

Relevant Information

Medellín, January 16, 2019

After the closing of the first intake gate, the monitoring at the Ituango hydroelectric project continues to yield good results

Stable rock mass and stable flow rates. These are the results of the monitoring activities so far, after having closed the first intake gate of the Ituango hydroelectric project this morning.

According to the indicators issued by the Technical Monitoring Center, stability is general in the different variables being measured. It came to our attention that in the flow part, 425 cubic meters per second are registered on average in the powerhouse discharge outflow, similar to the flows of the river at this time of the year. Added to this are the flows of the Ituango and Espíritu Santo rivers and the streams that discharge into the Cauca, downstream of the project.

Historically, in the winter season, the Cauca River can reach an average flow of 1,000 cubic meters per second, but in summer, as in this moment, flows have become less than 300 cubic meters per second.

About 80 people, including biologists from EPM and the firm Integral, and artisanal fishermen from the region, are traveling the 38 kilometers of the Cauca River canyon, from the dam site to Puerto Valdivia, to rescue the fish and take them to a place with an appropriate flow of water to continue their life cycle. So far, 412 live fish have been rescued and 9 dead fish have been found.

After the first six hours after the closing of powerhouse gate #2, with data that record general stability, we will continue until 48-hour monitoring period has concluded, in order to verify that the task was completed as expected.

Alert levels in the area remain in force: red alert for the Puerto Valdivia municipality and up to Puerto Antioquia, and orange alert in all the towns on the banks of the Cauca River to the urban headwaters of Tarazá and Cáceres. Yellow alert is for all the towns, from Cauca to the Bolívar department.

Mobility

estamos ahí.

At 12 noon, transport resumed through the reservoir to and from the town of Ituango. During the afternoon of this Wednesday and Thursday, January 17, transport by ferry will be continuous until 5 pm. Priority will be given to emergency vehicles and those transporting perishable food to supply the municipality of Ituango.

It is planned that this Thursday, January 17, starting at 6:00 a.m., vehicle caravans will be resumed through the main works of the project.

In the same way, starting at 1:00 p.m. today the transport resumed via the two ferries docked at the Bocas de Niquía site and that serve peasants who need to mobilize their loads and livestock, between the municipalities of Sabanalarga, Peque and Buriticá.

estamos ahí.