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## **SHEBERGHAN GAS GENERATION ACTIVITY (SGGA)**

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

### **SGGA Monthly Report**

Period: March 1 – March 31, 2014

Prepared by:

Advanced Engineering Associates International, Inc. (AEAI)/SGGA Project Team  
1707 L Street, NW, Suite 1030, Washington, DC (USA) 20036  
Telephone: 1-202-263-0601

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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AGE	Afghan Gas Enterprise
AGS	Afghan Geological Survey
APA	Afghan Petroleum Authority
DABS	Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat
DG	Director General
GIS	Geographic Information System
ICE	Inter-Ministerial Commission for Energy
IT	Information Technology
M/F	Male/Female
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MEW	Ministry of Energy and Water
MIDAS	Mining for Industrial Development of Afghanistan Sustainability
MoMP	Ministry of Mines and Petroleum
MW	Megawatt
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Agency
OGS	Oil and Gas Survey
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
SGDP	Sheberghan Gas Development Project
SGGA	Sheberghan Gas Generation Activity
SPMT	Sheberghan Project Management Team
TFBSO	Task Force for Business and Stability Operations
TPAO	Türkiye Petrolleri Anonim Ortaklığı (Turkish National Petroleum Corporation)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

# 1 GAS WORKSTREAM (MoMP LIAISON, DRILLING, ENVIRONMENTAL)

## 1.1 Achievements / Activities

### Drilling Contract Management Technical Support

- Delivered a memorandum making technical recommendations for accelerating Turkish National Petroleum Corporation's (TPAO) operations schedule for Juma/Bashikurd work to Zabih Sarwari, Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) project director. Sarwari forwarded the recommendations to TPAO on 5 March. TPAO rejected all recommendations.
- Reviewed request by TPAO to MoMP for consent to assign drilling and re-entry contract to its Afghan subsidiary in order to use the subsidiary's Afghanistan Investment Support Agency (AISA) registration, and on 4 March made recommendations for documentation and conditions for consent to Zabih Sarwari. As of the date of this report, there has been no response from MoMP on the matter and no report that MoMP has taken any action on TPAO's request for consent.
- Conducted series of discussions with United State Agency for International Development (USAID) about further actions to attempt to accelerate TPAO operations schedule for Juma/Bashikurd drilling/re-entry contract.
- Assisted MoMP to submit request to USAID for tax and customs exemption letter for TPAO payments and import/re-export of equipment and materials. USAID issued the letter within a few days.
- Prepared alternate letters for Minister of Mines and Petroleum requesting action from senior Turkish officials to assure TPAO compliance with Juma-Bashikurd drilling/re-entry contract schedule. Director General (DG) Jumriany sent the letter to the Chairman/President of TPAO on 26 March. As of the date of this report, MoMP has not reported that any response to the letter has been received.
- Submitted a summary of possible approaches to dealing with TPAO work delays to Jules Jordy.
- Provided information to Z. Sarwari regarding grant conditions requiring access to work locations and records to USAID and USAID contractors after TPAO refused access to Sheberghan Gas Generation Activity's (SGGA) Sheberghan staff for inspection of work progress.
- Requested Sarwari to provide copies of TPAO weekly reports (apparently only four have been made), and to move forward on assigning a full time, Sheberghan-based MoMP representative to oversee and report on TPAO contract operations. As of the date of this report, no such representative has been designated and SGGA continues to rely on its own sources for information about TPAO operations.

### Environmental

- On 29 March, MoMP received the report of National Environmental Protection Agency's (NEPA) expert panel on MoMP's application for certificate of environmental compliance for the Juma-Bashikurd drilling and re-entry operations. SGGA commented and circulated to SGGA and USAID for further comments.

### Strategic SGDP Support

- Conducted a series of discussions with USAID regarding strategies for meeting gas processing needs for Sheberghan area gas production.
- Supported USAID in its discussions with interested potential investor about infrastructure development options in Sheberghan.

## 1.2 Meetings

- 1 Mar 14, Met with USAID in weekly meeting with Jules Jordy, John Stich, David Kraus, and Julie Southfield on topics including the tax audit, TPAO's contract tax and customs exemptions, plans

for gas treatment plant development, arrangements for leave and out of country work during Afghan elections, and TPAO's schedule.

- 3 Mar 14, Met with Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Inter-Ministerial Commission for Energy (ICE) representatives (ADB – Asad Aleem, Rafael Nadyshin; ICE - Gautam Narasimhan, Mohsin Amin) regarding the Sheberghan area gas supplies, agreement to obtain reserve studies for area fields, ADB's plans for additional well re-entries/workovers, and development of a gas processing plant to serve multiple fields.
- 11 Mar 14, Teleconference with USAID and BB Energy to discuss proposals for gas processing and power generation operations in the Sheberghan area.
- 16 Mar 14, Met with USAID in weekly meeting (attended by Jules Jordy, John Stich, Gary Shu, Stephen Wheeler, Wayne Register, Stroud Kelley) regarding:
  - progress of TPAO's contract work and possible strategies to mitigate delays.
  - structuring of the Sheberghan gas treatment/gathering business.
  - potential SGGA contract modifications.
  - work priorities, agreeing first to present to MoMP options for dealing with TPAO schedule delays, followed by submission of modifications, and obtaining reserve reports.
- 17 Mar 14, telephone conference with Greg Murray and Malik Diab of Task Force for Business and Stability Operations (TFBSO) regarding inter-relation of the Totimaidan block contract terms with current operations in Juma-Bashikurd Field by TPAO. Points of convergence include MoMP's ability to assign the TPAO contract to a production sharing contractor. Subsequent to the meeting, TPAO contract provisions sent to Murray and Diab, and forwarded that e-mail and report to Jules Jordy.
- 23 Mar 14, Met with Jules Jordy and John Stich focusing on TPAO performance delays on Juma-Bashikurd contract, discussion of ways to prompt TPAO to be more responsive on accelerating schedule, including cancellation, suspension, notice to Turkish government.
- 24 Mar 14, Met with Zabih Sarwari, and Wayne Register to discuss TPAO work status and reporting, Sarwari's planned meeting with TPAO, which was subsequently cancelled by TPAO on short notice; and the possibility of a shift of USAID's funding plan.
- 25 Mar 14, Met with DG Jumriany, Jules Jordy, John Stich, Stephen Wheeler, and Wayne Register to discuss TPAO's delays and a strategy for pushing TPAO to comply with contract schedule and approaches to obtain investment for gas processing and power plants in Sheberghan.

### 1.3 Challenges

- TPAO personnel at the Juma-Bashikurd Field work site refused access to SGGA personnel and demanded an "introduction" from MoMP, this despite having previously allowed access to SGGA and even seeking advice from SGGA engineers on TPAO's work on the Gerquduq #21 well for TPAO's ADB-funded rehabilitation work. Zabih Sarwari has agreed to provide a letter to TPAO explaining SGGA's role as USAID implementing partner with right to inspect operations, worksites, and records.
- TPAO responded negatively to recommendations from Afghanistan Petroleum Authority (APA) and USAID for accelerating work schedule, with the response not indicating any willingness on TPAO's part to find ways to bring the schedule closer to contract requirements.
- Despite an apparent increase over the last two or three weeks in the assertiveness of Zabih Sarwari in engaging TPAO and implementing the requirements of Afghan law and the agreement with USAID, MoMP has retreated into a lack of engagement, including not forwarding the weekly progress reports that are to be sent to Zabih Sarwari by TPAO, no apparent progress in putting in place on-the-ground managers or representatives to oversee and report on TPAO activities, and no apparent (at least not reported to SGGA or USAID) push to complete the NEPA certification

process, with last report, some two weeks ago; that the application had been referred to the NEPA expert board.

#### 1.4 Plans for Next Month

- Complete report on TPAO schedule delays.
- Prepare initial plan for promotion of investment in gas processing and power generation facility at Sheberghan.
- Assist MoMP to obtain certificate of environmental compliance from NEPA.
- Continue to push MoMP to deploy a full time, Sheberghan-based representative to monitor TPAO's contract work.

## 2 ENERGY AND POWER WORKSTREAM (DABS and MEW)

### 2.1 Achievements / Activities

#### Analysis of Gas Turbine Utilization for Sheberghan

- Reviewed manuals gathered from the Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) Northwest Substation for the gas turbines located at that substation for a report to USAID on feasibility of reconverting the turbines to gas fuel and moving to Sheberghan area.
- Interviewed the DABS Kabul Northwest Substation operators regarding the gas turbines' operating procedures.
- Designed a database for the historical production and consumption of the Northwest Substation gas turbines.
- Completed first draft of the report: "Preliminary Analysis Regarding the Relocation of the Two AEG MS5001 Gas Turbines from Kabul's Northwest Substation to Sheberghan."

#### Power-Sector Technical Support

- Coordinated with TetraTech and USAID for including 10,000 Megawatts (MW) of Sheberghan-based power production by 2032 in the interim North East Power System report.

#### Economic Modeling

- Revised SGGA's Sheberghan Gas Development Project (SGDP) economic model to include a scenario of relocating the gas turbines from Kabul's Northwest Substation to Sheberghan.
- Prepared economic-related documents for a conference call with USAID and BB Energy Management.
- Detected and fixed a macros malfunction in the sensitivity analysis of the economic model.

### 2.2 Meetings

- 8 Mar 14, Met with DABS Sheberghan Project Management Team (SPMT) Director Mr. Khwaja Masood to discuss his talking points for a DABS Board of Directors meeting.
- 11 Mar 14, Met with DABS SPMT Director Khwaja Masood to discuss possible coordination with Task Force for Business and Stability Operations (TFBSO) on the 30MW power plant being considered for installation at Mazar-e-Sharif.
- 11 Mar 14, Teleconference with USAID and BB Energy Management regarding potential gas-fired independent power production in Sheberghan.
- 15 Mar 14, Met with DABS Chief Commercial Officer Mirwais Alami to discuss SGDP as a power supply alternative to the proposed Turkmenistan power purchase agreement.

- 22 Mar 14, met with DABS SPMT Director Mr. Khwaja Masood to review the historical data of the Kabul Northwest Substation's gas turbines. There is concern that some of the data registered by DABS is not valid.
- 22 Mar 14, met with DABS Chief Executive Officer to update him about SGDP progress.

## 2.3 Challenges

- No significant challenges reported during this period.

## 2.4 Plans for Next Month

- Complete feasibility research about converting and relocating the turbines currently installed in the Kabul's Northwest Substation to Sheberghan.

# 3 CAPACITY BUILDING (MoMP)

## 3.1 Achievements / Activities

### English Language Training

- Taught 23 English classes to APA, 26 to Oil and Gas Survey (OGS) and 31 to Afghan Gas Enterprise (AGE).
- Administered assessment exams to 142 Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) students. Reviewed the exams and separated the students into five separate classes.
- Administered an exam to 29 students from the basic and beginner classes at OGS.
- Solidified the training schedule for AGS, which will include a starter, beginner, pre-intermediate, intermediate, and advanced classes.

### 2014 Capacity Development Planning and Implementation

- Provided five days of contract management instruction for MoMP staff; 32 people attended the trainings.
- Received proposals from American University and Kardan University and completed bid evaluation for local training provision.
- Prepared lesson plans for Microsoft Office Training.

### Petroleum Engineering Training

- Prepared a detailed syllabus for the petroleum engineering course and delivered it to APA for its planning purposes.
- Translated over 100 pages of applied math engineering instruction from English to Dari.
- Provided technical trainings to 38 students from AGE and 37 from OGS on geological studies, oil and gas field terms, exploration techniques and historical field data from northern Afghanistan, descriptions of various well types, and the rig installation process.

### Petroleum Economics, Finance, and Accounting Training

- Distributed a request for proposal to Petroskills, Next, and Texas A&M University Qatar to provide a 10-15 day training on petroleum economics, finance, and accounting. The training will be conducted in a third country location in order to ensure that high quality instructors will be available, since Afghanistan's high security threat level may prevent them from coming to Afghanistan.
- Held a pre-proposal meeting in Doha, Qatar on 31 March to meet the potential bidding organizations and answer their questions.

## Local Training Provision Acquisition

- Reviewed proposals from American University and Kardan University, which were the only organizations that responded to SGGA's Request for Proposal for local training provision.
- Selected Kardan University to implement seven courses and submitted its information to USAID for vetting.

### 3.2 Meetings

- 1 Mar 14, Met with Zabih Sarwari and Zabi Jaihoon to discuss capacity development program progress. Provided the meeting participants updates on the following planned courses: advanced petroleum engineering, database management, Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, contract management, environmental law and procedures, Microsoft Office, and gas processing training.
- 4 Mar 14, Met with Engineer Mahdi from APA and discussed the possibility of SGGA providing him a scholarship to participate in a master's degree program in petroleum engineering.
- 4-5 Mar 14, Met with Eric Dahlbom from TFBSO to coordinate capacity development schedules and ensure that our collective resources are being used most effectively for APA's benefit.
- 5 Mar 14, Met with Zabi Jaihoon to discuss requests from advanced-level English class to receive preparation instruction for the Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) examination. SGGA informed Zabi that the subcontracted provider will specialize in this area of instruction.
- 6 Mar 14, Met With the directors of OGS and AGE to discuss petroleum engineering classes.
- 10 Mar 14, Met with the head of planning for AGE to reschedule classes as a result of General Fahim's death and the one day government closure.
- 10 Mar 14, Met with Zabih Sarwari to discuss status of local training provider proposal evaluation. He also inquired as to whether SGGA could sponsor him for a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at a local university for part-time night classes. SGGA responded that assistance for degree earning programs may only be provided for full-time study and that given his current work load; he would need to significantly reduce his burden in order to meet the rigorous demands of a full-time MBA program. Sarwari expressed strong displeasure at this response.
- 15 Mar 14, Met with Zabi Jaihoon and Zabih Sarwari to discuss an inappropriate email that one of the APA English students wrote to an SGGA instructor. The e-mail complained about supposed "un-Islamic" dress, apparently that the (female) instructor's head scarf was not properly worn. The student was removed from the class and counseled on his conduct. APA and SGGA will monitor his behavior closely moving forward to assess his suitability to participate in future trainings.
- 16 Mar 14, Met with Zabi Jaihoon and Zabihullah Sarwari
- 17 Mar 14, Met with AGE planning manager; discussed and agreed to split the basic-level class into two separate, more manageable classes.
- 17 Mar 14, Attended a presentation by the Afghanistan Resource Corridors Project, put on at MoMP jointly by MoMP and Mining for Industrial Development of Afghanistan Sustainability (MIDAS).
- 19 Mar 14, Teleconference with the AGE planning manager to confirm the new times per the schedule change.
- 20 Mar 14, Teleconference with Steven Halpern from TFBSO in which we jointly interviewed three highly qualified gas processing instructors.
- 25 Mar 14, met with Zabih Sarwari to discuss Microsoft Office Training and English language training for APA.
- 26 Mar 14, met with the head of AGS's Coordination and Policy Department, Bashir, to discuss the English language training schedule at AGS.
- 31 March 14, Met with Kashaf Mukhtar, Bill Mercer, and Lodi Mattar, from Schlumberger, and Texas A&M Qatar for a pre-proposal conference.

### 3.3 Challenges

- Jamal Yassien, SGGA's petroleum engineering instructor had to abruptly resign his post due to a family emergency in the United States. SGGA is actively pursuing a replacement, and remaining open to bringing Mr. Yassien back to Afghanistan if possible.
- The request from Mr. Sarwari for SGGA to pay for him to attend an MBA program and his strong notification of displeasure at SGGA's response may present a future obstacle to programmatic cooperation.
- The environmental law and procedures training required a delay of at least one month due to security precautions pertaining to Afghanistan's presidential election.
- In arranging to carry out the GIS training program, SGGA agreed with representatives from MIDAS that MIDAS would supply a classroom, computers, and software needed to implement the training, while SGGA and German International Cooperation (GIZ) would supply the instructors and lesson plans. MIDAS has failed to uphold its side of the agreement for both computers and software. Several attempts to cooperate with MIDAS have failed due to lack of responsiveness. As a result, SGGA will procure the required resources on its own to enable training commencement as soon as possible.
- Zabih Sarwari demanded that SGGA only allow APA staff to attend the contract management training and threatened to withdraw APA's participation if SGGA continued to allow staff members from AGS to participate. SGGA refused to oblige this unreasonable request due to SGGA's Task Order requirement to effectively train as many MoMP personnel as possible. As a result of Sarwari's threat, SGGA moved the classroom of instruction to AGS to avoid a conflict over space with Sarwari. Despite the objection by Sarwari, APA staff continued to attend the remaining three days of instruction at AGS. It is worth noting that APA engineering staff was not informed of the training, and that the training was being held in AGS, not APA, facilities.
- SGGA's Microsoft Office training has been delayed due to insufficient computer access at APA. SGGA is coordinating with the APA Information Technology (IT) staff to resolve the deficiencies and commence training as soon as the required resources become available.

### 3.4 Plans for Next Month

- Commence provision of Microsoft Office Training to APA staff once the required resources are made available from the APA's IT Department.
- Continue English language training in Kabul and Sheberghan.
- Hire a gas processing instructor to provide instruction to AGE on the TFBSO-funded gas processing facilities.
- Review proposals for the petroleum economics, finance, and accounting training.

## 4 PROCUREMENT WORKSTREAM

### 4.1 Achievements / Activities

#### Contract Management Support

- Prepared a talking points checklist for Zabih Sarwari to use to guide discussions during TPAO's visit to and meetings with MoMP.
- Organized TPAO's itemized customs listing and sorted it between permanent imports, temporary imports, explosive, and radioactive imports for MoMP and Ministry of Finance.
- Assisted in developing two letters for DG Jumriany to sign and forward to TPAO's Chairman expressing disappointment with TPAO's performance thus far.

### **Administrative Support**

- Developed a task/consequence checklist for APA's Zabih Sarwari to simplify tracking SGDP priorities.
- Drafted letter for APA to send to TPAO requesting copies of all subcontracts. Letter was to be delivered at 26 March TPAO-MoMP meeting, but meeting was cancelled by TPAO.
- Developed the first report template for SGGA's new monthly contract deliverable to USAID tracking progress of gas field work.
- Updated SGDP project schedule and aligned drilling, reservoir study, and gas processing milestones to a common SGGA support cutoff date to facilitate USAID decisions concerning possible post-SGGA work transfer.
- Prepared a chronology of SGGA communications with MoMP since the TPAO contract award to document efforts to improve TPAO's performance schedule.

### **Strategic SGDP Procurement Support**

- Prepared an analysis and justification of the ideal SGGA contract extension scenario to continue support to SGDP December 14.
- Prepared a matrix of three gas processing procurement options in order to assess alternatives to expedite procurement.
- Researched and developed a contract termination guidance paper for USAID in case TPAO's performance problems persist.

## **4.2 Meetings**

- 1 Mar 14, Attended weekly USAID meeting and discussed various problems that TPAO may face concerning taxes and customs.
- 2 Mar 14, Met with Zabih Sarwari and discussed the importance of expediting TPAO's work schedule.
- 8 Mar 14, Met with APA's Zabih Sarwari and discussed weekly project status and schedule for TPAO's March visit.
- 16 Mar 14, Attended weekly USAID meeting and discussed status of TPAO's work progress and options to expedite work or terminate contract as well as gas sweetening planning.
- 22 Mar 14, attended weekly USAID meeting and discussed TPAO's lack of performance/progress.
- 24 Mar 14, met with APA's Zabih Sarwari and discussed TPAO's lack of performance and other project critical issues that need urgent action.
- 25 Mar 14, attended meeting at APA with DG Jumriany and USAID and State Department counterparts, Jules Jordy and Stephen Wheeler.

## **4.3 Challenges**

- Continuing to push APA to engage with TPAO and motivate them to more aggressively schedule and perform on the drilling contract.
- During the week of 15-20 March, senior APA staff was focused on the Totimaidan pre-bid conference in the United Arab Emirates, so SGGA could not interface with the usual SGDP contacts.
- Achieving urgent TPAO performance schedule progress during the final days leading up to the Afghan Presidential election.

## **4.4 Plans for Next Month**

- Workstream lead will be on Rest and Relaxation for the first half of the month. Upon return, efforts will concentrate on advising MoMP on how to expedite TPAO's implementation schedule.

## 5 SPMT WORKSTREAM

### 5.1 Achievements / Activities

#### Security Update:

- The security situation in Sheberghan has been very quiet during the past week with no significant threats. Static and Personnel Support Detachment guards remain on high alert to prevent any incidents as a higher risk level arrives in association with the elections.

#### Translations

- Assisted the capacity development team with applied math training material translations.

#### Field Data Support

- Collected information regarding the construction progress of TPAO's road construction in the Juma-Bashikurd Field and TPAO camp at the Old Military Camp.
- Gathered information and pictures regarding the transmission lines and poles on the 110 Kilovolt line leading from the Khwaja Gogerdaq substation.
- Collected photos and updated reports regarding TPAO's progress from the Bashikurd gas field.

### 5.2 Meetings

- 8 Mar 14, Met with Director Outbuddin Qaeyem from OGS to discuss on-site petroleum engineering instruction.
- 8 Mar 14, Met with the DABS Jawzjan Director to discuss transmission information.
- 26 Mar 14, Met with Engineer Tahir Rozahi, the acting general director of AGS regarding permission for SGGA vehicles to enter the AGS compound.

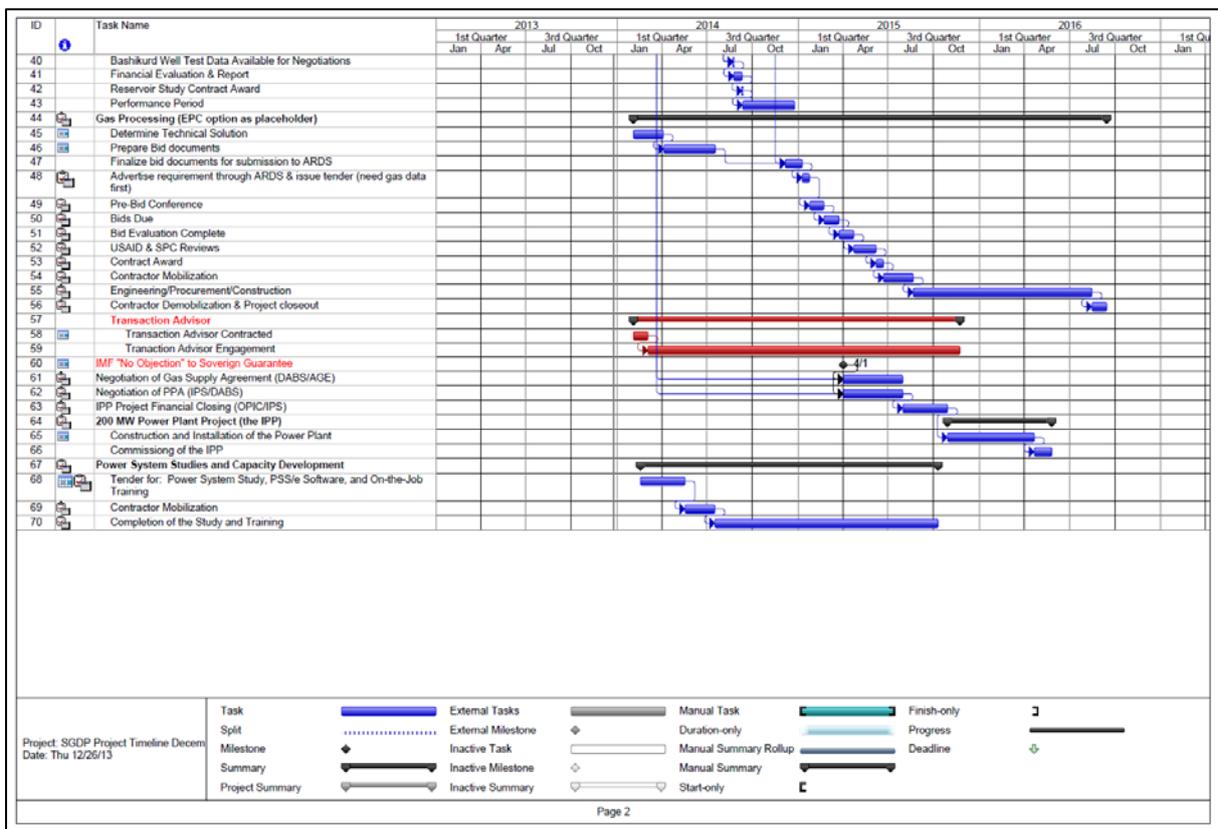
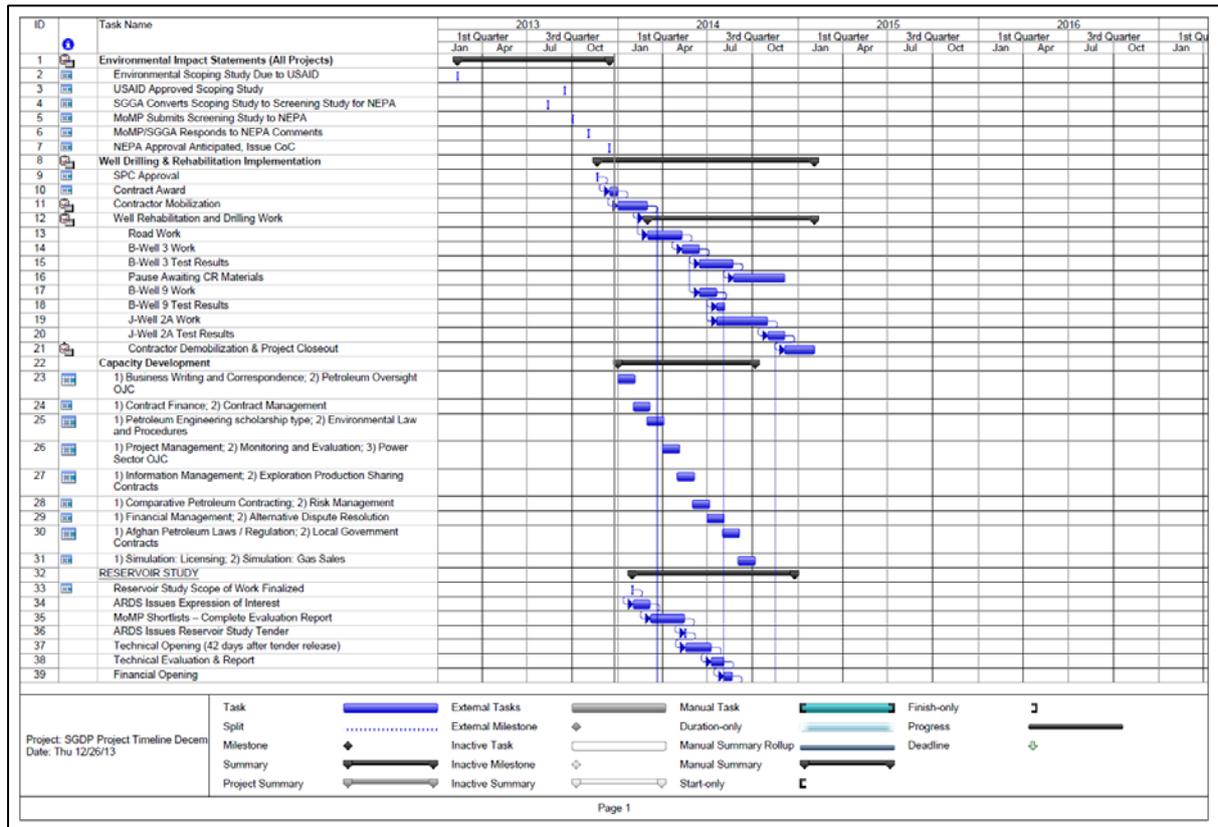
### 5.3 Challenges

- No significant challenges reported during this period.

### 5.4 Plans for Next Month

- Provide on-site support to MoMP personnel as requested.
- Assist in implementing petroleum engineering trainings in Sheberghan.

## 6 PROJECT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2013



## 7 PMP DATA

SGGA Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) Indicators			
<b>Milestones</b>			
<b>Capacity Building - MoMP, DABS, Ministry of Energy and Water (MEW)</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Current</b>	
Capacity Assessments	2	1	
Training Courses	11	10	
Evaluations	2	2	
<b>Tenders</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Current</b>	
1. Advertising	1	0	
2. Award	1	0	
3. Mobilization	1	0	
4. Activity work	1	0	
5. Completion	1	0	
<b>Indicators</b>			
<b>Capacity Building - MoMP, DABS, MEW</b>	<b>Prior M/F</b>	<b>Current M/F</b>	<b>Indicator Code</b>
Number of persons assessed	218/11	119/23	11/12
Number of Afghan professionals trained – "F" indicator	152/57	259/53	13/14
Number of Afghan professionals evaluated	39/3	42/18	15/16
<i>M = Male F = Female</i>			
<b>Tenders</b>	<b>Prior</b>	<b>Current</b>	
Number of Rehabilitated and Drilled Wells	1	0	17
Number of Gas Plants constructed	0	0	18
Professional Engineers for Drilling hired	0	0	19
Professional Engineers for Processing Plant hired	0	0	110

## 8 MONTHLY EXPENDITURES

Financial information omitted.