



News Flash No. 151

Upon learning of the decisions adopted by the supervisory Judge in the hearing summoned by the Attorney General's Office, to request protection measures regarding the environmental management of the Ituango hydroelectric project, EPM states to the public:

- The company respects the Judge's decisions, which do not refer specifically to the requests made by the Attorney General's Office upon rejecting them due to the progress that the organization has made in this regard, but to assemble a technical committee comprised of: Attorney General's Office, Office of the Inspector General, Office of the Comptroller, the Government of Antioquia, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the National Environmental Licensing Authority (*Autoridad Nacional de Licencias Ambientales*, ANLA), Hidroituango, representatives of the communities and EPM to study aspects such as the stability of the project and the rock massif.
- In accordance with Colombian law, EPM immediately filed appeals in relation to the judge's decision, since four updates of the study of the rock massif have been made since the contingency arose.
- Additionally, since October 2018, in compliance with the requirements made by the ANLA, a contract is being executed with the purpose of "issuing a clear, precise, detailed and objective opinion on the stability conditions (under the



contingency scenario) and future conditions (under the operation scenario) of the Ituango Hydroelectric Project”, which includes an additional analysis of the massif.

- In view of the technical committee that was assembled, EPM points out that from May 2018 to date, approximately 250 sessions of the Unified Command Posts (*Puestos de Mando Unificados*, PMU)- have been held, in which the National Unit for Disaster Risk Management, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Mines, Army, Police and National Navy, Office of the Inspector General, Office of the Public Defender, Colombian Geological Service, IDEAM [Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies)], Colombian Red Cross, Government of Antioquia, EPM, among others, participate. In addition, the company reiterates that it has a Technical Monitoring Center (*Centro de Monitoreo Técnico*, CMT) in operation, which analyzes 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, all variables, including: seismic, deformations and flows.
- Faced with contingency, EPM designed and has been executing a communication and relationship plan that includes, among others: holding workshops, guided tours with academics, businessmen, unions, authorities and leaders of the municipalities downstream of the project; drafting messages and informative pieces, creating a website on flood prevention, preparedness and emergency, issuance of “Infohidroituango, a new information vehicle for communities through WhatsApp chats, daily



publication of project indicators in a didactic fashion, and producing of informative videos that display the technical, social and environmental management of EPM in the area.

- In terms of information management, during the first year of the contingency, 1,800 requests and interviews from local, regional, national and international media about the Ituango Hydroelectric Project were attended. Added to this are 46 press conferences with EPM spokespersons and, to date, 150 communiqués and 42 press releases, 13 discussion boards and 7 visits to the project with journalists.
- The radio strategy for the Lower Cauca is continued, with news on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as the digital strategy, with permanent information on social media to report on progress on each of the defined fronts. EPM also publishes a print newspaper “La voz del proyecto Ituango” (The Voice of the Ituango Project). It provides information to the EPM Customer Service Offices in these locations. It has different communication campaigns (environmental and social recovery of the project, winter season, study of the root cause and first year of contingency). It hands out fliers and posters with preventive information for the community and publishes advertisements in press, radio and television.

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