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## SHEBERGHAN GAS GENERATION ACTIVITY (SGGA)

Contract No. EPP-I-00-03-00004-00, Task Order No. AID-306-TO-12-00002

### Monthly Report

Period: January 1 – January 31, 2012

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AEAI	Advanced Engineering Associates International Inc.
COTR	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
DOS	Department of State
GIRoA	Government Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
OPIC	Overseas Private Investment Corporation
SGPP	Sheberghan Gas Power Program
SOW	Scope of Work
SWG	Specially Working Group
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

## 1 SECTION I

List of Sheberghan Working Group meeting participants in the month of January: None.

The first Sheberghan Working Group meeting is scheduled for Feb 1, 2012.

## 2 SECTION II

### 2.1 Activities Implemented

The SGPP contract was signed by USAID on December 21, 2012.

- Immediately upon signing of the contract AEAI team started the preparation for mobilization of the project kick-off team.
- Consultations were held between AEAI home office, subcontractors (aXseum and Senergy) and the Project Team's key personnel.
- Project's Chief of Party, Edrees Saljuki, arrived in Kabul on January 12th followed by Ben Kinney, Project's Legal Expert. Peter Jezek, Deputy Chief of Party/Shadow Chief of Sheberghan Project Management Unit arrived in Kabul on January 23rd.
- AEAI held a project kick-off meeting with Project COTR, John Cole, and Allen Eisendrath, Chief of Energy Division--USAID Washington, on January 23rd. The meeting focused on changes to the scope of work as it pertained to the latest Sheberghan strategy.
- AEAI team held a brief, introductory meeting with Mr. Jalil Jumryani, Head of the Policy and Promotion Department at the Ministry of Mines. The team provided a brief overview of the project and asked Mr. Jumryani's support in moving this project forward.
- AEAI team met with OPIC team and the investors, Industrial Promotion Services and Contour Global, on January 29th to discuss the upcoming SWG meeting on Feb 1st. AEAI briefed OPIC and the Investors about the current status of the Sheberghan program and the next steps. USAID and the DOS arranged and participated in the meeting.
- AEAI prepared project documents for the first Sheberghan Working Group Meeting to be held on February 1st, 2012.

## 3 SECTION III

### 3.1 Next Steps

- AEAI will continue to work with USAID on the changes to the Scope of Work.
- AEAI will work on the Annual Work plan, the Rapid Appraisal Report, as well as the mobilization of the rest of the key personnel as soon as the SOW is finalized.
- AEAI will initiate one-on-one consultations with the stakeholders in February following the SWG kickoff meeting.

## 4 SECTION IV

### 4.1 Potential Problems Identified

Ministry of Mines issued on January 30, 2012 an announcement inviting expressions of interest for World Bank grant-funded technical assistance focusing on the development of the Afghan natural gas sector and including as "Task 7 Design and Implement a program of Afghan Gas corporatization, commercialization, modernization and restructuring that includes capacity building" This task completely

overlaps/duplicates a task in the SOW of the SGPP. This conflict needs to be addressed to assure clarity of responsibilities and facilitate cooperation between the two endeavors.

## **4.2 Issues/Risks Identified**

It is crucial that USAID introduce the SGPP Team officially to the relevant Ministers and other Stakeholders before the team holds one-on-one consultations. It has been AEAI's experience in Afghanistan that until there is buy-in at the highest level from the stakeholders, especially our GIRoA counterparts; it is extremely difficult if not impossible to make progress on a project of this magnitude. Therefore, the introduction by USAID will set the tone for the support by the GIRoA institutions that are required to move this project forward.

# **5 SECTION V**

## **5.1 Accrual Report**

Expenditure Report:

Reference: EPP-I-00-04-00004-00,

Sheberghan Gas-to-Power Program

Total expenditure from December 21 through January 31, 2012: \$ (financial information omitted)

Please see attached spreadsheet for details.