Chirijmasa Hydro Power Plant
Santa Catarina in Ixtahuacán
Guatemala

Project owner
Fuerza de Gravedad SA

Status:
- Conceptual design complete
- Ministry of Energy licence ok
- Environmental study sent

Key Figures:
- Head: 120 m
- Qm wet season 4,4 m³/s
- Qm dry season 2,2 m³/s
- Qt : 5,4 m³/s
- Penstock 1600m
- Turbine 5 MW (2*2,5 MW)
- Annual generation : 25 GWh
- Estimated cost– 13 mUSD
- Specific cost 0,53 USd/GWh

Construction time:
Abt. 24 months

Year :
06/2013-06/2015

Commissioning:
06/2015

Inntake area Chirijmasa at Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán on Rio Masá

Water flow gauging and road dam

The river and falls through dense wood
Brief project description
This project has been in the planning stage for two years. The municipal authorities and the local community have approved the project, and an agreement is about to be signed about August 2013.

Most inhabitants belong to the Maya Quiché language group, and all land is divided in privately owned small plots. They have no title deeds to their property, but are willing to sell the plots required for this development in change for cash retribution, road improvement and a social fund for the benefit of the whole community. The Municipality will unify these properties and register a legal title deed in the name of the developer. Access roads are in a bad state, but there is an existing road all the way up to the planned dam area.

The Chirijmasa project is a Run-of-the River project which includes a combined intake and dam construction in concrete. The intake site has solid rock on both sides of the river. The gravity dam will be 3.50 m high and 5 m thick, with water intake on the left side. 180 meters of water conduction pipe ends in a sediment basin with 300m3 capacity. It feeds the surge tank and penstock, which follows the hillside 1062 m down to the power plant. It connects to 34KV power lines two kilometers away.

Project team:
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Alf V. Adeler, Civil Engineer
Bjorn Undrum, Mechanical engineer
Einar Sofienlund, Electrical engineer

EPC contractor civil works:
Technohidros, Guatemala
Einar Sofienlund, Detail design and engineering
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