

NEPAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY - ELECTRICITY TARIFF FIXATION COMMISSION - DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICITY DEVELOPMENT ATTEND RURAL ELECTRICITY TRAINING PROGRAM PROVIDED BY PEA

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NEA, DOED, ETFC & PEA executives

The **United States Energy Association (USEA)**, with funding from the **United States Agency for International Development/Nepal (USAID/Nepal)** mission conducted partnership meetings designed to strengthen the power sector of Nepal. The **Electricity Tariff Fixation Commission (ETFC)**, **Department of Electricity Development (DOED)**, and the **Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA)** attended a week long training program from Sept. 25 – 29, 2006 conducted by the **Provincial Electricity Authority of Thailand**.



The meetings focused on the operations of a distribution utility in rural areas and the multiple challenges of providing quality electricity to rural areas. The in-depth training covered topics from transformer sizing, distribution line design, hotline maintenance, off-grid/distributed generation, rural power suppliers, finance, human resource management and customer service.

The week long training program covered financial and human resource management; energy transmission and reduction of distribution losses
Individual Power Producers
Power wheeling.

Results:

- NEA plans to send executives to PEA for training on hotline maintenance
- NEA will review use of solar and wind generation in rural areas based on findings in Thailand; and
- DOED/ETFC plans to propose incentives for rural off-grid generation.



PEAs Governor, Mr. Pracherd Sook-Kaew met with Tony Carvalho, USAID/Nepal and indicated there was great interest by PEA to provide technical training and services to the evolving Nepalese electric sector.

The 6 member group visited the 1000 MW Lam Takhong Pumped Storage Power Plant; Solar Cell Assembly Plant of Solartron Company; a power equipment factory of Precise Company; Customer Service Center of Rangsit Electric Office; and had a demonstration on hot line maintenance practices in Bangkok.



Mr. N.K. Chapagain, Under Secretary, Department of Electricity Development said, “Nepal has a lot to learn from PEA and its operational methodologies. The objective of both organizations is to serve the people in a just and transparent manner. In this regard we have learned a lot from the PEA's practices and experiences. We must now be committed to apply our acquired knowledge in our respective fields”.

The delegation from NEA, DOED and ETFC were impressed with the PEA training and are considering using many of the other training mechanisms offered by PEA through the USEA-USAID/Nepal funded partnership program.