

Dear David, Liz, Lee and Rob,

Thank you for the PoE report #28. We appreciate the speed at which you produced it, and the clear language and recommendations. Closure of the RIP, and the advances achieved during the project and the RIP extension are, indeed, impressive achievements, due in large part to the guidance of the PoE. We hope they will provide positive lessons globally.

We particularly appreciate the clarity of the recommendation to close the RIP and the PoE's statement that the provisions of the Concession Agreement related to closure have met your satisfaction. Ongoing advice, in the form of additional recommendations in the report will inform our actions going forward. As you know, many of the noted institutional arrangements already underway. We do note that some recommendations will need further scrutiny.

For example, we agree that the LTA provides useful feedback; however, the recommendation "the invaluable scrutiny of the LTA of livelihoods development should continue; its report should be made public... Discussion in the future should be clear on the output of their mission and integration of NTPC comments to avoid deviation" (page iii), is not immediately implementable because: (i) the mandate of the LTA (E&S) as per the CA, formally concludes with the end of the RIP; and (ii) the LTA is bound by a confidentiality obligation under its agreement with NTPC.

Following standard practice, we will now have the executive summary translated and distributed Prime Minister Office, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Khammouane Province Authorities, and the full report posted on World Bank and NTPC's website

We thank the PoE members, current and past, and Rob Laking, for your unswerving dedication to the welfare of the resettlers, and for working closely with the Joint Working Group to achieve a successful conclusion.

Sincerely,

Dr. Xaypaseuth Phomsoupha

On behalf of JWG