Pumped hydro storage fiji

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All registrations must be delivered in closed envelopes or by email to the above address bearing the mention ‘Registration of Interest for Nadarivatu Hydropower Project – Civil Construction Works’ not later than 4.00pm (New Zealand time) 28 July 2006 at the above address.

An important upstream augmentation of Nadarivatu, the Qaliwana renewable energy project, was also recently proposed. Once completed, the Qaliwana project is expected to provide Nadarivatu with critical storage capacity and increased operational flexibility to further meet the island"s electricity needs.

In the meantime, the Nadarivatu project has faced and overcome a variety of design and construction challenges, namely project delivery standards, access and financing, which may serve as lessons learned for future projects in Fiji and similar countries. The FEA worked with engineering firm MWH Global to address those challenges and help ensure the Nadarivatu project will be completed on time and on budget. In fact, over the last two years, MWH has also helped the FEA relook at the original long-term strategy and identify the "what"s next" projects.

Fiji is a remote island in the South Pacific with roughly 850,000 residents. Traditionally, the country has relied on high cost, imported diesel for power generation. However, the FEA, which was established in 1966 under the Electricity Act, recently revised its mission to "provide 90% of the country"s energy from renewable energy sources". A wealth of new policies and projects have since been implemented or proposed (including Nadarivatu and Qaliwana) to help the country achieve this goal and more adequately address the electricity needs of its growing population.

Hydropower is just one of many renewable energy sources available in Fiji. Other sources include wind energy, geothermal, biomass from sugar cane waste and biodiesel from coconut oil. While the 83MW Monasavu/Wailoa hydro scheme is the largest, currently providing half of the country"s power, both the Nadarivatu and the Qaliwana projects are expected to provide an additional combined 61MW of power – enough to meet an additional 20% of the island"s electricity needs.

MWH has been involved in the Nadarivatu project since 2002 when the FEA retained the company to provide initial feasibility studies and geotechnical investigations. This involved undertaking a detailed review of the 1970s feasibility studies and identifying the procurement strategy and initial risk assessments for the project.

The resulting scheme was fast tracked, with site investigations, detailed design and advanced works contracts occurring concurrently, with the main construction beginning in 2009. MWH was hired on as the project"s owner engineer, with Sinohydro Corporation of China in charge of executing the construction of the project under an engineer-procure-construct (EPC) contract. Together, the project team embarked on a 36-month construction schedule, which is set to be completed in April 2012. The US$150M project has employed at its

peak 465 workers, 150 of whom are local to Fiji.

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