff gauge is in	auge Istalled at B. Namk	at													
	Stalled at D. Nallin	.at.													
Photos		Water fall located	iust upstream of	Datake canal constructed for previous											
D. Wanikat.		powerhouse site	Just upstream of	piko hydropower, which stopped to operate now.											
Rapid continue towa	rd upstream.	Irrigation intake irrigation at pad downstream area	and canal for dy field located	Paddy field taking water from canal during rainy and dry seasons											

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An Example of Site Reconnaissance Memo (3/5)

Intake Facilities (Weir/Dam, Intake, Desilting Basin)

Condition of the Intake Site

- The intake site proposed through the map study seems to be adequate, but a left bank is flat with paddy field. Right bank has steep slope covered with bamboo grove. At downstream of proposed intake dam site, a steep rapid starts. Further upstream area is very flat and a new village locates near the river on right bank. Access road exists on right bank which lead to new village. Coordinates at center of dam axis is N20°25'58.68", E100°23'43.45 and elevation is EL.413m.
- There is alternative dam site at downstream of proposed dam site mentioned above. This dam site is little wider than original dam site. This site locates at middle way of steep rapid portion of this river, which has lower elevation than original dam site by 17m. Coordinates at center of dam axis is N20°25'41.16", E100°23'16.6 and elevation is EL.396m. The condition of access is same as original dam site.
- It is judged that the original axis is more adequate, because it can have higher head as mentioned above.

Environmental Impact

- The weir height needs to be kept low in order not to inundate the paddy fields which extend on left bank.
- There in no serious problem on Fishing activities.
- There is an existing irrigation intake weir and canals which take water and invite it to paddy fields. The water is taken from June to October in rainy season and December to April in dry season. The area of existing paddy fields is 30ha and there is plan to expand the area to 50 ha in rainy season only. According to head of former, the one forth of river water is taken to irrigation canal at driest season. It seems that the water taking for hydropower at upstream of irrigation intake considering the requirement of irrigation water will not affect to irrigation even though the dry season. This water usage for irrigation should be considered in duration curve of river flow.

Photos



Proposed Intake Weir site. Photo taken from upstream. There are steep slope in right bank and flat slope and paddy field in left bank.



Alternative Intake Weir site. Upstream view. Total head become about 30 m.

At bottom of weir axis on right bank, a rock is exposed. Upper area of right bank is covered with bamboo grove.



Alternative Intake Weir site. Marking for weir axis. (not adopted)



Upstream river has relatively flat slope.



Alternative Intake Weir site. Downstream view.

An Example of Site Reconnaissance Memo (4/5)

Waterway (Canal/Tunnel, Head Tank/Surge Tank, Penstock)

Conditions along Waterway

- The open channel will be constructed on the R/B. The waterway was not directly investigated, but observed from the existing access road on R/B.
- The waterway may be as long as 2 km, but the mountain slope seem to be adequate for construction.
- At the design stage, it should be careful that the excavation for water way should not affect to stability of exsiting accessr road on right bank.
- For discharge $Q = 3.8 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ flowing at v = 1 m/s, the channel dimension will be in the order of 2.0 m x 2.0 m.
- The necessity of concrete cover of open canal should be considered site by site.

Photos



There is an access road to village on right bank, which pass through the upper part of Intake Weir Site and Powerhouse site.



Open channel will locate along the access road at lower elevation.



Between Intake Weir site and Powerhouse site, there is irrigation intake and canal on left bank. Same type of wet masonry canal will be adopted for open channel for hydropower.

Powerhouse (Power Station, Tailrace, Outdoor Switchyard)

Conditions of Powerhouse Site

- The riverbed coordinates below the proposed P/H site is N20°25'51.31", E100°22'43.01", WL 364 (Trimble GPS Geo explorer CE Series).
- The location is D/S of the lowest water falls, where locates beside water pool.
- The annual FWL is high at approx. 2m above the present WL. In order to lower the P/H as much as possible and to prevent the P/H from the flood, the pond mouth and downstream area of river should be reshaped to have bigger flow capacity.

Alternative Powerhouse Site

- There is alternative powerhouse site at downstream of original powerhouse site. However, this site locates at flat area with paddy field on left bank. In the case of this alternative, the water way should be designed on left bank and the penstock will locates in the paddy fields and became very long. Totally, the water way layout is very difficult. It seems not to be adequate.
- Alternative P/H site is N20°25'57.77", E100°22'16.03", WL 350.

Discharge Measurement

- Discharge measurement was conducted on Dec. 03, 2004 at the gauging station.
- $Q = XXXX m^3/s$ (current meter)

Installed Capacity

• The approximate net head H = 413 - 364 - (2000x(1.5/1000) = 46 m. Assuming Q = 3.8 m³/s , and η comb = 70%, installed capacity P = 1200 kW.

Environmental Impact

• Due to usage of river water for hydropower, the water which flow down through water falls will be reduced and the appeal strength as the sight seen location will be decreased in dry season especially. However, during rainy season, there will no serious problem on sight seen.

An Example of Site Reconnaissance Memo (5/5)





Field Discharge Measurement

Field reconnaissance of the small hydropower sites was carried out from November 17 to December 11, 2004. The reconnaissance aimed at confirmation of the site conditions such as accessibility, river course, river flow, geography, geology, water withdrawal for the local irrigation and so on. Under the site reconnaissance, discharge measurement was conducted jointly by staff of DOE and PDIH.

Photos below show the discharge measurement on site in the Nam Pha River, Vieng Phoukha, Luangnamtha. The measured river discharge was 1.8 m^3 /sec on November 25, 2004.



Measuring the river flow velocity by a current meter at 1 m intervals

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JICA-D	DE Study	Team	(Field No	otebook o	of Discharge	Observation)																	
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DOE Form of Discharge Measurement

An Example of Record of Field Discharge Measurement

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River Flow Measurement Survey



JICA M/P Study on Small-Hydro in Northern Laos [26]

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Discharge (m^3/s)

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Tools for Measurement of Head