



25 August 2025

Ms. Manana Kochladze
CEE Bankwatch Network

Subject: Reply to letter “Noncompliance of Rogun Hydropower Project with ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) – Request to Refrain from Financing”

Dear Ms. Manana Kochladze,

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has received your letter dated 1 August 2025 addressed to President Masato Kanda, raising concerns the Rogun Hydropower Project may have on the Vaksh river basin.

Thank you for your detailed communication regarding the Rogun Hydropower Project. We appreciate the effort you have invested in reviewing project documentation and sharing your concerns. We recognize that projects of this scale and complexity, particularly those involving transboundary water resources and significant resettlement, can raise important environmental and social safeguards concerns. Constructive engagement with civil societies is essential for ADB to ensure that large complex infrastructure projects, like Rogun, are developed responsibly and transparently.

Please be assured that ADB is working closely with the World Bank and other international financial institutions (IFIs) to support the Government of Tajikistan in updating the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). This updated ESIA will reflect the latest data, incorporate cumulative and transboundary impact assessments, biodiversity protection, climate risk assessment, stakeholder engagement, involuntary resettlement planning, amongst others and align with ADB's safeguard policy and the Environmental and Social Frameworks of our partner institutions. We expect that updated and improved versions of the ESIA will be available to the public within the year.

At the same time, we believe the Rogun Hydropower Project has the potential to deliver transformative benefits for Tajikistan and the broader Central Asian region. It can play a pivotal role in enhancing energy security, expanding access to clean electricity, and supporting regional decarbonization efforts. If implemented responsibly, Rogun can contribute to climate resilience, economic development, and regional cooperation.

Thank you again for raising your concerns and we look forward to engaging with you further if and when the project moves forward.

Sincerely,

Yong Ye
Officer-in-Charge/
Deputy Director General, CWRD

Leah C. Gutierrez
Director General

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