

The Afghanistan Engineering Support Program assembled this quarterly report. It is an approved, official USAID document. Budget information contained herein is for illustrative purposes. All policy, personal, financial, and procurement sensitive information has been removed. Additional information on the report can be obtained from Firouz Rooyani, Tetra Tech Sr. VP International Operations, (703) 387-2151.



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AFGHANISTAN

ENGINEERING SUPPORT PROGRAM

Contract No. EDH-I-00-08-00027-00

Task Order No. 1

Third Quarter Report 2014



November 10, 2014

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by Tetra Tech, Inc.

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November 10, 2014

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Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure (OEGI)
U.S. Agency for International Development
Great Massoud Road
Kabul, Afghanistan

**Re: Contract No. EDH-I-00-08-00027-00/Task Order No. 1
Afghanistan Engineering Support Program (AESP)**

Third Quarter Report FY2014

Dear [REDACTED]

It is with great pleasure that Tetra Tech submits this Third Quarter Report for fiscal year 2014, as provided in section C.5, "Deliverables," paragraph D of the above referenced Task Order. This report presents the activities for the period of April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

We look forward to continuing our support of the USAID OEGI mission during 2014 and to strengthen our partnership while building a brighter future for Afghanistan.

Please contact me at your convenience should you have any questions or comments regarding this report.

Respectfully,
Tetra Tech, Inc.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chief of Party (AESP)

AFGHANISTAN ENGINEERING SUPPORT PROGRAM

Contract No. EDH-I-00-08-00027-00
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DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Tetra Tech (Tt) Afghanistan Engineering Support Program (AESP) provides planning, design, engineering and technical oversight support while contributing to local national capacity building, mentoring, and collaboration/coordination with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Afghanistan Office of Economic Growth and Infrastructure (OEGI). Tt AESP performs activities that complement and reinforce the activities and engineering expertise of USAID OEGI staff in energy, transportation, vertical structures, and water and sanitation sectors. Tt AESP consists of a Kabul-based core of expatriate engineering professionals leading a competent staff of local Afghan engineers and support professionals, with home office, or “reachback”, support from highly-qualified US-based staff. Our local team continues to display adaptability, mobility, and responsiveness to the needs of USAID.

- Activity Start Date: November 9, 2009
- Activity End Date: November 8, 2014
- Prime Implementing Partner: Tetra Tech
- Sub-contractors/Sub-awardees: Power Engineers, GardaWorld, USACC, SMART Engineers
- Geographic Coverage: Afghanistan, See Figure 1 below

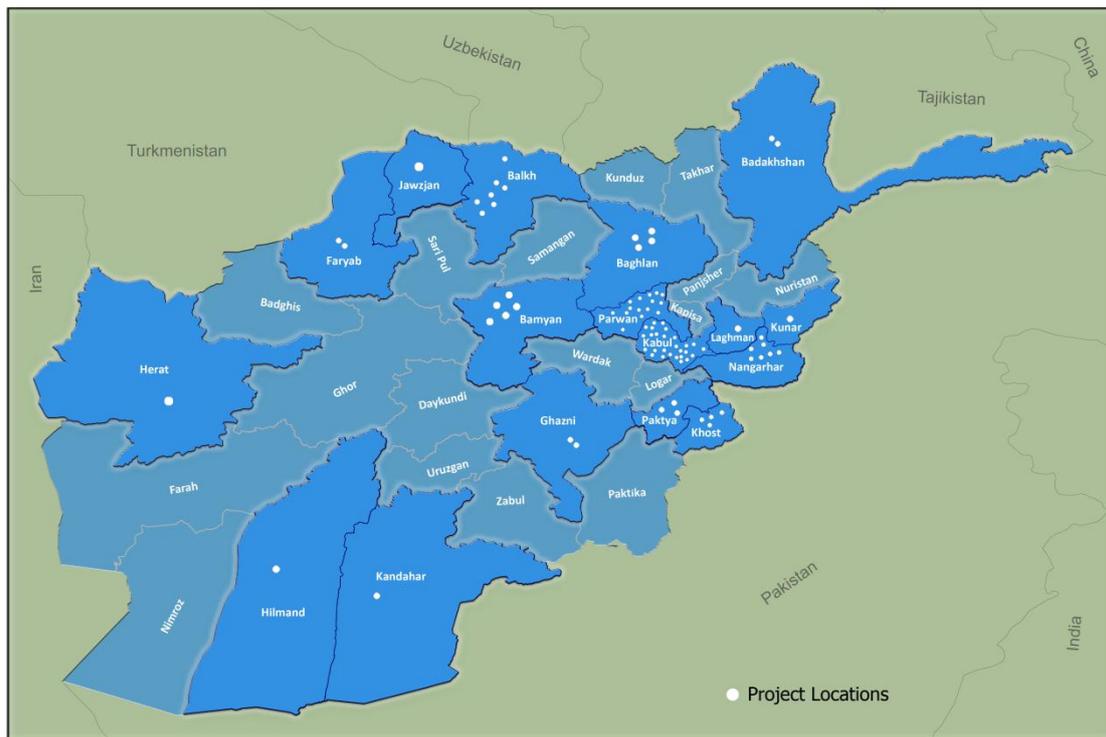


Figure 1 2009 – 2014 Tt AESP Project Locations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report covers the period from April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014. During this period, Tt AESP was preparing for close-out of the program as the contract end date (November 8, 2014) approached. Despite the impending close-out, Tt AESP submitted 149 deliverables in Year 5, Quarter 3 ranging from the final conceptual designs for WO-LT-0048 NEPS/SEPS transmission lines and substations running from Ghanzi to Kandahar East (AMD 4 and 5) to the installation guides for WO-LT-0059 Relay Coordination Study. In addition, Tetra Tech submitted five Request for Proposals (RFPs) in support of Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS) and USAID OEGI’s effort to improve power distribution. The estimated worth of all RFPs produced is [REDACTED]

Highlights of the quarter within each sector and the technical support and oversight services noted below exemplify AESP’s diverse support of the USAID OEGI mission here in Afghanistan.

Summary of Results for the Reporting Period and Key Accomplishments

Energy Sector

Increasing access to electricity has remained a top economic priority for Afghanistan. Tt AESP has supported these efforts through a number of energy work orders.

During this quarter, through Afghanistan Northeast Power System (NEPS) Protective Relay and Coordination studies (WO-LT-0059), various substation and transmission line studies and designs (WO-LT-0048), and Tarakhil Thermal Power Plant (WO-LT-0070), Tt AESP continued working closely with DABS and its commercial contractors: GFA Consulting Limited and Phoenix. Through this partnership, a number of RFPs were issued:

Work Order No.	RFP Titles	Issue Date	Estimated Cost
LT0048 AMD 3	Design, Supply And Installation Of Arghandi - Ghazni 220 KV T/L And Two SS Project	Issued April 2013 to USAID DABS	██████
LT0059 Task 14	NEPS Relay and Control System Upgrades and Modifications	Issued June 2014 to USAID DABS	██████
LT0063 AMD 6	Salang Tunnel Substation Construction	Issued June 2014 to USAID DABS	██████
LT0064	Jalalabad - Rodat Transmission Line and Substations Project in Two Lots	Issued June 2014 to USAID DABS	██████
LT0070 AMD 1	Tarakhil Firewater Piping System Goods Procurement	Issued June 2014 to USAID DABS	██████

During the past year, Tt AESP has received six amendments related to the Salang Tunnel Substation (WO-LT-0063). In Quarter 3, Tt AESP assisted DABS with a RFP for the substation construction and remained prepared to assist DABS with bidding services.

Members of the Tt AESP team prepared for and assisted with multiple amendments to support operations at the Tarakhil Thermal Power Plant (WO-LT-0070). The plant currently operates at only a small fraction of its production capability. Under AMD 1, Tt AESP prepared the technical section and RFP for DABS to procure a contractor to replace the fire protection system water lines. Under AMD 2, Tt AESP began preparations for a site visit to inspect and report on the existing fire protection system. AMD 3 saw the submittal of the final assessment and provided a patch to resolve control issues that prevented all six Power Block “B” diesel generators from providing power to the grid. The team that performed the assessment and visited the plant were able to successfully restore controls operability in Power Block “B.”

Tt AESP provided manufacturing facility assessments for DABS facilities under three work orders. The facilities reviewed included the Transformer Rewinding Facility (WO-LT-0079), the Meter Box and Low Voltage Distribution Panel Manufacturing Facility (WO-LT-0080), and the Concrete Pole Manufacturing Facility (WO-LT-0081). Under these work orders, Tt AESP produced assessments to identify modifications and equipment necessary to make the facilities fully functional based on current and future production requirements, improving DABS operational sustainability.

Technical Support and Oversight

Tt AESP provided quick response services related to a landslide in Badakhshan Province (see cover photo). The Tt/AESP team coordinated with the Afghan Air Force to provide transport to Badakhshan. A geotechnical subcontractor was mobilized to the site to collect in-situ soil test data, perform

physical tests of the landslides, and to document the physical fractures that may cause future slides. The team met with village elders who assigned two community members to support the data collection by acting as guides for the team. Despite active combat and challenging travel conditions, the team was able to safely and successfully collect the required data.

Under the Afghan Women Internship Program (WO-LT-0042), Tt AESP continued to provide mentoring and professional growth opportunities to four selected female interns. During Quarter 3 of Year 5, the interns participated in shadowing of USAID engineers, training, and workshops. The interns also began work on their resumes, interview preparation, and presentation work. They attended an IRD meeting on the Kajaki Dam and performed a presentation at Sardar-e-Kabuli Girls' High School (SKGHS) to encourage women to enter the fields of Science and Engineering. In an effort to familiarize the interns with essential engineering programs and topics, the interns participated in training for Autodesk Civil 3D, GIS, Project Estimation and Soils, Asphalt and Concrete testing and performance criteria. To complement the training, the interns were assigned tasks within the work orders to utilize these newly acquired skills.

Transportation

Upon request from USAID, Tt AESP prepared an amendment on the Gardez-Khost (G-K) Road to review scour impacts and foundation stability for a bridge that was designed in 2010 (WO-LT-0077 Bridge #10). The site survey and geotechnical engineering subcontractors were mobilized early in the third quarter to perform the necessary field work for the analysis.

Acting in the capacity of technical advisors, Tt AESP used its freedom of mobility to assist USAID with field support for the Parun Road Project (WO-LT-0009, AMD 7). Tt AESP was tasked with providing project evaluation and supervision services in connection with this road construction project in Nuristan Province.

Vertical Structures

Tt AESP did not receive any active work orders in the vertical structures sector during the third quarter of FY2014.

Constraints and Critical Issues

Security conditions remained a significant factor in determining what work was able to be completed in country. The Tt Villa remained a practical option for USAID, other implementing partners, and stakeholder to hold meetings, thereby reducing travel around Kabul during problematic security situations.

Weather also proved to be a constraint on many of the projects. The Salang Tunnel construction season is extremely short (from the first snow fall to snow melt) making an aggressive construction schedule necessary. Anticipating these weather constraints and building site challenges, a plan was devised for three RFP packages; long lead items, works, and construction. The intent of the plan is to be able to complete the construction in a one year timeframe.

The weather also played a large part in landslides occurring in the Badakhshan Province. The weather conditions combined with security concerns, made access to the site extremely challenging. Tt AESP, through extensive planning, was able to expeditiously get staff on the ground to complete an assessment of the conditions.

Summary

As described above, Tt AESP has provided USAID OEGI with diverse engineering expertise and dynamic support throughout the third quarter of Year 5. The versatility of the Tt AESP program is evident in the variety of deliverables submitted to USAID OEGI and the program's support for USAID goals and objectives. Tt AESP will remain flexible and mobile in FY2014 to support work orders issued by USAID OEGI and continue to provide support for capacity building and gender equality in Afghanistan.

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1.0 ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

1.1 KEY ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE QUARTER

Tt AESP is responsible for identifying, planning, designing and providing technical support and oversight of USAID OEGI infrastructure projects and related engineering activities. This is done in accordance with the basic USAID OEGI Architect and Engineer (A&E) IQC contract statement of work, which creates work orders to track individual projects. Work orders fall into one of two categories, administrative or long-term. Administrative work orders are defined as tasks requiring a total level of effort (LOE) less than or equal to 18 business days (144 work hours). Long-term work orders are defined as activities requiring a total LOE exceeding 18 business days. For long-term work orders, Tt AESP is required to submit a Scope of Work (SOW) and Rough Order of Magnitude Cost Estimate (ROM).

Tt AESP supports USAID OEGI's mission throughout Afghanistan using both types of work orders. For tracking purposes, work orders are broken into one of the following sectors: Energy, Vertical Structures, Transportation, Water Resources or Water and Sanitation, as stated in the Tt AESP contract. If the work requested falls outside the sectors above, it would be classified as technical services. Of the five identified categories, the majority of Tt AESP work this quarter supported the energy sector and provided technical services across sectors.

Table 1.1 below describes the work order activities performed during the third quarter.

Table 1.1 Summary of Work Completed During the Third Quarter 2014

Number	Work Order Title	Summary of Work Completed
WO-A-0096	Badakhshan Technical Assistance	Tt received a work order request and submitted a confirmation letter on May 18, 2014 to provide site reconnaissance and data gathering for USAID in support of assessing the landslide event in Badakhshan Province. The initial site team mobilized to the site on May 23, 2014.
WO-A-0097	Deh-Asuda Check Dam	Tt received work order request on May 15, 2014 to open an administrative work order to provide a review of the Deh-Asuda Check Dam construction documents prepared by KFZ-IRD. Tt submitted a confirmation letter on May 23, 2014 and received NTP on May 24, 2014. Tt reviewed the Deh-Asuda Check Dam concept design and drafted a Technical Memo.
WO-A-0098	Kabul Basin Aquifer Feasibility Study	Tt received work order request on June 23, 2014 to open an administrative work order to begin preliminary work on the Kabul Basin Aquifer Recharge Feasibility Study. Tt submitted a confirmation letter on June 29, 2014.
WO-LT-0009 AMD 7	Parun Road Field Support	Tt received work order request on June 03, 2014 to provide project evaluation and supervision services in connection with

		the Parun Road construction in Nuristan Province.
WO-LT-0042	Afghan Women Internship Program	<p>The four interns from Kabul University and Polytechnic University participated in trainings, shadowing events and meetings during this quarter. The interns spent half days shadowing events starting from June 09, 2014 at USAID with infrastructure, structural, and site engineers focused on the USAID working environment, roles of engineers and other topics. To increase the intern's software engineering knowledge and skills, such as AutoCAD, GIS, Autodesk and Office Package, the interns were assigned projects to practice those skills. Interns participated in Kajaki Dam Unit #2 Installation Coordination Meetings at IRD-EQUALS on two occasions. During the meetings, they asked questions and gained knowledge of holding meetings. Intern's presentation for SKGHS was held April 17, 2014. Concrete Training was held April 24-May 08, 2014. Civil 3D Training was held April 25-June 05, 2014. Soil Training was held May 15-May 22, 2014. Asphalt Training was held June 05-June 12, 2014. Field trip to soil lab was held June 06, 2014. GIS Training was held starting on June 16. Project Estimation Training was held June 19-26, 2014. The interns were also involved in pressure test of the existing firewater system of WO-LT-0070 Tarakhil Power Plant Water Piping System.</p>
WO-LT-0048 AMD 4	Qarabagh to Kandahar East Substations	<p>This amendment tasked Tt AESP to create and deliver a technical section (Volume 2) for a 220kV transmission line and substations from Qarabagh to Kandahar East. This was subsequently changed to just the development of the technical section for the proposed substation(s) from Ghazni City to Kandahar East. The five substations included in this RFP are Qarabagh, Gelan (Moqor), Shah Joy, Qalat and Kandahar East. The work to be completed is similar to the support provided under Amendment 3. Notice to proceed was issued September 2012. Tt AESP received notice to revise the SOW/ROM based on lessons learned from Amendment 3. Tt submitted revised SOW/ROM Rev7 on June 18, 2014. Task</p>

		1 concept design drawings were submitted on June 28, 2014.
WO-LT-0048 AMD 5	Transmission Lines from Ghazni to Kandahar East	USAID OEGI requested a SOW and ROM to create and deliver a technical section (Volume 2) for the proposed transmission lines from Qarabagh to Kandahar East. SOW and ROM development continued through this quarter. Tt AESP submitted a revision during the quarter. Tt submitted Task 1-Transmission Line Conceptual Design documents on June 28, 2014. This work order remained open with continued work on revisions to the SOW/ROM.
WO-LT-0048 AMD 6	RPC At Kabul and Kandahar East	USAID OEGI requested a SOW and ROM to provide engineering support to the further build out of the 220kV Northeast Power System (NEPS) to the Kandahar East electrical power distribution system (part of the Southeast Power System or SEPS). Tt submitted SOW/ROM on June 08, 2014 and received NTP on June 16, 2014. The work is progressing.
WO-LT-0059 AMD 1	NEPS Distribution Materials and Installation Specification Development	This amendment came online as a result of the investigation and analyses completed under WO-LT-0059 Relay Coordination Study. Deficiencies identified in the MV system resulting from a lack of materials including MV distribution fuses and fuse links. The scope encompasses technical services, material specifications, procurement support, installation training and guidance and maintenance of the specified materials. Work performed during the quarter included the creation of field installation guides for 10 MV feeders. Each field installation guide includes a general arrangement/single line drawing identifying the location of the protective equipment to install. Illustrating the general arrangement of fuses, cutouts, and supports for installation on existing Kabul area MV distribution poles. Tt submitted 61 installation guides to DABS. The work order closed out during the quarter.
WO-LT-0059 AMD 2	NEPS Distribution Materials and Installation Specification Development	USAID OEGI requested a SOW and ROM to create field installation guides for the remaining 61 MV feeders identified under WO-LT-0059 Relay Coordination Study. Tt submitted 51 installation guides to DABS.

WO-LT-0059 AMD 3	NEPS Kabul Area Substation Assessments	USAID OEGI requested a SOW and ROM to provide further assessments of Kabul North, Northwest, and MW Radio Substations to identify other deficiencies beyond protective relay coordination scope of WO-LT-0059 Task 14. The assessments are to include a review of components that are old, obsolete, or in need of repair on the HV and MV systems, including circuit breakers, switchgear and conductors and provide recommendations, and technical documents to implement the upgrades or revisions.
WO-LT-0063 AMD 4	Salang Tunnel SS Pre-purchase Specs	Tt AESP was asked to develop performance specifications for long lead high voltage (HV) substation equipment, MV equipment and relay/control equipment. Tt received and evaluated Pre-Purchase Equipment Specifications bids. Tt Received Pre-Purchase #2 Equipment Specification #1 bids on June 03, 2014.
WO-LT-0063 AMD 6	Salang Tunnel SS Detailed Design	Construction RFP Rev1 submitted to DABS/USAID on June 14, 2014.
WO-LT-0064	Sheikh Misri to Rodat T/L and SS Technical Sections	The scope of this work order is to develop technical documents with sufficient detail for a design/build RFP to design and construct a 220kV T/L that will deliver power from Jalalabad to HIP. During the quarter, Tt developed technical documents with sufficient detail for a design/build RFP to design and construct a 220kV Transmission Line (T/L) that will deliver power from Jalalabad to HIP under Task 2. Tt also developed technical documents with sufficient detail for a design/build RFP to design and construct the two 220kV SSs under Task 3, and submitted these documents to USAID on May 18, 2014. Tt evaluated the most practical intermediate 110kV power supply to the Ghawchak-2 SS: either from ADB's 110kV Ghawchak-1 SS or from tapping the existing 110kV single circuit transmission line delivering power from Naghlu HPP. Tt also provided recommendation to USAID and DABS with pros and cons for both power supply methods, presented as a technical memorandum submitted to USAID on May 18, 2014 under Task 3. Tt provided major equipment pricing and material and installation cost estimates preceded as a

		separate deliverable sent to USAID on June 21, 2014 using in-country construction cost estimates.
WO-LT-0065	Media Assistance	Tt supported USAID OEGI and the Development Outreach and Communication Office (DOC) under this work order. Tt AESP Team met with interviewees and captured interviews on video. The videos are available. The AESP Team attended DOC's Office Workshops.
WO-LT-0070 AMD 2	Firefighting Analysis	Tt reviewed all documentation regarding the existing fire suppression systems installed at Tarakhil Thermal Power Plant. Including all available as-built drawings, design calculations, test results, inspection /maintenance reports for the automatic sprinkler and foam suppression systems.
WO-LT-0070 AMD 3	Site and Power Block "B" Control Assessment	Tt submitted the final report on April 22, 2014.
WO-LT-0072	Power System Analysis of Proposed NEPS Improvements	Tt submitted Transit Memo that addresses the transit of power through Afghanistan to Pakistan using the NEPS infrastructure to USAID on Jan 8, 2014. The WO was suspended and is awaiting further directive.
WO-LT-0077 AMD 3	Gardez to Khost Bridge No. 10-Scour Analysis and Foundation Study	The objective of this work order amendment is to provide a review of scour impacts and foundation stability of Bridge 10 based on the current design.
WO-LT-0078	NEPS Kabul Area Distribution Master Plan	Tt developed a SOW to deliver USAID a Master Planning road map which would allow DABS to plan for expansions, and seek donor partners to develop an integrated MV, 110kV High Voltage, and 220kV High Voltage power distribution system. Tt submitted SOW/ROM on 2/24/2014. Awaiting NTP from USAID.
WO-LT-0079	Transformer Rewinding Facility Assessment	Tt developed a SOW under this work order for assessment of the problems that the manufacturing factory is encountering, development of equipment and machinery list and specifications for upgrade, and development of design and budget for plant refurbishment work required within the facility. Tt received NTP for this work order on May 11, 2014. Tt completed a field investigation under Task 1 of this work order, the purpose of this field visit was to collect data to provide the technical

		assessment to determine the issues that are currently reducing the transformer rewinding facility production rates.
WO-LT-0080	Meter Box and Low Voltage Distribution Panel Manufacturing Facility Assessment	Under this work order, Tt will provide manufacturing facility assessments. The facility assessments will identify the facility modifications and equipment required at DABS Meter Box and Low Voltage Distribution Panel Manufacturing Facility to make the facility fully functional based on current and future production requirements. Tt will proceed with the assessment and will identify the facility modifications, equipment and training required to improve the functionality and productivity of the facility. Tt completed a field investigation under Task 1 of this work order. The purpose of this field investigation was to collect data to provide the technical assessment to determine the issues that are currently reducing the Meter Box and Low Voltage Distribution Panel Manufacturing facility production rates. Tt submitted a Technical Memo to identify the results of this field investigation on June 28, 2014.
WO-LT-0081	Concrete Pole Manufacturing Facility Assessment	Under this work order, Tt will provide manufacturing facility assessment. The facility assessments will identify the facility modifications and equipment required at DABS Concrete Pole Manufacturing Facility to make the facility fully functional based on current and future production requirements. Tt will proceed with the assessment and will identify the facility modifications, equipment and training required to make the facility fully functional. Tt completed a field investigation under Task 1 of this work order. The purpose of this field investigation will be to collect data to provide the technical assessment to determine the issues surrounding the lack of concrete pole manufacturing production.

1.2 KEY ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD

Table 1.2 below describes the activities planned for the fourth quarter. Actual work performed will be described in detail in the Year 5 Annual Report.

Table 1.2 Summary of Work Planned for the Fourth Quarter 2014

Number	Work Order Title	Summary of Work Planned
WO-A-0097	Deh-Asuda Check Dam	Work on the Technical Memo will be completed during the fourth quarter.
WO-A-0098	Kabul Basin Aquifer Feasibility Study	Work will continue on the Technical Memo during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0009 AMD 7	Parun Road Field Support	Work will continue with subcontractor support during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0042	Afghan Women Internship Program	The internship program will continue with additional training planned into the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0048 AMD 5	Transmission Line from Ghazni to Kandahar East	Work will continue to create the technical section of the RFP during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0059 AMD 2	NEPS Distribution Materials and Installation Specification Development	Work will continue on the technical section of the RFP during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0059 AMD 3	NEPS Kabul Area Substation Assessments	Tt will submit the assessments during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0063 AMD 6	Salang Tunnel Detailed Design	Tt will assist DABS, prior to contract award, to perform bidding assistance.
WO-LT-0070 AMD 2	Firefighting Analysis	Tt will plan a STTA trip to the plant during the fourth quarter. In addition, a report with findings will be finalized and submitted.
WO-LT-0070 AMD 4	Tarakhil Power Plant Power Block A, B and C Controls Repair	Tt will present options to complete remaining tasks during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0077 AMD 3	Gardez to Khost Bridge No. 10- Scour Analysis and Foundation Study	Tt will complete and submit the Scour Analysis and Foundation Study during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0079	Transformer Rewinding Facility Assessment	Tt will complete and submit the final manufacturing facility assessment during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0080	Meter Box and Low Voltage Distribution Panel Manufacturing Facility Assessment	Tt will complete and submit the final manufacturing facility assessment during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0081	Concrete Pole Manufacturing Facility Assessment	Tt will complete and submit the final manufacturing facility assessment during the fourth quarter.
WO-LT-0083	Kandahar Solar Photovoltaic Feasibility Study	Tt expects to support USAID with a high level desktop study of photovoltaic options to replace approximately 30% of the kWh of diesel-generated power with solar power.
WO-LT-0084	G-K Road Phase 4	Tt will support the G-K Road Phase 4 construction during the fourth quarter.

1.3 LESSONS LEARNED

1.3.1 Evaluations/Assessments/Audits

During the third quarter of FY2014, Tetra Tech received and supplied responses related to the OIG Audit Report No: F-306-14-006-N.

On April 14, 2014, Tetra Tech submitted the response to the USAID Afghanistan OAA/AS Letter dated February 27, 2014.

On June 21, 2014, Tetra Tech received a letter from OAA/AS informing Tetra Tech of findings and requesting corrective actions for No. 2 and No. 3 of the audit report.

On June 25, 2014, Tetra Tech submitted corrective actions for the findings of the audit report.

The MOF audit for the AITR FYs 1390 & 1391 (2011 & 2012) started during first quarter of FY2014 and continued into the second quarter report was received during the third quarter. There are no audit findings in the reports after all our financial declarations were fully assessed by the MOF auditors for both fiscal years. AESP successfully complied with Afghan Income tax law and it is anticipated that audit clearance reports for both FYs will be issued during the fourth quarter without imposing any tax penalties.

2.0 COLLABORATION WITH GIROA, OTHER DONORS, OR OTHER USAID PROJECTS

2.1 LINKS WITH RELEVANT GIROA MINISTRIES

Tt AESP collaborated with DABS on numerous projects including the manufacturing facility assessments and the Tarakhil Thermal Power Plant amendments. In addition, Tt AESP provided assistance to, and coordination with, DABS commercial contractors: GFA Consulting Limited and Phoenix.

2.2 LINKS WITH OTHER DONOR AGENCIES

AESP continues to take direction from USAID coordinating with other Donor agencies. AESP attended Working Power Coordination Meetings with USAID, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and Advanced Engineering Associates International, Inc. to plan and support future power coordination within Afghanistan.

2.3 LINKS WITH OTHER USAID PROJECTS

No significant events or activities to report during the quarter.

3.0 MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

3.1 PERSONNEL

Tetra Tech had a few noteworthy personnel changes during Quarter 3. The Reachback Technical Support Manager position was vacated and backfilled. The expatriate Contracts Manager position was filled by promoting the Administrative Manager to this position. The expatriate Transportation Specialist position was vacated and refilled. The expatriate Technical Support Manager position was vacated. Due to the end of contract demobilization plan, this position was not refilled.

Tetra Tech's local national Technical Support Manager received a Fulbright Scholarship and departed for the United States to study at Colorado State University. Our Senior Administrative Assistant received her Special Immigration Visa and departed for the United States. This position was

backfilled with two mid-level administrative assistants. Lastly, our Facilities Manager position was vacated and was filled by promoting our Buyer.

Gender Equality plays an important role in staff planning on AESP. Through WO-LT-0042 Afghan Women Internship Program, Tt AESP selects four interns to support AESP each semester.

During the third quarter, Tt AESP maintained a female to male ratio of nearly 1:2. Tt AESP will continue to support USAID's Gender Equality and Female Empowerment directive through the remainder of the task order.

3.2 ADAPTION OF THE ACTIVITY

While there were no adaptations of the activity during the third quarter of FY2014; USAID did indicate the possibility of extending AESP for an additional year. Therefore, Tt AESP began operating on two parallel tracks of 1) planning for the impending program closeout and 2) implementing ongoing and planning for future work orders should the extension be implemented.

3.3 MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Modification 22 was received on April 14, 2014. The purpose of this modification was to:

1. Section B.3 BUDGET AND CEILING PRICE, DELETE paragraph (a) of the section it its entirety and REPLACE with the following:

“(a) The total ceiling for this award is [REDACTED]. Of this amount, [REDACTED] is for payment as the fixed fee in accordance with FAR 52.216-8.”

4.0 SUCCESS STORIES

During this quarter, Tetra Tech AESP provided training opportunities for our local national staff through the U.S based Red Vector series of online courses. These courses are designed to provide specialized training in technical fields ranging from project management to civil and electrical engineering to safety. The coursework is recognized by US boards as meeting the requirements for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and is typically used by U.S. professionals to maintain their licensure. During this quarter, a total of 14 Tetra Tech local national staff registered and completed courses in this program.

A second educational opportunity provided by Tetra Tech AESP to the local national staff is a curriculum offered by the Project Management Institute (PMI). This series of courses is designed to provide advanced project management skills, with the successful student certified as a “PMP” (Project Management Professional). Four staff took advantage of this program.

Tt AESP continued to show success across disciplines overcoming challenging security conditions during the quarter.

USAID/Afghanistan

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