

# Review of EIA Reports

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# Objectives of Review

- To assess the accuracy and acceptability of the information provided in the EIA report
- To Identify the shortcomings in the EIA report which are crucial for decision making
- To recommend to the approving authority how and when the shortcomings in the EIA report should be remedied and to assist decision making

## Technical Review

- PAA appoints a Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) to review the EIA report submitted by the project proponent.
- TEC comprises of related state agencies and skilled professionals

## Technical Review

- The first step of the technical review involves checking the draft EIA report for adequacy of information. Modifying and supplementing the draft EIA report may be possible at this stage.
- The second step involves checking the final EIA report for quality and accuracy of information/data.

# Issues of the Review Process

- Lack of objectivity in the review process

No formal procedure for reviewing EIA reports.

The basic starting point is to compare the EIA reports with the ToR produced. If the ToR is not precise and comprehensive many important points can be missed.

The second step is to verify the technical or scientific quality of the information given in the EIA reports by the reviewers. If the reviewers are not properly guided the TEC process can be swayed by the decisions of dominant individuals.

# Issues of the Review Process

- Weaknesses within the TEC

The TECs are mostly comprised of state agencies and thus represents mainly individual organizational interests as opposed to the overall review. The state agencies also face serious capacity constraints thus affecting their ability to critically review EIA reports.

# Issues of the Review Process

- Lack of relevant standards, policies, or good practice guidance to determine the acceptable levels.

# Issues of the EIA Review Process

- If the EIA review process is effective, it should lead to improved EIA report quality over time



# Recommendations to the present system

- Review criteria (general or sector specific) to be introduced
- Technical review to be carried out by an independent committee of experts
- Technical review to be followed by an administrative review if required

Thank you