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REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FOR ROADS

CENTER – WEST REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORRIDOR PROJECT:

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

FINANCED BY INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT AND REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

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ABBREVIATIONS

Akimat Regional body of executive branch in Kazakhstan

CfR Committee for Roads (of MoID)

DE Design Engineer

ESS Environment and Social Sphere

EBRD European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

EMPF Environmental Management Plan Framework

EMP

ESIA Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

FS Feasibility Study
H&S Health & Safety
HGV Heavy goods vehicle

IFI International Financial Institutions

IsDB Islamic Development Bank

MEP Ministry of Environmental Protection
MOID Ministry of Investment and Development

PAP Project Affected Person
PCR Physical Cultural Resources

CSC Construction Supervision Consultant PMC Project Management Consultants

RAP Resettlement Action Plan

RPF Resettlement Policy Framework SEE State Environmental Expertise

SoW Scope of Work WB World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The proposed «Centre-West» Regional Development Corridor project is part of the transit corridor "Baku-Astrakhan-Atyrau-Aktobe-Aktau-Turkmenistan border", which connects Kazakhstan with Azerbaijan and Europe in the west, with Russia in the north, through Iran with countries of the Persian Gulf, and Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the south. Estimated 2,000 km of the Center West corridor will connect Astana with Akmola, Kostanai, Aktobe, Atyrau, and Mangistau oblasts, thus linking two of four urban agglomerations, and two second-tier towns identified in the Government of Kazakhstan Program for Regional Development (PRD). The Project is expected to contribute to the local development of the regions through which it passes and promote pro-poor growth by overcoming the spatial mismatch between the location of jobs and settlements for low-income residents. A pre-feasibility study launched at the initiative of the Bank in 2014 allowed a debate within the Ministry of Investments and Development (MoID) about the benefits and weaknesses of various alternatives. Based on it, a formal feasibility study development and respective discussions with communities along the corridor took place during 2015. Following consultations, the alignment and characteristics of the road were adjusted to the needs of local communities.

The Executive Summary describes environmental and social aspects of all components of the project and summarizes the results of various environmental and social studies.

Project Description

The proposed Centre-West road project is part of transit corridor "Baku-Astrakhan-Atyrau-Aktobe-Aktau-Turkmenistan border", which connects Kazakhstan with Azerbaijan and Europe in the west, with Russia in the north, through Iran with countries of the Persian Gulf, and Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in the south. Estimated 2,000 km Center-West Corridor will start in Astana and pass through Akmola, Kostanai, Aktobe, Atyrau, and Mangistau oblasts, thus linking two of four identified "urban agglomerations", and two of the identified "second-tier" towns.

The Centre-West corridor will be part of an overall network upgrade program that will also enhance existing links between Astana and Almaty (Centre South from Astana - Pavlodar - Semei - Kalbatau - Ust-Kamenogorsk) and between Astana and Ust-Kamenogorsk (Centre East from Astana - Pavlodar - Semei - Kalbatau - Ust-Kamenogorsk). The Government is aiming for completion of all the corridors by 2020.

The construction will be mainly a Class II (2 lane) standard, which indicates a well-grounded consideration of standards and costs. There will be greenfield construction of total length of approximately 612 km of road sections (e.g. Zhanteke - Arkalyk, Turgay – Irgiz-Shalkar).

Section 1 (170 km) starts from about 10 km west from the city center of Astana in suburban Astana, runs in a north-westerly direction toward Zhanteke and further West. This section consists primarily of an existing two lane paved road (in poor condition). It will be expanded to four lanes on the first 98km from Astana to Zhanteke, since it is expected to carry a traffic of about 7,000 vehicles per day and the potential for tourism development of the Zhanteke region and the Ramsar wetland around the lake Tengiz of Korghalzhyn. Tolling may also be considered along the four-lane section close to Astana and consistent with a broader tolling plan currently envisaged by the GOK.

Section 2 (220km) continues West after Zhanteke to Arkalyk. This section will be a green field project as there is no existing roads at present. The new road would go through a semi desert with scattered wetlands and mostly flat terrain with some agriculture land on the last 10 km towards Arkalyk.

Section 3 (290 km) uses the existing road that connects Arkalyk to Turgay. The road also connects settlements in between, all of them being modest in size. The road often runs in parallel to a hydrographic complex made of medium size rivers and their associated tributaries and wetlands.

Section 4 (352 km) continues west after Turgay to Yrgyz (20 km to the west past Yrgyz up to the junction with the existing Western Europe-Western China Corridor) and Shalkar. This section consists of reconstruction of an existing gravel road in a very poor condition, not accessible during the spring or autumn.

Project Components

Component 1 (US \$1,208 million): Infrastructure development and Supervision. The component will finance civil works on about 1014 km of road sections between Astana and Shalkar and consulting services for supervision of civil works. Land acquisition and road design costs will be covered from the GOK cofinancing part, and not be financed from the Loan proceeds.

Component 2 (US \$6 million) Corridor Development. The component will support: (i) preparation of a Corridor Development Action Plan (Plan) and (ii) implementation of some key priority activities from the Plan. The objective of the component is to customize the corridor to local advantage and to ensure that economically disadvantaged sparsely populated and remote areas within the corridor in Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe oblasts are provided with reasonable access to basic services and new markets. Local development plans and existing strengths, resources, as well as services in demand along the alignment were assessed in consultation with local communities. The assessment identified agriculture, tourism, services, and education as strategic focus of the corridor. The Plan will support activities aimed at unlocking the potential of industries identified and capacity building for local communities, such as: the development of service areas for retail and sales of local food and crafts, tourist information, transport services, pharmacies, milk collection points from local farmers, support to livestock, bazaars, etc.

Component 3 (US \$20 million) Operation and Maintenance: This component will allow the MoID to implement a strategy designed with the assistance of the Bank during the preparation of the road sector reform in 2012-2013. As the road will become a new republican road, it is necessary to create facilities and equipment for operation and maintenance.

Component 4 (US \$3 million) Road Safety: The component will be implemented by the Committee of Administrative Police of the Ministry of Interior (CAP) Kazakhstan's lead road safety agency with assistance from local consultants hired under the Project. The objective of this component is to help the Kazakh authorities design National Road Safety Strategy 2016-2020 (NRSS), strengthen institutional capacity in relation to the NRSS implementation, and increase road safety education and awareness of road users in Kazakhstan.

Component 5 (US\$ 2million) Project Management: The component will be covered from the GoK budget. CR identified KazAvtozhol (KAZ) as a Project Management Unit (PMU) for the CWP and other roads projects to be financed by other IFIs. While the MoID through CR will retain the overall responsibility for the project implementation, KAZ is expected to assist the CR on day-to-day operations managing project activities, such as supervision of social, environmental, and fiduciary safeguards, provision of logistical support, M&E, inter-agency coordination, etc.

World Bank Safeguards Requirements

The project is classified Environmental Category A as per World Bank environment policy OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment. This classification is substantiated by potential physical environmental and social impacts associated with rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing road to the Road Category II and greenfield construction of approximately 612 km of road sections (e.g. Zhanteke - Arkalyk, Turgay – Yrgyz-Shalkar).

Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01 (triggered): The potential negative impacts during construction works under Component 1 include operation of borrow areas, generation of waste (construction materials,

spent consumables, household waste and wastewater from camps), excessive land use, topsoil destruction and erosion.

Component 2 will finance preparation of a Corridor Development Action Plan and implementation of some key priority activities from the Plan (with focus on agriculture, tourism, services, etc.). The Plan will take into account potential negative environmental impacts of economic activity (agriculture, small businesses, tourism) and will provide guidance on mitigation measures to avoid or minimize these impacts.

Component 3 will finance the road's operation and maintenance activities. Environmental aspects of road maintenance, such as location and design of maintenance depots, transport/storage/application of de-icers, maintenance of road maintenance machinery will be addressed in design documentation and schedules of depots.

Component 4 will finance various road safety measures which will generally have positive social impact in the project area.

The ESIA report contains an adequate project description and analysis of baseline data and, potential impacts and contains a framework of necessary mitigation measures. Site-specific EMPs and Guidance Notes for specific economic activities under Corridor Development Action Plan will be prepared to provide clear guidance and contractual obligations for environmental due diligence in further project design and implementation.

Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04 (triggered):

The Project is not expected to impact established protected areas. The alignment goes through Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe regions and 25km away from Kurgaldzhyn State Nature Reserve, located at the territory of the Kurgaldzhyn district, Akmola region. Nature Reserve Altyn Dala located in Kostanai region is 75-80 km away from the alignment in Amangeldy and 50-60 km - in Zhangeldinskiy district. About 90 km of the alignment will pass at a distance of 40-50km from the territory of Yrgyz-Turgai state nature reserve.

According to the data available at the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) the project location passes through the summer habitat range and migration routes of Saiga tatarica, a critically endangered species of antelope. Saiga migrates in spring from the South of Kazakhstan to Akmolinskaya, Kostanaiskaya and Aktyubinskaya oblasts, the basins of the rivers Irgiz, Turgay, Ulyshilanshik and Tersakkan and Lake Tengiz. Traffic flow and the noise of moving vehicles may eventually create conditions that prevent saiga from crossing. Associated facilities (e.g. construction camps or borrow pits) may divert animals to other areas or migration routes. Additional potential impacts include cases when animals are hit by moving vehicles or hunted by construction workers or local inhabitants. Therefore, the OP 4.04 Natural Habitats is triggered for the project. Specific areas with high concentrations of saiga and potential critical habitats and their migration routes will be surveyed. The Client and their contractors will establish collaboration with environmental organizations that perform saiga monitoring which will become an important part of preparation and implementation of site-specific EMPs. According to the report "Saiga crossing options" (by Kirk A. Olson from Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute for the Frankfurt Zoological Society, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, Fauna & Flora International and Convention on Migratory Species) properly designed underpasses/crossing points are considered to be sufficiently effective and acceptable measure for saiga migration and the road would not lead to significant degradation of the habitat (i.e. not significantly interfere with migration). Specific locations for such crossings (if needed) will be determined during preparation of site-specific EMPs.

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 (triggered)

The inventory of known physical cultural resources conducted in the project area has not revealed PCR that may be potentially affected by the project. However, the Policy on Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 should be triggered due to presence in the project area of so-called Turgay geoglyphs - unique and previously unstudied large-scale earthworks in Turgay region of northern Kazakhstan. While Turgay geoglyphs have not been designated a status of historical or cultural monuments to be protected according to legislation of

Kazakhstan, the Client deems appropriate to take into account the sites with geoglyphs in project design and proactively ensure protection and support promotion of geoglyphs as cultural heritage and potential tourism attraction. The team is currently identifying the location of geoglyphs in relation to the proposed alignment. In case there is a threat of damage to geoglyphs, re-routing of the alignment will be done at design stage. If re-routing is not possible, Site Management Plan will be done as part of site-specific EMPs. The project will also support further research and promotion of geoglyphs as historic and cultural heritage and a tourism attraction in the project area.

Forests (OP/BP 4.36, not triggered, but addressed in ESIA)

As forests do not exist within the project area this OP/BP 4.36 is not triggered. Low-value trees and bushes in the roadside shall be cut because of the construction of the road, it will be filled according to the activities in the EAP (Environmental Management Plan). This will be specified in a separate agreement on landscaping/afforestation.

Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12, triggered).

The project triggers OP/BP 4.12 policy primarily due to land acquisition activities associated with construction works. The considering the scale of the project the impacts are not expected to be significant and are related to construction of bypasses, noise, relocation of any road kiosks or small scale businesses and locations of cattle-crossing points. The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared for the project to guide any necessary land activities for the proposed project. The principles and standards incorporated into the Resettlement Policy Framework have been agreed between the CR and the Bank for use throughout the Centre West Regional Development Corridor Project. Once the detailed designs are finalized, the Client will prepare the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) in accordance with the provisions of the Resettlement Policy Framework.

The RAP will specify the procedures to be followed by the Government of Kazakhstan through the Committee for Roads (CR) and the Ministry of Investment and Development (MoID) and the actions it will take to undertake land acquisition and any resettlement. It is expected that the CR will ensure all measures necessary to minimize involuntary resettlement and land acquisition. The document will provide a description of the land, households and businesses that will be affected. The RAP's objective is to mitigate the negative impacts of land acquisition and displacement, including setting out the entitlements of the different categories of affected persons, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable groups.

The RAP will be applied to all affected persons regardless whether or not they have a legally registered title to the land. The severity of the impact will however affect the nature of the compensation and other assistance provided. The RAP will be the result of various phases of consultations, data collection and analyses. The RAP's requirements are binding to both the Government, through the Committee for Roads and the contractors for the implementation of the project

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37 (not triggered). No dam safety issues were identified during assessment of the project area.

Projects on International waterways OP/BP 7.50 (not triggered). No issues associated with this Policy have been identified.

Scope and Methodology of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

The ESIA has been prepared by «KazdorNII» in association with «SAEN Engineering Group» as a part of consulting services for the «Center – West» Corridor and is based on the requirements of Kazakhstan legislation and World Bank Safeguard Policies.

The purpose of the ESIA is to define the baseline environmental conditions in order to identify and assess the impacts of the various activities of the proposed project. This project is currently at the stage of feasibility

study and detailed design. It has not been subject to site-specific EIA yet. The ESIA contains Environmental and Social Management Framework in the form of generic EMP and Environmental Monitoring Plan which should be followed during the detailed design and preparation of site-specific Environmental Impact Assessments and Environmental Management Plans (EMPs).

The ESIA methodology includes the analysis of available baseline data (annual reports on state of environment, social-economic analysis of project region, geospatial data, expert interviews), overview of applicable environmental legislation analysis of alternatives, and discussion of mitigation measures to avoid and minimize potential negative impacts. It includes monitoring plan to assess whether mitigation is properly implemented and results in anticipated positive effects. Also, during the preparation of the ESIA consultations were held with experts from the Ministry of Transport of Investment and Development, relevant Regional Administrations, representatives of the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan, professional interest groups (e.g. "Turgay Discovery"), Regional Departments of Environment, Water, etc. of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Potential environmental impacts have been assessed according to the World Bank policy and the Kazakh environmental legislation. In addition, institutional aspects have been taken into consideration.

Environmental and Social Baseline Conditions

The Corridor alignment broadly runs through flat steppe terrain with varying climate conditions from moderate in the West to arid in the East. The section Astana – Egindykol and further West till lake Tezekpay goes through agricultural fields. Between lakes Tezekpay and Shoyyndykol the road runs through open steppe landscape with several seasonal rivers. From Shoyyndykol to Arkalyk the alignment goes again through agricultural fields.

Following the alignment from Arkalyk to NW and later to SW directions there is a visible trend towards a more arid climate, thus the bulk of the alignment of this section would run through arid steppe or semi-desert type rangeland closed to Amangeldi, with one small perennial river at approx..70 km from Arkalyk, and few temporal rivers (located in the SW of the section). Agricultural lands will be affected only around Arkalyk.

Section Amangeldy-Turgay-Yrgyz-Shalkar goes through semi-desert with few temporal rivers. There are series of lakes to the South from the alignment at approximately 10-15 km from Turgay and to the North from the alignment at 60-70 km from Yrgyz.

Erosion or rock falls, landslides and mudflows are not seen as significant potential risk for the road.

The entire project corridor shows anthropogenic impact mainly in forms of animal husbandry and agriculture. There will be no conversion of pristine, untouched habitats under the project. Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe oblasts – are main agricultural regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The major economic activity is agriculture (grain production) and animal husbandry. The route will pass mainly through rural areas with low population density.

Location and Analysis of Alternatives

Out of seven alternatives initially, three alignment alternatives were prioritized based on pre-feasibility assessment and further consultations with local administrations, citizens, and businesses (See Annex A for Route Options and B for CAREC Corridors). Alternative route options do not differ significantly in terms of potential environmental impacts. All three routes pass via Korgalzhyn, Arkalyk, and Turgay. Project Alternative 1, total of 1267 km, continues to the West via Yrgyz, Shalkar and Emba up to Kandagash and Aktobe. This alternative envisions the construction of 452 km of new road sections and rehabilitation of 692 km of roads. The Alternatives 2 and 3 are connected to the exising M-32 (Samara-Shymkent) road at Yrgyz and Karabutak respectively. They require rehabilitation of 297 km of roads, and 452 km and 583 km of new construction respectively. In all three alternatives, the highest traffic is expected at the road sections spanning from Astana to Arkalyk connecting the two economic centers. The rehabilitation and new construction of these sections will spur generation of local and regional trips due to improvement of travel conditions and enhanced connectivity. Economic analysis also takes into account generated trips between settlements along

the routes and major economic centers, as well as diversion of long-distance and international traffic from an existing alternative road Astana-Atbasar-Kostanay-Karabutak-Aktobe.

Based on economic analysis of alternatives Route 1 was chosen as preferred alignment. The preferred option contributes to development of the central regions (e.g., areas around Arkalyk, Turgay, Akshiganak, Yrgyz, and Shalkar).

Cumulative Impacts

In future, the improved access will have broader economic/social development implications particularly of new or significantly improved roads. These future developments are not considered to be associated with this project in the sense of needing to apply the safeguard policies to them. This is because there are no specific developments that can be expected as a result of the project.

Impact Mitigation and Environmental Management

The design of the road sections includes measures for the minimization of environmental impacts. The route follows mainly the existing alignment (in the form of asphalt or gravel road) and thus it is limiting the conversion of land to other land use types. The design will include measures to increase traffic safety by speed controls, pedestrian crossings and underpasses. The design will also undertake into account requirements stipulated by farmers along the alignment for safe crossings of animals and farm machinery through agricultural underpasses. Targeted interventions to protect saiga will be developed by the Client in collaboration with Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan during preparation of site-specific EMPs. These interventions will be based on surveys of saiga populations and monitoring of their migration routes.

The project will not result in any significant negative social impacts. There is a social assessment ongoing, which will confirm this and will also help to design the project to achieve maximum social benefits.

The location of geoglyphs in relation to the proposed alignment is currently being identified. In case there is a threat of damage to geoglyphs, re-routing of the alignment will be done at design stage. If re-routing is not possible, Site Management Plan will be done as part of site-specific EMPs. The project will also support further research and promotion of geoglyphs as historic and cultural heritage and a tourism attraction in the project area.

Chance finds procedure is described in the ESIA. The requirements regarding chance finds will be included in the construction contracts. The design will take into account the results from hydrographic and hydrological studies, installing sufficient culverts to avoid damming of permanent or seasonal watercourses and the creation of swamps or waterlogged areas. The design of bridges is taking into account the seasonality of discharges, as well as the likelihood of flash floods.

Most of the impacts during construction period will be mitigated by good housekeeping practices. There will be standard procedures for the control and mitigation of impacts, such as dust, noise, exhaust fumes and liquid discharges from camps and the road platform. Surface watercourses will be protected by settling ponds and, if appropriate, filters (e.g. straw bales). Wastewater from construction camps as well as septic sludge will be transported to existing wastewater treatment plants along the alignment. Small-scale waste water treatment stations will be operational as alternative solution for treatment of waste water from construction camps. It is not expected that groundwater will be affected by the project, as no deep excavations or major cuts are planned.

All environmental mitigation measures to be carried out by the contractors during the construction period will be integrated in the tender documents and become part of the contract. The contractors will be required to have permanent staff on site with the specific responsibility of environmental and social management (including a grievance specialist), reporting to the supervision engineers and local authorities.

During operation, the functionality of noise and traffic safety measures described above in the Section on design will be monitored and maintained. Any required modifications, upgrades or additions will be flagged

and integrated into the road repair and maintenance plans for rectification.

Public Consultations and Disclosure

To ensure that all views and concerns of all stakeholders are appropriately reflected in project design and implementation, and environmental and social safeguards instruments fully capture the baseline situation, the expected impacts and the views and concerns of the PAPs, two sets of consultations were undertaken during the preparation of the Bank financed project. The first round of public consultations was carried out on June 9-12, 2015 in 5 regions of Akmola oblast (Tselinorgrad, Kurgaldzhin, Egindikol, Atbasar and Zharkaiyn regions), in Kostanay oblast (in Arkalyk town, Amangeldy and Dzhangeldy regions), and also in Yrgyz and Shalkar regions of Aktobe oblast. On June 29, 2015 public hearings were held in Akmol, Zhanteke, Egindikol, Sochinskii villages. Public consultations gave the opportunity to local residents and other project stakeholders to get acquainted with the general details of the project and to discuss environmental and social aspects, and to provide comments to be included in the ESIA and RPF. The draft ESIA was disclosed in the Infoshop (in English) and locally (in Russian) by the Client on September 29, 2015. The second round of public consultations was organized on the draft ESIA on November 9-11 for local communities along the alignment (Zhanteke, Egyndykol, Sochinskoye, Arkalyk, Amangeldy, Torgay, and Yrgyz). The finalized ESIA was disclosed locally and in the Infoshop. More informal consultations will be done during implementation through:

- The preparation and dissemination of a brochure in Kazakh and Russian, explaining the project, works required and anticipated timing of the works; and
- Setting up a formal grievance redress committee with a representation from the local community. The Project supervision Consultant in association with the contractor and CR will be responsible for managing the effective grievance redress program.

Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) in this ESIA document is presented in the form of generic EMP and has been prepared as part of the EISA study in order to define the environmental measures and procedures that will need to be adopted by the construction company for the contractors and other parties responsible for project implementation. It will provide the guidance for preparation of site-specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs). The ESMF may need to be revised during the course of the project implementation.

The ESMF is designed to contain the following information:

- potential environmental and social impacts
- mitigation measures;
- institutional roles for implementation of mitigation measures during construction and operation of the road;
- monitoring plan.

The site-specific EMPs will define the timing, frequency, duration and cost of mitigation measures in the form of implementation schedule, and these actions will be integrated into the overall project work plan.

Monitoring Plan will set out the ways in which the monitoring of the environmental impacts and the implementation of the mitigation measures during the construction phase will be carried out. The monitoring will be focused on the limited number of impacts identified during the ESIA to ensure the efficiency of the planned mitigation measures.

Findings, Recommendations and Conclusions

The project will have moderate environmental impacts during construction and operation periods. With

appropriate mitigation referred to in the ESIA and EMF, particularly during the construction phase of the project, none of the impacts referred to in the ESIA will be significant. Construction of the Center-West corridor will bring social and economic benefits for the population living along the alignment. High quality, safe and accessible under any weather conditions road will allow efficient transport of goods produced in China, Kazakhstan, Russia, and also in Europe and other Central Asia countries. Agricultural products (key economic sector of this region), grown within this area and other locally produced commodities could be delivered to larger markets. Workforce will gain mobility. Tourism, although not developed yet, is important for the communities leaving along the corridor. The new roads will provide additional incentive for development of existing and new tourism products. There will be also more opportunities for new jobs and business development. Population of Akmola, Kostanai and Aktobe Regions will benefit from shorter travel time to other cities and regions, located in central and western areas of Kazakhstan.

1. INTRODUCTION

Astana – Arkalyk -Togay –Irgiz-Shalkar Road section of the Center -West Road Project" has a length of 1014 km, is the reconstruction of the existing road within the existing right of way, and it will be built about 94 kilometres of the second carriageway of the designed 4-lane road to the village Zhanteke, and the next 800km to the village Irgiz will be 2 lane road. The project crosses a variety of landscapes and types of land use, and (micro) climatic zones.

The project road goes through the territory of Akmola, Kostany and Aktobe regions. The project consists of three administratively separated areas, with stretching of 364km in the Aqmola region, 420 km in the Kostanai region and 110 km in the Aktobe region. This is a large and significant project with potential environmental and social impact.

The Government of Kazakhstan has requested the World Bank to provide funding for Astana – Arkalyk - Togay –Irgiz-Shalkar Road with length of 1014 km that is the part of Center-West Corridor, connecting Astana with Shalkar in order to reach the following:

- Lower vehicle operating costs;
- Lower travel times;
- Greater access to markets and job opportunities;
- Creating economic opportunities; etc.

In accordance with the requirements of the Government of Kazakhstan an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will be carried out for approval of the detailed design by the State Expertise. This EISA was conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Code of Republic of Kazakhstan (RK) and other applicable legal and regulatory guidance documents concerning environmental issues and environmental safety. The content and composition of the EISA meets the requirements of "Guidelines for the Assessment of Designed Economic and Other Activities on the Environment in Developing planning, design and project documentation, as approved by the Order of the Minister of Environment of the Republic of Kazakhstan" dd 28 "June 2007 No. 204 - π ".

In accordance with the World Bank requirements and operational procedures this road corridor section has been defined as a Category A project because the project physical scales are significant. Therefore, EISA report is necessary in accordance with World Bank Operational Procedures (Environmental Assessment OP 4.01). Accordingly, the ESIA report structure has been prepared as suggested by World Bank's operational policies and related guidelines. This work has been carried out by the Environmental Team of "KazdorNII" JSC, Astana branch along with appointed Sub-Consultant of "SAEN Engineering Group" LLP in accordance with the specification agreed with the Committee for Roads.

This ESIA report covers the section from Astana to Shalkar village of the Center-West Road Corridor.

The purpose of ESIA is to identify the environmental and social impacts of the reconstruction and construction of proposed road. This report includes the following main sections:

- Project Description
- Analysis of Alternatives
- Policy and Administrative Framework
- Environmental and social baseline data
- Potential environmental and social impacts of the project
- Impact mitigation measures on environment and society
- Environmental Management Plan
- Institutional responsibilities
- Disclosure and consultations, processing of complaints

The ESIA has been prepared by «KazdorNII» JSC in association with «SAEN Engineering Group» as a part of consulting services for the Center - West Corridor and is based on the requirements of Kazakhstan legislation and World Bank Safeguard Policies.

The purpose of the ESIA is to define the baseline environmental conditions in order to identify and assess the impacts of the various activities of the proposed project. This project is currently at the stage of feasibility study and detailed design. It has not been subject to site-specific EIA yet. The ESIA contains Environmental and Social Management Framework in the form of generic EMP and Environmental Monitoring Plan which should be followed during the detailed design and preparation of site-specific Environmental Impact Assessments and Environmental Management Plans (EMPs).

The ESIA methodology includes the analysis of available baseline data (annual reports on state of environment, social-economic analysis of project region, geospatial data, expert interviews), overview of applicable environmental legislation analysis of alternatives, and discussion of mitigation measures to avoid and minimize potential negative impacts. It includes monitoring plan to assess whether mitigation is properly implemented and results in anticipated positive effects. Also, during the preparation of the ESIA consultations were held with experts from the Ministry of Transport of Investment and Development, relevant Regional Administrations, representatives of the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan, professional interest groups (e.g. "Turgay Discovery"), Regional Departments of Environment, Water, etc. of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Potential environmental impacts have been assessed according to the World Bank policy and the Kazakh environmental legislation.

In addition, institutional aspects have been taken into consideration.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 General information

Road section "Astana-Arkalyk-Torgai-Irgiz-Shalkar" with length of 1014 km is a part of the Center-West Road Corridor project that passes through Akmola, Kostanai and Aktobe regions. The road connects the Center, e.g. Astana with the West of Kazakhstan. The Center West project's goal is to provide a separate corridor route through Western China, Kazakhstan and Russia in any weather conditions. This corridor will increase the economic benefits, will significantly improve the flow of goods and tourists, and improve the social bond between China, Russia and Kazakhstan.



Map of the Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgyz-Shalkar road section is shown below in green:

Figure 2.1 Map of the Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz-Shalkar road section of Center-West project

Construction of Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz-Shalkar road section as a part of Center-West Road Corridor Project includes reconstruction, modernization and new construction of about 94 kilometers of four-lane road to Zhanteke village, about 800 km of 2-lane road to Irgiz village. The project passes through various landscapes, types of land use, and (micro) climatic zones. The alignment passes through Tselinograd, Korgalzhyn, Egindykol, Atbasar, Zharkaiyn districts of Akmola oblast, Arkalyk town, Amangeldy, Zhangeldy districts of Kostanai oblast and Irgiz, Shalkar districts of Aktobe oblast. The total length is about 1014 km. Chosen photos of road section are in Appendix 5 of this report.

This project is quite large and significant, which will have environmental and social impacts; it shall be required land acquisition for road widening along the existing route, as well as by-passes. All of these sections will be determined after the completion of the detailed design. The above effects - are specific to a particular section; some effects, such as land acquisition for the new lane road and by-passes are irreversible; but in most cases it will be developed mitigation measures. With the introduction of the Environmental Action Plan (EAP), and compliance with the requirements of the Environmental Code of Kazakhstan the project's impact on the environment would be negligible.

2.2 PROJECT SPECIFICATION

Key features of the projected road:

- Road category − 2;
- Length 1014 km;
- Grading width 15 m;
- Number of traffic lanes -2;
- Roadway width 7.50 m
- Maximum width of way 50 m;
- Maximum rated speed 120 km/h;
- Estimated average speed −80 km/h;
- Bridges and overpasses- will be determined upon detailed design of the each road section
- Culverts- will be determined upon detailed design of the each road section
- Rest areas will be determined upon detailed design of the each road section
- Type of pavement and the type of coverage asphalt concrete.

Estimated construction period: 3 years (36 months).

Construction works include:

- Site clearance and preparation;
- Establishment and operation of borrow pits;
- Construction and operation of camps, depots and workshops
- Construction of embankment:
- Construction of roadbed;
- Construction of road pavement;
- Construction of junctions and crossings;
- Construction of bridges and overpasses;
- Installation of traffic signs and fences;
- The application of road markings;
- Construction of drainage channels for the roadway and the bridges

The project maps in each area are shown in chapters for road sections below:

2.3 ROAD SECTION 1 – AKMOLA OBLAST

Section 1 (19km – 364 km): This section of the road will pass through the existing Korgalzhyn route. By administrative division the road section will go through the territory of 5 districts of Aqmola region: Tselinograd district - between the villages of Akmola, Otemis, Orazak, Korgalzhyn District - Sabyndy, Karaegin, Kargaly, Zhanteke, Egindykolsky district - Egindykol, Toganas, Burevestnik, Korzhynkol, Baumanskoe, Atbasar district - Sochi, Sepe and through Zharkayyn district- Shalgay and Shoiyndykol. The length ofroad sectionsby districtis given below:

- <u>Tselinograd district</u> –62 km<u>.</u>
- Korgalzhyn district 32 km.
- Egindikol district –135 km.
- Atbasar district –106 km.
- Zharkayin district –71 km.

The designed route on this road section will be reconstructed on the existing road, expanding the existing right of way(about 10% of the route). It is also designed to build a new right of way (about 80%) on the existing grade road and (about 10%) of the new right of way on the off-road. Map of the road section is shown below in Figure 2.3 with dark-red line.



Figure 2.3 The road section in Akmola oblast

Tselinograd district. Road section begins on the Astana - Korgalzhyn route from 19km off the post of Astana. Projected road will be followed along the existing national route Astana-Korgalzhyn, the length of road on the Tselinograd district is 62km (from19km to 81km).

Korgalzhyn district. Road section from 81 km to 113km will pass through the territory of Korgalzhyn region. The route will pass along the village Zhanteke, at a distance of 25-30km from the Korgalzhyn nature protected area located in the Korgalzhyn district of Aqmola region. The impact on protected or rare and endangered species is not expected.

Egindykol district. The projected route from 113km to 248 km will pass through the territory of Egindikol district on the old graded road. The road was built in the 60s of the last century. The road condition is unsatisfied. There are several culverts on the existing graded passing through the territory of the region. During spring floods, it cannot cope with its function. Every year during the flood period, water overflow through the pavement, thus wash away and damage the road.

Atbasar district. The project route from 248 km to 354 km will pass the territory of the Atbasar district along the old graded road. The road condition is less than satisfactory. The old graded road is unsatisfactory. The inhabitants of the district have to drive across country. About 30% of the project route will be followed the old graded road, and the remaining 70% across country.

Zharkayin district. The project route from 354 km to 435 km passes through the territory of the Zharkayin district. New road of about 42 km will be passed along the old graded road and about 29 km across the field roads. The project route will be passed through the farmland. It is basically an area of arable lands, pastures and haylands.

2.4 ROAD SECTION 2 – KOSTANAY REGION

Section 2 (km 435 –km 803): This road section will pass on the existing road (about 272 km), on the old graded road (about 75 km), and (about 21 km) across country. According to the administrative division the designed road section starts from the border of Kostanay region, will pass through the northern bypass of Arkalyk, then from Arkalyk on the existing route crossing the villages of Tasty, Amantogay, Karasu, Baigabyl, Kumkeshu, Amangeldy, Turgay, from the village Akshyganak in Zhangeldy district of Kostanai region across the country to the border of Aktobe region, Irgyz district partially across the country. The route crosses different areas, regions, climate zones, lands and plots. The road section map is represented on the figure 2.4 with the dark-red line below:



Figure 2.4 The road section in Kostanay region

The project road begins on the border of Kostanay region. The total length of the project road section in the territory of Arkalyk is about 38 km. About 234 km of the road section through Amangeldy and Zhangeldy districts will be laid on the existing road (from 473 km to 707 km). Condition of the road is satisfactory. In some sections where maintenance works were conducted using budget funds, the condition of the road is good. From 707 km to 782 km, about 75 km, the new road will be laid on the graded road, the road condition is unsatisfactory and in some parts it is completely destroyed and can be reached only by a field alignments. In autumn, winter and spring it is impossible to travel on these roads. There is no existing road between km 782 and km 803 . You can travel across these field roads only in warm and dry season.

The designed route will be reconstructed on the existing road by widening of the existing right of way (about 70% of all route), partially construction of the new right of way (about 19%) on the existing graded road and construction of the new right of way across the country (about 11%).

During the development of this section, some areas that should be bypassed were identified. At the entrance to the city of Arkalykthere might be a necessity to bypass it from the north side, as if the road will be followed along the existing route which may affect the existing engineering and communication systems and residential areas of village Rodina and Zapadny, which are the social-economic part of the city.

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From 449 km to 479 km project route will be followed on the existing road of regional significance «Arkalyk-Turgay». The capital repair of this road section was conducted in 2011-2012 years using budget funds. The road plan is not a preserved area.

The designed road in Arkalyk is at distance of 140 km from the nature reserve "Altyn-Dala".

From 473 km to 608 km the designed road will pass through the Amangeldydistrict. On the territory of Amangedin and Zhangeldy districts there is the nature reserve "Altyn-Dala", which is 75-80 km far from the designed road in Amangedin and 50-60 km in Zhangeldy district.

From 608 km to 803 km, about 195 km of the designed route will pass through the *Zhangeldy region*. On the territory of Zhangeldy district 97 km of road section will pass through the road of regional importance Arkalyk-Turgay starting from the village Tokanay to village Turgay. This stretch of road is fully asphalted, 97 nos. culverts were installed, there are no bridges, and the road needs a capital repair. The road of district importance Turgay - Shegen – Akshyganak is a graded road with a length of 71 km, there are no bridges, 21 culverts have been installed. It is an access to the western region of Kazakhstan, borders with districts of Aktobe region. The terrain in Zhangeldy region is mostly flat. The region is part of the Turgay trough, north to a small part of Turgay plateau along the river Turgay there are areas of sand dunes.

The designed route will be mainly laid through the lands for pasture and hay lands. In this area, along the road there are no buildings.

2.5 ROAD SECTION 3 – AKTOBE REGION

Section 3 (803 km –1033 km): 71 km of this road section passes on the local old earth road and about 48 km will pass across the country. According to the administrative division project road section extends from the border of Zhangeldy area in Kostanai region through Nura, Mamyr and Duken villages, as well as it passes through Irgiz village, located in Irgiz district and to Shalkar town of Shalkar district of Aktobe oblast.

The proposed road in Aktobe oblast includes the widening of the existing graded road (about 60% of all route) and the construction of the new right of way across the country (about 40%). Irgiz district is located in the southeast of the Aktobe region. The district center Irgiz is at a distance of 450 km from Aktobe. Through the territory of the district in 23 kilometres from the district center there is a route Western Europe-Western China. The road section map of Center-West corridor in Aktobe region is represented below.

Along the existing route at km 35 from Irgiz village about 90 km of the designed road will pass at a distance of 40-50 km from the territory of Irgiz-Turgai State Nature Reserve.

Shalkar region is located in south-east part of Aktobe oblast near lake Shalkar.

The designed route will go through the farmland. Animal husbandry is the main economic activity in the region. There are no buildings and private properties along the alignment.



Figure 2.5 The road section in Aktobe region

2.6. RIVERS AND BRIDGES

The road passes through the territory with sparse network of river and crosses several rivers. Due to the fact that the detailed design for the construction of the road is on a development stage, this section provides only data on existing bridges. Data on designed bridge will be known after the completion of the detailed design, and design solutions for the bridges will be included in an updated ESIA and site-specific EMPs. Based on data obtained from local akimats, below are the rivers and the main technical characteristics of the existing bridge, located on the project plan for passing the road.

ROAD SECTION 1 – AKMOLA OBLAST

There are the rivers Ishim and the Nura on the territory of the Tselinograd district, rivers are one of the great waterways of the country, but with a project road, it will not overlap. The rivers Kozykosh, Karasu and Mukyr are crosses with road. Kozykosh river is the left tributary of the Ishim of length of 40 km. The only river in Kazakhstan, which connects the two great rivers - the Nura and Ishim. It starts on the right bank of Nura, flows into Ishim near the Talapker village.

There are the following existing bridges in the territory of the Tselinograd district on the route. In this section at 56.8 km road crosses the 1 bridge for the passage of the melt water. Also at 62.9 km there is a bridge for the passage of the melt water throughout the site mostly in disrepair, bridges worked their resources and do not provide the pass of melt water during flood periods. Existing bridges on the stretch of road in the Akmola region are shown in Table 2.6.1.

No.	River name	Length, m	Surface	Location and notes
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bridge over Kozykosh river	20	asphalt/concrete	21 km of Astana -Korgalzhyn, built in 1966, Dimensions - H 7.0+2x 1,0
2	Bridge over Karasu river	60	asphalt/concrete	23 kmof Astana -Korgalzhyn built in 1966 Dimensions- H 8.0+2x 1,0
3	Bridge over Mukyr river	50	asphalt/concrete	24 kmofAstana -Korgalzhyn built in 1968 Dimensions- H 8.0+2x 1,0
4	Bridge over Shortanbay river	30	Concrete plates and gravel	324 km of road, is in 4 km from v. Sochinskiy built in 1978, width of 8-10m.

ROAD SECTION 2 – KOSTANAY REGION

There is the largest river Turgai on region territory. Plan of the route does not cross a river Turgai, but passes through the river Tasty and Karynsaldy. Karynsaldy river flowing in the eastern part of the land, has the nature of the wastewater is only in the flood period.

Based on data obtained from the local akimats, existing bridges are located on the stretch of road in the Kostanai region are shown in Table 2.6.2 below.

Table 2.6.2 Bridges on road section 2

River name	Length, m	Surface	Location andnote
2	3	4	5
Bridge over the rail road	44,0	asphalt/concrete	built in 1975, passes over the rail road in between the village of Rodina and West districts.
Bridge over the Tasty river	85,0	asphalt/concrete	67 km of Arkalyk-Turgay, built in 1961- 1963, capital repair in 2011
Bridge over the Karynsaldy river	136,0	asphalt/concrete	88 km of Arkalyk-Turgay, built in 1961- 1963, capital repair in 2013

ROAD SECTION 3 – AKTOBE REGION

The main watercourse is the river Irgiz (length of 539 km), Telkara and Turgai. The river valleys of the main rivers are wide. Irgiz river is a transboundary river. At low flat spaces there are many small lakes, especially a lot of them in the lower flows of rivers, in Irgiz-Olkeyekskiy interfluves. Based on the data received from the local government offices it become known that in this sector the projected alignment will cross the existing bridges over the river Irgiz and Jaman-Telkara. The bridges on the road section 3 passing through the territory of Aktobe region are shown in Table 2.6.3

Table 2.6.3. Bridges on road section 3

River name	Length, m	Surface	Location
1	2	3	4
Irgiz	90,7	a/c	0+421 kmof"Irgiz –Nura" road
Jaman-Telkara	24,65	a/c	34+138 km"Irgiz –Nura" road

Irgiz District Akimat of Aktobe provided the following Technical Data Sheets for bridges that cross the rivers Irgiz and Jaman-Telkara, they are listed below.

Technical Data Sheet for bridge №1 bridge over Irgiz river

1. General

Road:		KD-IR-154 "Irgiz –Nura"	
Bridge location (cross-o	ver), km	0+421	
Nearest settlement, km		v. Irgiz	
Name of barrier		r. Irgiz	
State of barrier, (under,	over)	under	
Angle of construction sl	at, degree	0	
Radius of curve		_	
Bridge layout	Before widening	5×18,0m	
	After widening		
Bridge length	Before widening	90,7m	
	After widening		
Dimension of bridge, m	Before widening	6,7m	
	After widening		
Underbridge dimension, m			
Width of path, m		2×0,75 m	
Width of divider, m		no	
Design work loaf	Before widening	A11,HK80,pedestrian	
	After widening		
Year of	Building	-	
	Repair	-	
	Last inspection	-	
Presence of	Design	on	
documentation	Control	on	
	Operating	on	

Operating entity	_

Technical Data Sheet for bridge 2 bridge over Jaman-Telkara river

1. General data

Road:		KD-IR-154 "Irgiz –Nura"
Bridge location (cross-o	over), km	34+138
Nearest settlement, km	,,	Kolalykol v.
Name of barrier		Jaman-Telkara river
State of barrier, (under,	over)	under
Angle of construction sl		0
Radius of curve		-
Bridge layout	Before widening	4×6,0m
	After widening	
Bridge length	Before widening	24,65
	After widening	
Dimension of bridge, m	Before widening	7,8m
	After widening	
Underbridge dimension	, m	
Width ofpath, m		2×0,75 m
Width ofdivider, m		no
Design work loaf	Before widening	H30,HK80,pedestrian
	After widening	
Year of	Building	-
	Repair	_
	Last inspection	_
Presence of Design		no
documentation	Control	no
Operating		no
Operating entity	1 - 5	-

2.7. QUARRIES AND BORROW PITS

Natural sources of inert materials suitable for road construction are available in sufficient quantities in the regions of the road passing. Location of the existing licensed quarries on each road section is determined by the designers.

Direct extraction of materials from the river beds is not permitted and is not approved by the Committee on Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture of RK. Usually the quarries are not allowed to create at least 500 meters from any river.

For all of the proposed quarries the approvals and permits from the various competent authorities, including the inter-regional commission are required. The owner / operator should develop a project of EIA. When the contractor will submit the application, he should attach the EIA with all the documents and expert's conclusions at the Regional Department of Environmental Protection to obtain emission permits. The final approval process includes a requirement that the quarrying fertile layer to be restored after the closure of the quarry. The overall process of approval and negotiation for a new quarry on the regional and district competent authorities may take up to 2 years. Therefore, contractors are likely will be use existing quarries with the existing permissions. Permits from authorities for the protection of water resources are not needed, but the EIA should describe the impact on surface water and groundwater.

Several existent quarries were identified. They are presented in the tables 2.7.1, 2.7.2. They are not a part of the approved project, the final decision on a quarry choice is up to the Contractor. Possibly, additional new quarries are necessary.

Table 2.7.1 Quarries in Road section 1 of Akmola region

No.	Name	Material	Status	Distance from the road, km
1	Quarry №1	Sand	Existing	1 km from the route Astana- Korgalzhyn
2	Quarry №2-6	Rubble stone	No legal status	Along the road Atbasar- Novomarinovka-Sochinskoe, after turn-off to the v.Sepe along the road at a distance of 3 km.
3	Quarry №7	Rubble stone	No legal status	At a distance of 2 km to the north of v.Sepe
4	Quarry №8	Rubble stone	No legal status	At a distance of 5 km to the east from v.Sochinskoe

Table 2.7.2 Quarries in Road section 2 in Kostanay region

No.	Name	Material	Status	Distance from the road, km
1	Quarry «Akzhar»	Construction stone	Existing	In 24 km to the southwest from train station Arkalyk
2	Quarry «Archalinskoe»	Sand	Existing	In 40 km to the northwest from train station Arkalyk
3	Quarry «Angarskoe»	Ceramic clay	Existing	In 19 km to the southwest from train station Arkalyk
4	Quarry «Tastinskoe»	Sand and gravel sand mix	Existing	In 40 km to the northwest from train station Arkalyk
5	Quarry «Arkalykskoe»	Loamy brick	Existing	In 36 km to the southwest from train station Arkalyk
6	Quarry «Rodina»	Loamy brick	Existing	In 7 km to the northwest from train station Arkalyk
7	Quarry «Kovylnoe»	Sand	Existing	In 24 km to the southwest from train stationArkalyk
8	Quarry		Existing	In 100 m from the road Arkalyk-

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	Construction sand	Turgay

There are no quarries on the road section 3 according to preliminary data.

During the survey the design area will be surveyed for the presence of soils suitable for use in the construction of roadbed and road data on reserves of soil will be given in the working design.

Whichever quarries will be used the existing roads will be used as access to the road construction site and the Contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance of public and private access roads between the quarries and construction site.

3. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

3.1 Alternatives of the alignment

Out of seven alternatives initially, three alignment alternatives were prioritized based on pre-feasibility assessment and further consultations with local administrations, citizens, and businesses (See Annex A for Route Options and B for CAREC Corridors). Alternative route options do not differ significantly in terms of potential environmental impacts. All three routes pass via Korgalzhyn, Arkalyk, and Turgay. Project

Alternative 1, total of 1267 km, continues to the West via Irgyz, Shalkar and Emba up to Kandagash and Aktobe. This alternative envisions the construction of 452 km of new road sections and rehabilitation of 692 km of roads. The Alternatives 2 and 3 are connected to the exising M-32 (Samara-Shymkent) road at Yrgyz and Karabutak respectively. They require rehabilitation of 297 km of roads, and 452 km and 583 km of new construction respectively. In all three alternatives, the highest traffic is expected at the road sections spanning from Astana to Arkalyk connecting the two economic centers. The rehabilitation and new construction of these sections will spur generation of local and regional trips due to improvement of travel conditions and enhanced connectivity. Economic analysis also takes into account generated trips between settlements along the routes and major economic centers, as well as diversion of long-distance and international traffic from an existing alternative road Astana-Atbasar-Kostanay-Karabutak-Aktobe.

Based on economic analysis of alternatives Route 1 was chosen as preferred alignment. The preferred option contributes to development of the central regions (e.g., areas around Arkalyk, Turgay, Akshiganak, Irgyz, and Shalkar).

Environmental impact in the event of project implementation

The alternative of project implementation includes widening of the existing road to 4-lane road to the village Zhanteke in the Korgalzhyn district of Akmola region. Further widening of the 2-lane road and the construction of a new road to the village Irgiz in Aktobe region. This generally means an increase in the lane of land acquisition. Environmental aspects are reduced to the impact of the work undertaken to the air and water, a large work of construction machinery, stone crushing and concrete plants, quarry work. The questions of potential negative impact are described in Section 6.

Conclusion

Both the do nothing and widening alternatives would have significantly larger adverse impacts on the environment and on the social conditions within the existing communities along the exiting road. Danger to local road users and pedestrians would increase, particular from the do nothing alternative. Danger to local road users will increase, especially at alternative of lack of implementation of the project. The selected alternative which involves proposed rehabilitation passing along the existing alignment avoids all settlements and impacts on local communities will be minimal. There will be some disturbance to agricultural activities during construction and some small long term impacts on agriculture. There are no impacts on natural habitats. Overall, it is considered that the selected alignment offers the best option from environmental perspective while encouraging better transport connectivity.

4. LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1 Overall legal Framework

Environmental protection is administered in Kazakhstan by the Ministry of Energy of the RK. This Ministry is made during reorganization of the Government of the RK in August 2014. The ministry has taken functions and responsibilities of liquidated Ministry of Oil and Gas of the RK, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Water Recourses. The Environmental Code was adopted in January 9, 2007 and is the basic legislative framework for environmental protection activity. Three main laws (the *Law on Environmental Protection*, the *Law on Ecological Expertise* and the *Law on Air Protection*) were abrogated subsequent to their integration into the Environmental Code. Moreover, some 80 normative legal acts were abrogated after the adoption of the Environmental Code.

4.2 Environmental Impact Assessment

All EIA requirements are included in the Environmental Code. The basis of EIA development is an "Instruction on conducting environmental impact assessment of designed economic activity when developing pre-planning, planning, initial project and project documentation, approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP, 28 June 2007, No.204-p".

According to the instruction there are four stages:

- 1) Review of Environmental Conditions;
- 2) Preliminary EIA;
- 3) EIA;
- 4) Section "Environmental Protection"

The first stage of the EIA "Review of Environmental Conditions" includes general characteristics of natural and socio-economic environment of the area of designed activity, analysis of main trends of practical use of the territory and defining of principal positions of EIA. This stage of the EIA is based on the conceptual design, available materials, other special literature, project description etc. The purpose of this stage is to evaluate the environmental conditions, identify key environmental issues, choose the best option available for sitting of the development, and to define scope of work for the second stage.

The Second stage of EIA "Preliminary EIA" defines potential possible changes of components of nature, socio-economic environment and its impacts. The purpose of this stage is to assess baseline environmental conditions, identify potential impacts, and design mitigation measures to offset such impacts, which is then included as a chapter into feasibility study of the project. The results of this stage should be included in feasibility study of the project. All materials supporting decision-making on regulatory requirements (EIA study and statement, minutes of public hearings, permit applications and other supporting documents) must be reviewed by competent environmental authorities within a procedure known as "ecological expertise". Ecological expertise (EE) is conducted by Ministry of Energy for projects of the I environmental category and by its territorial subdivisions for II and III categories, and from 2007 by local bodies (territorial subdivision on environmental safety) for IV category of the enterprise. Recourse to external experts can be made but they play only a consultative role. Services provided by these experts are paid by project developers, and the so-called public expertise may be conducted by independent experts. However, the final documents (expert opinions and permits) are not available to the general public and, sometimes, even to field inspectors.

According to Article 36 of the Environmental Code, "Development of Environmental Impact, assessment is obligatory for all types of activities that can have a direct or indirect impact on the environment or health of the people". The procedure on public hearings is regulated by the 2007 ministerial order on Rules for carrying out public hearings. EIA and SEE (State Environmental Expertise) are two interconnected procedures. The developer has to conduct an EIA, which is being carried out by accredited private companies for the first category of objects, and is in charge of preparing the EIA report as part of the

detailed design of the road section. The EIA procedure is a two-phase process: the proper EIA and then SEE. Once the EIA is approved, the developer should apply to the SEE. The competent authority checks the `consistency and the quality of documents, prepares own evaluation and returns to the developer. The evaluation takes into account the opinions and views expressed by the public and other authorities which have participated in the process. The EIA procedure is performed before the permitting procedure and the developer has to attach the EIA report and the competent authority`s statement together with the permit application. EIA procedure takes about two months and SEE up to three months. A post-project analysis by the authorities is mandatory and is carried out one year after the construction is completed. Experiences in other IFIs, financed projects in the country, shows that, the authorities, are proactive and compliant with regulations in their oversight of the projects with potential significant environmental aspects.

It is forbidden to implement the projects for economic and activities or to finance it by banks and other financial institutions without a positive resolution of the state ecological examination. The positive conclusion of state ecological expertise that is given to the project is generally valid for ten years from the date of its issuance.

In the case of green-field projects (i.e. new facilities), environmental authorities must be consulted on land allocation despite the fact that allocation as such is done by *akimats* (sub national administration). At this stage, project developers are obliged to assess baseline environmental conditions and to present this study, together with the Declaration of Intent, for ecological expertise. The Declaration should be discussed with the general public in hearings organized for this purpose. If environmental expert evaluation is positive, land maybe allocated according to the project design.

A "preliminary" EIA is required at the feasibility study stage in order to make assessment of technological solutions. For a large-scale project, field prospecting should be conducted at this stage. Impacts should be estimated but precise emission calculations are not expected. The feasibility study, including all environmental related documentation, is then presented to the EE. This EE is carried out by Ministry of Energy staff at the national or local level, depending on the importance of the project.

An approved "preliminary" EIA is a prerequisite to receive a budget for implementing the project. And as such, it may trigger a "yes or no" decision on the project feasibility. The next stage implies a "full-fledged" EIA. At this stage, very detailed information is required, including calculations of emission limit values (ELVs), an emergency preparedness plan, monitoring programs for all media, etc. Again, this documentation must be presented for review by authorities. If design documentation undergoes any changes at a later stage (e.g. adjustment in the technology), the developer is required to adjust the EIA materials accordingly. Such adjustments require review by authorities as well.

Finally, a "post-construction" EIA must be carried out for large projects with capital investments of over \$50 million one year after the operation of the road starts. This is done to confirm the environmental safety of the economic activity and to correct the plan of environmental protection measures during operation.

Public hearings are required at all stages of ESIA. Minutes from these hearings are part of the ESIA documentation. Although the 1st public hearings` conducted and quality may not yet correspond to good international practice as promoted by international protocol (e.g. Aarhus convention) their wide application helps to advance the principle of public participation in Kazakhstan and to take root not only in procedural guidance but also in real practice. Second public hearing will be organized to meet the requirements for Category 1 projects.

Table 4-1 Legislation and Regulations Governing the EIA Process

Name of Law	Date and number of registration
Methodology for Determining Emissions Standards	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
to the Environment	21 May 2007, No. 158-p.
"Instruction on Conducting Environmental Impact	Approved by the Order of the Minister MEP,
Assessment of Designed Economic Activity when	28 June 2007, No. 204-p"
Developing Pre-planning, Planning, Initial project	_

documentation,	
The Amendments to the Order of the Minister of	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
Environment Protection of Republic of Kazakhstan	20 March 2008, No.62-p".
on Approval of "Instruction on Conducting	
Environmental Impact Assessment of Designed	
Economic Activity when Developing Pre-planning,	
Planning, Initial project and Project documentation"	
Regulations on Conducting State Ecological	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
Expertise.	28 June 2007, No.207-p".
The Amendments to the Order of the Minister of	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
Environment Protection of Republic of Kazakhstan	9 October 2007, No.296-p".
on Approval of Regulations on Conducting State	
Ecological Expertise	
Rules for Conducting Public Hearings	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
	7 May 2007, No.135-p".
Instructions for Qualifying Requirements to	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
Licensed Activity on Environmental Design,	21 October 2003, No.239-p".
Regulation and Development of Environmental	
Impact Assessment	
Methodological Guidelines to the Licensed Activity	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
on Environmental Design, Regulation and	10 February 2005, No.51-p".
Development of Environmental Impact Assessment	
Final Environmental Supervision Experts Opinion	Approved by the Order of the Minister of MEP,
on Definite Types of Licensed Works and Services	1 July 2004, No.192-p".
The Rules for Licensing and Qualification	Approved by the Order of the Government of
Requirements to Work Implementation and	Republic of Kazakhstan, 5 June 2007, No.457-p".
Delivery of Services in the Field of Environmental	
Protection	0 January 2007 Na 212 m²
Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan	9 January 2007, No.212-p".
Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On	9 January 2007, No.213-p".
Amendments and Additions to Some Legislative	
Acts of Kazakhstan on Environmental Issues"	7 June 2007 No. 250 m"
Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Ratification	7 June 2007, No. 259-p".
of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic	
Pollutants"	The Order of the Dresident of DV 14 Newschool
The Concept of Transition to Sustainable	The Order of the President of RK, 14 November
Development for 2007-2009 (Action Plan)	2006, No. 216-p".
The Concept of Environmental Security of the	The Order of the President of RK, 3 December
Republic of Kazakhstan for 2004-2015	2003, No. 1241

4.3 TRANSPORT LAW

The Law of Republic of Kazakhstan 'On the road' dated 17 July 2001 laid out the basic legal, economic and organizational principles of governance roads in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Road Law covers all aspects of the development and use of roads including design, engineering, traffic requirements and dimensions and providing land.

The size of the right of way for projected roads for common use depends on the road category and it is set under the rules of allotment of land for roads of public use. So, for road of I technical categories -35 meters from the roads axis, for roads of II technical categories -20 meters, for roads of III technical categories -15 meters, for roads of IV technical categories -13 meters, for roads of V technical categories -12 meters. Road right of way lands are in the possession and use of road authorities or concessionaries, and are intended only for the development, improvement of roads and location of road services.

4.4 AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

The standards for air quality establish the permissible limit of the content of harmful substances both in industrial areas and in residential areas. The main terms and definitions related with the atmospheric air contamination, monitoring programs, behaviour of pollutants in the atmospheric air determined by the GOST 17.2.1.03-84; Environmental Protection, Atmospheric Air' Terms and Definitions for Contamination Control.

The regulatory document containing information on harmful substances in the atmospheric air is the "Sanitary and Epidemiological requirements for the Atmospheric Air Quality" approved by the Order of the RK Government № 168 dd 25.01.2012.

The emission of hazardous substances (pollutants) in the atmospheric air by the stationary source is allowed only on the basis of the permit issued by the authorized state body in the field of atmospheric air protection or its territorial subdivisions in the manner established by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The emission permit is issued on the basis of the data provided by the applicant (the developer) and covers emissions only from stationary sources. But emissions from the mobile sources, such as individual vehicles are not covered by the permit. The procedure for emission permits issuance for operation of the motor vehicles or other transport facilities is defined by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

All motor vehicles of any type (including buses and trucks) are required to pass an annual roadworthy test, which also includes emission test and they shall comply with the requirements of regulations as follow below.

Table 4-2 Air Quality Legislation

Instruction on Agreement and Approval of the Design of the Maximum Permissible Emission (MPE) and Maximum Permissible Discharges (MPD)	The Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection of the RK No.61-Π dd24.01.2004
Collected Book of Methods for Calculation of the Atmospheric Air Pollution by Different Types of Production	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources 01.12.96. Included in the list of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No 324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Inventory rules for Emissions of the Hazardous substances (Pollutants), harmful Physical Effects on the Atmospheric Air and Their Sources	The Order of the ministry for Environmental Protection of the RK No.217-π dd. August 4,2005
The procedure of Calculation of the Hazardous Substances Concentrations Containing in the Atmospheric Discharges of the Enterprises.	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources dd 01.08.1997.
Guiding normative document 211.2.01.01-97	Included in the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No 324-π dd October 27, 2006
The procedure of Calculation of the Hazardous Substances Concentrations Containing in the Atmospheric Discharges of the Enterprises	Approved by the Order of Minister of environmental Protection No.100-n dd April 18,2008 (Attachment 18)
Recommendations on Execution and Content of the Design Standards of the Maximum	The Orders of the Minister of Ecology and Bio resources of the Road August 1, 1997 and Order of the

Permissible Emissions (MPE) in the Atmospheric Air made by the Enterprises of the	Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the RK No. 156 dd 06.07.2001
Republic of Kazakhstan. Guiding normative document 211.02.02-97	Included the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
Instruction on the Normalization of the Emission of contaminants in to the Atmosphere of the Republic of Kazakhstan	The Order of the Ministry of natural resources and environmental protection of the RK No.516-n dd 21.12.0
	Included the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection <i>No.324-n dd October 27</i> , 2006
The Calculation Procedure of Motor Vehicles Emissions for Carrying Out of the Summary Calculations of Atmospheric Pollution	The Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection of the RK No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
Guiding normative document 211.2.02.07-2004	Included in the List of current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Calculation Procedures of the Specific Emissions of the Atmospheric Pollutants and Damage Depending on the Type of Fuel Used in	The Order of the Ministry for Ecological and Bio resources of the Road 09.07.97.
the Republic of Kazakhstan Guiding Normative Document 211.3.02.01-97	Included in the List of current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The procedure of Calculation of Discharge (Emissions) of Contaminants into the Atmosphere Caused by the Motor Transport enterprises	Approved by the Order of the Minister of Environmental Protection No.100-n dd April 18, 2008 (Attachment 3)
The Rules of Governmental Accounting of the Sources of Greenhouse Gases Emission into Atmosphere and Consumption of Ozone-destroying Substances	The Governmental Decree No 124 dd February 8, 2008
The Rules of Restriction, Stoppage or Decrease of the Greenhouse Gases Emissions into Atmosphere	The Governmental Decree No.128 dd February 11,2008

4.5 WATER QUALITY LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS

The main legislative act in the field of water resources protection and its use is the Water Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan No.481 dated July 09, 2003. According to the definition provided in this document "Protection of water resources" is an activity aimed at preservation, rehabilitation and reproduction of water bodies as well as prevention of water from detrimental effect.

I. According to Article 112 of the Water Code water resources should be protected from:

- natural and industrial pollution by hazardous chemical and toxic substances and their compounds, as well as thermal, bacterial, radiation and other types of pollution;
- infestation (blockage) with hard, non-soluble subjects, production and household and other wastes;

- depletion.
- II. Water resources should be protected to prevent:
 - disturbance of the environmental stability of the natural systems;
 - causing harm to the lives and health of population;
 - reduction of fishery resources and other water fauna;
 - deterioration of the water supply conditions;
 - weakening of the natural self-reproduction and cleansing functions of the water bodies;
 - other unfavourable conditions that negatively affect physical, chemical and biological qualities of water bodies.

III. Protection of water resources is carried out through:

- demands related to the protection of water bodies to all water users who use water for any purpose;
- improving and applying water protective activities/ measures with the help of new equipment and environmentally and epidemiologically safe technologies;
- water conservation zones and sanitary protection zones for protection of public (drinking) water supply sources;
- public (state) and other forms of control over the use and protection of the water bodies;
- sanctions for non-observance of the water protection requirements.
- IV. Central and local execution authorities of the regions (cities of republican status, capitals), in accordance with the legislation of Republic of Kazakhstan, take measures in compliance with the principles of sustainable development towards water resources conversation, prevention of pollution and blockage.
- V. Physical and legal entities, activities of which affect the water bodies, are obliged to carry out managerial, technological, forestry, ameliorative, land treatment, hydro technical, sanitary-epidemiological and other activities, which ensure protection of water bodies from pollution, blockage and depletion.

Article 116 of the Code regulates issues related to the water protection zones: to maintain water recourses and water facilities in the status required by the hygiene and sanitary and ecological regulations; to prevent contamination, blockage and depletion of the surface water; to preserve flora and fauna water protection zones and belts are constructed.

In the development of any project that may affect the water system / resources, the project plan should be coordinated with local authorities for the protection of water resources.

In the development of the Water Code, the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan approved the regulations on the procedures to authorize the use of reservoirs for special needs, according to the procedures for issuing permits for special use of water, on procedures for the use of water for fire fighting, according to the classification of waterways, on procedures for the use of water tanks for the needs of air transport. The Government has developed a list of water resources (groundwater) that have curative value in the Republic, and bodies of water that are of particular national importance or are of special value, which limits their use is either entirely prohibited.

As standards of air, maximum permissible concentration (MPC) was developed for water. As a rule, the MPC for fishing grounds is stricter than the MPC for drinking water. It must be emphasized that this is primarily related to the fishing industry and the protection of human health is likely there has been taken into account through the principles of the protection of water ecosystems. As is the case with the atmospheric air, different codes are provided for comparing the water pollution, which take into account the presence of several pollutants. The most widely used index is the water pollution index (WPI). The main document regulating the status of surface waters and concentrations of pollutants are "Sanitary requirements for the protection of surface water pollution." SanPiN No. 3.02.003-04.

The legislative, regulatory and procedural documents applicable on water protection are listed below:

Table 4-3. Water Quality Legislation

	1
Recommendations on implementation and Content of the Design Standards of the Maximum Permissible Discharge (MPD) in the Water Bodies for the Enterprises of the Republic of Kazakhstan.	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources of the RK 1992. Included in the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
Instruction on the Normalization of the Discharge of Contaminants into the Water Bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan	The Order of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of the RK No.516-n dd 21.12.00.
Guiding normative document 211.2.03.01-97	Included in the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Calculation Procedure for Standards of Discharged Waters with Pollutants (MPD) into the Water Bodies, Disposal Fields and Relief of Land	Approved by the Order of the Minister of Environmental Protection No.100-n dd April 18, 2008 (Attachment 19)
The Procedure of Establishment of the Maximum Permissible Discharge (MPD) of the Pollutants onto the Disposal Fields and Natural Depressions of the Land. Guiding normative document 211.3.03.03-2000	The Ministry of Environmental Protection of the RK No.156-n dd 06.07.2001 Included in the List of the current regulatory legal acts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Recommendations on Control over the Operation of the Treatment Facilities and Discharge of the Wastewaters.	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources of the RKdd 21.05.94. Included in the List of the current regulatory legalacts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Rules of Surface Waters Protection in the RK Guiding normative document 01.01.03-94	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources of the RKdd 27.06.94. Included in the List of the current regulatory legalacts in the field of the environmental protection, the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Guidelines on Application of the Rules of Surface Waters Protection in the RK	The Order of the Ministry of Ecology and Bio resources of the RK dd 12.02.97. Included in the List of the current regulatory legalacts in the field of the environmental protection,

	the Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection No.324-n dd October 27, 2006
The Procedural Definitions of Norms and Standards of Water Resources Use in the Various Natural Climatic Zones of the Republic of Kazakhstan During Carrying out of the Ecological Zoning.	Approved by the Order of the Minister of Ecology and Bio resources of the RK dd 1997

4.6 SOIL STANDARDS

New sanitary rules introduced in Kazakhstan based on the long-term scientific studies - SanPiN 2.1.7.1287-03. Sanitary and Epidemiological Requirements for Quality of Soil and Subsoil establishes requirements on soils quality in the inhabited localities and agricultural lands and control the observance of the sanitary-hygienic standards during engineering, construction, renewal (technical upgrading) and operation of the facilities of different purposes, including those which may cause the adverse effect on the soils status.

The GOST 27593-88 Soils: Terms and Definitions define main terms related to the chemical contamination of soils. The basic regulatory documents for control of the soil pollution is "Standards of the Maximum Allowable Concentrations of the Hazardous Substances, Harmful Microorganisms and Other Biological Materials Being the Soil Pollutants" approved by the Order of the Ministry of Health of the RK No.99 dated 30.01.2004 and Order of the Ministry for Environmental Protection of the RK No.21Π dated 27.01.2004.

The maximum allowable concentrations (MAC) or allowable permissible concentrations (APC) of the chemical substances in soil are the principal criterion of the sanitary assessment of the soil contamination by the chemical agents. These standards are common to all types of land use. But there are some procedures for assessing soil contamination for residential and agricultural land. Determination of the maximum allowable concentrations of chemicals in the soil is based on4main principles of assessment.

4.7 NOISE STANDARDS

The level of the road traffic noise is determined according to the regulations of the SNiP (construction norms and rules) II-12-77 "Noise Protection". The limit of noise generated by the motor vehicles in the distance of two meters from the buildings in compliance with the SNiP II-12-77 is 70 dB.

The maximum allowable noise level in areas neighbouring the residential houses, rest areas of the microdistricts and residential groupings, schools, play grounds is assumed as follows:

- for noise made by the motor vehicles 10 dB
- for residential construction works- 5 dB
- for daylight time from 7 hour till 23 hour 10 dB

4.8 HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

During the works it is necessary to meet the requirements of SNiP 3.06.04-91 "Construction Safety". Also there are other regulations such as the «Safety Regulations for Construction, Repair and Maintenance of the Automobile Roads», «Regulations for Safety and Production Sanitary During the Building of the Bridges and Pipes», that should be followed strictly. During road construction works it is necessary to use the «Safety Instructions» for each construction machine.

The personal protective equipment shall comply with the applicable GOST (special aprons under the GOST 12.4.029, rubber gloves under the GOST 20010, respirator "The Petal" under the GOST 12.4.028, gloves under the GOST 12.4.010, goggles under the GOST 12.4.013 and breathing mask of B type or B with filter, helmets). The site should be kept in safe, clean and good sanitary conditions. The Contractor shall bear the

responsibility for cleanup of the site from garbage, construction waste and household rubbish and their removal to the municipal solid waste landfill (MSW). In this regard the Contractor shall be guided by the SanPiN №3.01.016.97

In addition, it is necessary to carry out regular inspection of the machinery and equipment and observance of the repair, training and instruction of the workers engaged in maintenance of the machinery, tools and equipment on safe methods and techniques of work. The protective measures with respect to the equipment are also important for prevention of injuries and accidents. Such equipment includes the following:

- motor vehicles;
- pumps, compressors;
- generators, crushing equipment;
- lifting equipment (cranes, hoists, wire ropes, loaders);
- electrical equipment.

For provision of the sanitary and living conditions for the workers it is necessary to establish a field camp; changing rooms, drying premises, wash rooms, shower rooms, warming premise for workers, dining facility with three meals daily, toilet facility, field office, rest room, machinery parking facility and household waste storage area. There shall be the information on safety, occupational health, production and household sanitary in the rest room. There shall be medicine boxes, first-aid outfit, drinking water and service water shall be kept in the separate containers, which will be provided in the construction sites and field camps. The drinking water should be located at the distance of maximum 75 m from the working area. Permits for water use should be obtained from the sanitary bodies and disease control authorities and comply with the requirements of the SanPiN of the RK No. 3.05.017.97.

It is allowed to perform works during the hours of darkness ensuring that artificial lighting is in accordance with the standards of the electric lighting for the installation and construction works. Irrespective of the lighting of the sites and working areas the machinery should be equipped with the independent (built-in) lighting of the working elements and control devices.

Fuel and chemicals should be handled according to HSE requirements. Specifically, it should be stored in the special place with the mandatory barbed wire fence. The storage area shall not be located near the water source. The filling and unloading of materials shall be strictly controlled and performed in accordance with the established procedure. To prevent any spill all valves and plugs shall be properly sealed and be protected against the undesirable interference, and be turned off and opened easily when used. The inner surface of the tanks should be clean. Measures shall be taken on preventing impact of moisture and water.

4.9 ARCHAEOLOGY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

The main legislative documents on cultural heritage are the followings:

- The Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "About Culture", dated 15.12.2006 No.207-III
- The Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Protection and Use of the Historical Cultural Heritage", dated 2.07.1992 No.1488-XII
- The Land Code of the RK, dated 20.06.2003 No.442-II

For the purpose of recording and protection the historical and cultural monuments they are divided into the following categories:

- Historical and cultural monuments of international status representing the historical, scientific, architectural, artistic and memorial objects included in the UNESCO World Heritage List;
- Historical and cultural monuments of national status representing the historical, scientific, architectural, artistic and memorial objects, having the special significance for the history and culture of the whole country;

• Historical and cultural monuments of local significance representing the historical, scientific, architectural, artistic and memorial objects, having the special significance for the history and culture of the region (city of republican status, capital), districts (centers of regions).

According to Article 39 of the Republic of Kazakhstan Law "On Protection and Use of the Historical Cultural Heritage", development and use of any allocated lands should be made only after archaeological research. Any works that may endanger the existence of monuments are prohibited. Businesses, organizations, institutions, public associations and citizens in case of detection of archaeological and other sites of historic, scientific, artistic, and other cultural value, are obliged to inform the authorized body for the protection and use of historical and cultural heritage, and stop current works.

4.10 COMPARISON OF KAZAKH AND WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

An evaluation of the national environmental protection legislation and WB procedures and its meaning for the Project is presented in this section. Much of the environmental legislation of Kazakhstan has been developed to provide control for developments and control for adverse impacts on the environment and human health. The submission of EIA for Ecological Expertise does not accord with best international practice, which includes a significant component of ongoing evaluation in an iterative process. The EIA in Kazakhstan focuses more on the calculation of emissions, for which charges are levied and is weak on relevant analysis of avoiding or mitigating impacts. Data collection often cannot ensure full picture of the EIA goal and the project.

Public hearings are part of the EIA, and so in June 2015 in the course of environmental studies of KazdorNII and SAEN Engineering Group held public hearings in towns along the route plan. The first public hearings were held on 9-12 June and 29 June 2015 in 5 districts of Aqmola region, Tselinorgrad, Korgalzhyn, Egindikol, Atbasar and Zharkayin districts, in Kostanay region, in Arkalyk, Amangeldy and Zhangeldi district, and also in Irgiz and Shalkar districts of Aktobe region. In June 29th, 2015 the repeat public hearings were held on the project with the participation of representatives of the Customer KazAutoZhol JSC, designers, representatives of the PMC, the heads of local executive bodies and representatives of farms, and local residents.

Comprehensively discussed this situation with representatives of the local authorities, it was decided to recall a public hearings in the settlements along the road. The next hearings on the EIA decision will be held in 30 days after the publication of the EIA draft. Changes made as a result of these public hearings will be included in the final version of the EIA. Preliminary public hearings were held successfully. General designers presented materials of a project road section, including, information on the main indicators, the map of project road section with the indication of junction and cattle crossing locations, and also information on the land plots getting to a zone of construction of the route with the indication of the area required for temporary and permanent land acquisition. According to the regular hearing optimum location for underpasses and junctions will be scheduled. The Minutes of these hearings are presented in the Appendix 2.

Routine procedures in Kazakhstan are not always adapted for monitoring during the project construction. For example, the Regional Department of Ecology should apply to the prosecutor's office to conduct an audit, and can do this only once a year, with the notification of the organization for 2 weeks prior to the audit. The content of environmental protection plans includes only the description of the overall mitigation and monitoring of impacts, without information on the place and the responsible people, focusing on references to regulations and standards, and of little use for contractors.

Standards are used as thresholds above which pollution is permitted so long as payments are made.

Overall, there are several governmental and public organizations involved in environmental protection. These include the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources. There are special institutions in Kazakhstan such as the State Environment Expertise and several environmental non-governmental organizations.

Table 4.10 shows a comparison of the legislation

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Table 4.10. Comparison of Kazakhstan EIA and Environmental legislation with World Bank Standards \end{tabular}$

EIA stage	Kazakhstan	WB
Reference	RK 2007. Ecological Code, Ministry of Environmental Protection Order 204-п, 28 June 2007: "The Instruction of Conducting the Environmental Impact Assessment during the preliminary planning, planning, preliminary design and full design documentation"	World Bank Operational Policy 4.01
Basic Principles		
Most sensitive component rule	There does not appear to be a 'most sensitive' rule. The sensitivity of project is measured by the Sanitary Epidemiological (SE) classes of dangers. There are four categories and within each, one or more levels of danger, a category 1 project has two levels of severity, either trigger a full EIA. A Category 2 project is considered a 3 rd level severity and as such a lesser assessment is undertaken, although still referred to as an Environmental Assessment. A category 3 and 4 project are considered 4 th and 5 th level severity, respectively and as such generally do not require an assessment.	Projects are categorized according to the most sensitive component, e.g. if 6 of 7 components are not sensitive and one is sensitive the entire project becomes a Category A or B.
	The planning and conduct of an assessment is the duty of the proponent, in this case Automobile road committee of MOTC. MOTC often retains a licensed consultant to do this work, and frequently a member of the team undertaking the Feasibility Study. The assessment must be preceded with a scoping study, which must be approved before the EIA can begin. The EIA process has 5 stages: 1) Overview of Environmental Condition; 2) Preliminary EIA 3) EIA; 4) Chapter of Project Documentation "Environmental Protection"; 5) Post-project Analysis.	Usually EAs are required to be prepared by the country, and donors will request this. Often the proponent's EA capacity is not there or funds are scarce, or the EA prepared is incomplete or non-compliant, in which case consultants help fill the gaps, undertake new studies on behalf of the proponent or assist national specialist to fill the gaps and improve the documentation. This is a proponent focused activity, with the requirement for close collaboration and ownership. In the case of this project the existing EIA prepared by the Design Consultants have been refined and strengthened by International Consultants in accordance with World Bank OP to the Committee of Roads, Astana,
Document Preparation		When the donor funds are used to prepare IEEs, SiEA and EIAon behalf of the country, these documents are always the country's documents, and as such must be

EIA stage	Kazakhstan	WB
		presented as if the country were preparing them. Where consultant recommendations are included, this must be made clear. Summaries of the IEEs and EIAs often contain review and comments by the donors or the donor's consultants on behalf of the Banks
Document Ownership	Category 1 projects are assessed by the MOEP in Astana, Category 2 and 3 by the Oblast or Regional Environment Department, and 4 at the region level.	
The Environmental Management Plan	As specified in Ecological Code Article 41 an environmental assessment documentation should include "10) Description of measures provided for preventing and mitigating impacts on environment, including proposal for ecologic monitoring"— more or less a partial EMP. This description does not comply with donor requirements and construction monitoring is far from rigorous.	The EMP is required by WB for A and B category projects, It is considered to be an integral but distinct part of the assessment document. It is not a separate document, but the key summary of the mitigation and monitoring measures to be applied should be extractable as a stand-alone g section or set of Tables.
Public hearings	Kazakhstan has a procedure of public hearings conducting, but it rarely involves state sector and common citizens.	Public hearings is a requirement for WB. The World Bank has a mandatory 2 sessions for full EIAs and 1 session for category B projects. For full EIAs the sessions are scheduled to coincide with early EIA planning and the preparation of the interim EMP or record of likely impacts. For the B -level projects a session during the impact definition stage is most useful, although exact timing is a function of the environmental issues emerging and the proponent's wishes. Consultations must be announces and for full EIAs advance notices of consultations and contact details must be published in the media for several weeks in advance of the session(s).
Classification	Projects are classified by the 5 danger levels of danger with 1 being the highest as defined by norms and standards developed by the Sanitary and Epidemiological Services, in relation to human health and safety. There is little reference to protection of the environment and e.g., forests and wildlife populations. As with the Banks, certain projects have been preclassified, e.g. the road projects are mostly considered Category 1 project that requires a full EIA.	There is a classification of activities according to risk level from I (high) to V (low) in Kazakhstan. Depending on the risk level Environmental Category form 1 to 4 is assigned. Sanitary-Epidemiological Regulations specify Environmental Category through lists of activities by sector (e.g. chemical industry, metallurgy, agriculture, etc.) and by risk category (i.e. I - V). Environmental Category 1 covers activities of the I and II risk levels. This "dual" classification does not specify size of the facility or scope of production. The main purpose of Sanitary Rules is to

EIA stage	Kazakhstan	WB
		establish sanitary-protection zone (SPZ), which for Category 1 facilities is not less than 1000 m for risk category I and not less than 500 m for risk category II.
Document Form	Nothing specified other than a 'minor environmental statement'	No specific documentation required
Summary	No requirements	Not required
Consultation &Information Disclosure Timing	No requirements	Not required
Disclosure	Not required	Not required
Document Form	All environmental assessment documents are several reports	A section of the Feasibility Study
Summary Document	Each assessment document as its final section "Main conclusions of the EIA". No other summary was referred to in the Code or related standards	An executive summary—but with no special designation
Consultation and Information Disclosure Timing	Public hearings are not conducted	At least once during EIA/SiEA preparation
Disclosure	Not required	All environmental assessment documentation is available on World Bank Information Centre website and in the borrowing country office as well, but there is no formal public review.
Category A: EIA	EIA is required for projects of Sanitary and Epidemiological class 1, which will have significant impacts on the human safety. According to Section 26 of the EIA Instructions the third stage of EIA process – "Environmental Impact Assessment" requires detailed analysis in full volume on all aspects of environmental impact of the specified objects, and includes the following components: air, water, mineral resources, production wastes, physical impacts, soil, plants, animals, socio-economic condition, and ecological risks. The Category A is required to undertake the 5th stage of EIA process, Post-project Analysis, 1 year after the end of project. The 5th stage should be undertaken by different licensed organization than which conducted the EIA.	The World Banks Category A requirements includes environmental and social assessments. EIAs must also include a detailed analysis of alternatives, especially the "no project" alternative. This report is in accordance with this requirement.
Document Form	Each stage of EIA process has its own several document with prescribed format and the level of detail.	Several document with prescribed format and minimum level of detail

EIA stage	Kazakhstan	WB
Summary Documentation	Each of 5 assessment stages has several document; and each has a "Conclusions" section, which acts as a summary.	An executive summary is prepared and is attached to the EIA but often used separately. An executive summary is included in this report.
Consultation and Information Disclosure Timing	No information on specific consultations, except for public hearing as part of the EIA – the Instructions for Public Hearing are published by the MOEP Order №135, 7th May 2007.	Minimum 2 are mandatory, with timing specified. Once with the TOR for the EIA, once to present the interim EIA. For the disclosure of the interim/ draft EIA, Category A projects must be allowed a 120-day period for stakeholder evaluation and comments between disclosure of interim/draft EIA/EMP and project appraisal. The 120 day rule will commence once this document has been completed in accordance with World Bank's requirements.
Disclosure	Submission of a full environmental assessment to the local /oblast-level environmental authority and its review by the central government takes 60 days. During the first 30 days there is a theoretically a time for the public to comment. But since there is no real announcement this does not happen. Further, there is a 'public debate/hearings are held as part of the final EIA approval. There is no other disclosure. This document when agreed by the Bank as suitable for public disclosure under the 120 rule will be put on the CR website in Russian. 30 days after its submission the next round of public hearings will take place.	The public must be informed about the availability of EIA documentation, which must be prepared in English and the local language (sometimes English, Russian and local language), and be accessible at convenient locations in country, at a published website and on the donors website (InfoShop) 120 days before project appraisal. Loan processing cannot proceed during this period. This document will be disclosed at WB website and CR website once agreed by the WB as suitable for public disclosure.
Land Acquisition and Resettlement	There is no accepted process of review of land acquisition and resettlement	World Bank requests a review of resettlement, land acquisition and compensation payment to ensure all activities will be undertaken in all the sections in accordance with World Bank Guidelines OP 4.12. A Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)) prepared by the KazdorNII on behalf of CR. The RAPs will be finalized upon completion of the detailed design.

4.11 Conclusions and Recommendations from analysis of difference

The following conclusions and recommendations address those issues where divergence of standards and subsequent practice between Kazakhstan and the World Bank may lead to shortages

in compliance with these standards throughout the project, because local practice may be rigid and well established, and incorporating new elements or changing practices may need extra efforts during project supervision:

- a) Kazakhstan has not yet put into practice an iterative process to ensure that project design and environmental analysis have an actively managed interface, and that data and findings from either are incorporated into the other. Usually the design approval process in Kazakhstan is quite advanced when ESIAs are conducted, which may prevent recommendations for design changes based on the environmental analysis being implemented, as they would require a re-approval of the processes. Design changes may, however, be introduced during the construction design stage once a contract has been awarded with relatively minor review and approval requirements. This is the recommended approach to mainstream design changes based on environmental findings into the designs submitted by the Contractor to the Client for approval and construction. Such design changes are likely to mainly concern the number and location of under- and overpasses for animals, farm traffic and wildlife.
- b) Environmental protection is often seen as compliance with emission or pollution standards, while an understanding of environmental values such as fauna and flora, landscape, biodiversity, aesthetics and the priority in enforcement appears on compensation payments rather than preventive and remedial action to avoid. This will require enhanced capacity building and supervision efforts during project implementation, with practical, implementation-focused training's for Contractors, supervising engineers and environmental authorities (incl. those representing forestry, national parks, water). It is recommended to ensure the presence of a consultant with the best international practice experience in environmental site supervision and management during the first 6 months of project implementation (starting with Contractor's mobilization) to establish knowledge and compliance practice from early implementation stages onwards.
- c) Site-specific EMPs will be prepared and included in construction contracts.
- d) The competences and powers of Kazakh environmental authorities regarding site inspections are very limited, with visits legally limited in numbers and having to be announced several weeks in advance to the project owner. Though this practice is unlikely to be changed within the project context, a strong supervision system needs to be contractually embedded, with effective enforcement mechanisms including penalties and arrangements for required remedies (e.g. by third parties with costs deducted from the contracts). It is recommended to entrust a project management consultant (PMC) with enforcing mandate that together with the authorities would be implementing best practice in countries. Simultaneously, environmental authorities must be aware of all project activities and invite them to a program of training and capacity building.

World Bank Safeguards Requirements and Project Environmental Category

The project is classified Environmental Category A as per World Bank environment policy OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment. This classification is substantiated by potential physical environmental and social impacts associated with rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing road to the Road Category II and greenfield construction of approximately 450 km of road sections (e.g. Zhanteke - Arkalyk, Turgay - Irgiz).

Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01 (triggered): The potential negative impacts during construction works under Component 1 include operation of borrow areas, generation of waste (construction materials, spent consumables, household waste and wastewater from camps), excessive land use, topsoil destruction and erosion.

Component 2 will finance preparation of a Corridor Development Action Plan and implementation of some key priority activities from the Plan (with focus on agriculture, tourism, services, etc.). The Plan will take into account potential negative environmental impacts of economic activity (agriculture, small businesses, tourism) and will provide guidance on mitigation measures to avoid or minimize these impacts.

Component 3 will finance the road's operation and maintenance activities. Environmental aspects of road maintenance, such as location and design of maintenance depots, transport/storage/application of de-icers, maintenance of road maintenance machinery will be addressed in design documentation and schedules of depots.

Component 4 will finance various road safety measures which will generally have positive social impact in the project area.

The ESIA report contains an adequate project description and analysis of baseline data and, potential impacts and contains a framework of necessary mitigation measures. Site-specific EMPs and Guidance Notes for specific economic activities under Corridor Development Action Plan will be prepared to provide clear guidance and contractual obligations for environmental due diligence in further project design and implementation.

Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04 (triggered):

The Project is not expected to impact established protected areas. The alignment goes through Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe regions and 25km away from Kurgaldzhyn State Nature Reserve, located at the territory of the Kurgaldzhyn district, Akmola region. Nature Reserve Altyn Dala located in Kostanai region is 75-80 km away from the alignment in Amangeldy and 50-60 km - in Zhangeldinskiy district. About 90 km of the alignment will pass at a distance of 40-50km from the territory of Irgiz-Turgai state nature reserve.

According to the data available at the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan the project location passes through the summer habitat range and migration routes of Saiga tatarica, a critically endangered species of antelope. Saiga migrates in spring from the South of Kazakhstan to Akmolinskaya, Kostanaiskaya and Aktyubinskaya oblasts, the basins of the rivers Irgiz, Turgay, Ulyshilanshik and Tersakkan and Lake Tengiz. Traffic flow and the noise of moving vehicles may eventually create conditions that prevent saiga from crossing. Associated facilities (e.g. construction camps or borrow pits) may divert animals to other areas or migration routes. Additional potential impacts include cases when animals are hit by moving vehicles or hunted by construction workers or local inhabitants. Therefore, the OP 4.04 Natural Habitats is triggered for the project. Specific areas with high concentrations of saiga and potential critical habitats and their migration routes will be surveyed. The Client and their contractors will establish collaboration with environmental organizations that perform saiga monitoring which will become an important part of preparation and implementation of site-specific EMPs. According to the report "Saiga crossing options" (by Kirk A. Olson from Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute for the Frankfurt Zoological Society, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, Fauna & Flora International and Convention on Migratory Species) properly designed underpasses/crossing points are considered to be sufficiently effective and acceptable measure for saiga migration and the road would not lead to significant degradation of the habitat (i.e. not significantly interfere with migration). Specific locations for such crossings (if needed) will be determined during preparation of site-specific EMPs.

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 (triggered)

The inventory of known physical cultural resources conducted in the project area has not revealed PCR that may be potentially affected by the project. However, the Policy on Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 should be triggered due to presence in the project area of so-called Turgay geoglyphs - unique and previously unstudied large-scale earthworks in Turgay region of northern Kazakhstan. While Turgay geoglyphs have not been designated a status of historical or cultural monuments to be protected according to legislation of Kazakhstan, the Client deems appropriate to take into account the sites with geoglyphs in project design and proactively ensure protection and support promotion of geoglyphs as cultural heritage and potential tourism attraction. The team is currently identifying the location of geoglyphs in relation to the proposed alignment. In case there is a threat of damage to geoglyphs, re-routing of the alignment will be done at design stage. If

re-routing is not possible, Site Management Plan will be done as part of site-specific EMPs. The project will also support further research and promotion of geoglyphs as historic and cultural heritage and a tourism attraction in the project area.

Forests (OP/BP 4.36, not triggered, but addressed in ESIA)

As forests do not exist within the project area this OP/BP 4.36 is not triggered. Low-value trees and bushes in the roadside shall be cut because of the construction of the road, it will be filled according to the activities in the EAP (Environmental Management Plan). This will be specified in a separate agreement on landscaping/afforestation.

Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12, triggered).

The project triggers OP/BP 4.12 policy primarily due to land acquisition activities associated with construction works. The considering the scale of the project the impacts are not expected to be significant and are related to construction of bypasses, noise, relocation of any road kiosks or small scale businesses and locations of cattle-crossing points. The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared for the project to guide any necessary land activities for the proposed project. The principles and standards incorporated into the Resettlement Policy Framework have been agreed between the CR and the Bank for use throughout the Centre West Regional Development Corridor Project. Once the detailed designs are finalized, the Client will prepare the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) in accordance with the provisions of the Resettlement Policy Framework.

The RAP will specify the procedures to be followed by the Government of Kazakhstan through the Committee for Roads (CR) and the Ministry of Investment and Development (MoID) and the actions it will take to undertake land acquisition and any resettlement. It is expected that the CR will ensure all measures necessary to minimize involuntary resettlement and land acquisition. The document will provide a description of the land, households and businesses that will be affected. The RAP's objective is to mitigate the negative impacts of land acquisition and displacement, including setting out the entitlements of the different categories of affected persons, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable groups.

The RAP will be applied to all affected persons regardless whether or not they have a legally registered title to the land. The severity of the impact will however affect the nature of the compensation and other assistance provided. The RAP will be the result of various phases of consultations, data collection and analyses. The RAP's requirements are binding to both the Government, through the Committee for Roads and the contractors for the implementation of the project

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37 (not triggered). No dam safety issues were identified during assessment of the project area.

Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50 (not triggered). No issues associated with this Policy have been identified.

5. ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL BASELINE DATA

5.1 SECTION 1 - AKMOLA REGION

5.1.1 General description

The length of Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz-Shalkar road of Center-West Corridor in Akmola region is approximately406 km. The road will pass through the territory of five (5) districts of Akmola region: Tselinograd region - between Akmola, Otemis, Orazak villages, Korgalzhyn region - Sabyndy, Karaegin, Kargaly, Zhanteke villages, Egindikol region - Egindikol village, Atbasar region - Sochinskii village and Zharkaiyn region - Shalgai, Shoiyndykol villages. Location of the project site is shown in Figure 2.3.

Akmola region is located in the north on central part of the Republic of Kazakhstan within the Kazakh hills and Teniz plains. It was founded in October 14, 1939. It borders on the west with Kostanai, in the north - with North Kazakhstan, in the east - with Pavlodar and in the south – with the Karaganda regions. Astana is the capital of Kazakhstan is located in the center of the region. The administrative center since 1999 - the city Kokshetau, which was founded in 1824. The total area of Akmola region is 146 thousand sq. km. And there are 17 districts, 2 cities of regional importance, 15 towns, 245 rural districts. The population of the region amounted to 732 947 people, where the urban population as of 1 October 2009 amounted to 136 thousand people (18.4% of the total population of the region), a tendency to expand the market of products manufactured in the region.

The area is located close to the developed regions of Russia, as the Ural, Tyumen, Tomsk, Omsk and Novosibirsk regions, which have the long-established economic connections, which are producing new ones. Get further development of economic connections with neighboring regions of Kazakhstan.

Most of the territory is covered by steppe plains north of Upland included in the steppe landscape zone of the temperate zone. The central part is occupied - Atbasar plain, in southwest Tengiz-Korgalzhyn depression.

5.1.2 Climate

The climate along the propose route sharply continental, dry, with hot summers and cold winters. Daily and annual temperature amplitude is very large. Spring and autumn are mildly cloudy insignificant. The average temperature in January is -19°S, in some years reaches -51°C in the summer ranges between + 21 ° C to + 19°C, 43°C to + maximum absolute maximum air temperature - + 43 ° C, the absolute minimum (-51)°C. The average annual precipitation is 300-350 mm. Snow cover is installed in November and the snow cover is held an average of 150 days, the average height is 25-35 cm. In some snowy years, snow covers up to 50-60 cm. The snow cover protects the soil from deep freezing. Winds in Akmola region are quite strong.

The climatic characteristics of the main towns along the planned route are shown in Table 5.2.1.

Climatic indicators	Astana	Tselinograd district	Korgalzhyn district	Egindykol district	Atbasar district	Zharkaiyn district
The average annual temperature 0C	+ 3,5	+4,2	+3,7	3,6	3,3	4,1
The average temperature of the coldest month (January) OC	- 15,2	-25,0	-23,0	-21,0	-19,0	-21,0
The average temperature of	+ 20,9	+24,0	+24,0	+23,0	+19+21	+28,0

the warmest month (July) 0C		+26,0				
The absolute minimum	- 51,6	-46,0	-43,0	-46,0	-51,0	-43,0
temperature of 0C						
The absolute maximum	+ 41,6	+41,0	+39,8	+42,0	+43,0	43,0
temperature of 0C						
The average rainfall in mm	320	360	334,0	330	300-350	270-310
including winter						

Table 5.1.2 The climate along the route in the Akmola region

5.1.3 GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

The area has a complex geological structure. In the central part of the Earth's surface is exposed to the ancient Precambrian base around which the Caledonian folded structures with extensive development of the Early Paleozoic intrusions.

Akmola region occupies the western outskirts of the Kazakh folded country between the mountains Ulytau in the south-west and the north of Kokshetau heights. Total slope terrain - from east to west. In the same direction as the middle part of the Akmola region crosses the valley of the river Ishim, it turns sharply to the north not far from the western border region. By the nature of the relief Akmola region can be divided into 3 parts: the north-west- plain, south-west - with some plain and the eastern hills - hills of the Kazakh folded country. Northwestern part (adjacent to the valley of the Ishim River, at the site of her turn to the north) is plains plateau, dissected by dry ravines and gullies. By the valley of the Ishim plateau breaks off a ledge. In the southwestern part of the Akmola region (south of the river Ishim) extends elevated plain.

In the project area of Akmola region of Tselinograd district terrain is flat, in the western part of the district wavy and undulating plain in unconsolidated sediments in the eastern part of the wavy-hilly plain with low hilly island areas. By Atbasar district relief area is represented by the ground-denudation plain with frequent inclusions of elements Upland.

5.1.4 GROUNDS AND NATIVE ROCK

Soils are presented by ordinary black soil and chestnut, differing heavy mechanical structure, raised alkalinity and salinization, low water permeability. Especially,there are a lot of saline soils in Korgalzhyn area. On sloping hills and steep slopes lie undeveloped rocky and detrital soil type black soil and chestnut. Much of the area within the black earth zones and subzones dark chestnut soil belongs to the areas of development of virgin lands. Territory of Atbasar district is located within the width of two elongated soil zones - the black earth and chestnut, which are divided accordingly, subzone ordinary and southern black soil, dark-chestnut, chestnut and light-chestnut soils.

This section provides information on the passage of the soil along the route plan in the Akmola region, and the data on reserves of soil for use in the construction of the sub-grade of the road will be brought into operation at the end of the project survey work.

5.1.5 HYDROLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Surface water

Following the development of a detailed design and agree on the relevant authorities to be the main sources of water intake for the construction. Water extraction is carried out with the permit of the Committee on Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture.

Akmola region is poor with the waterresources. The rivers are shallow, unnavigable, fed by snowmelt water and to a lesser extent - groundwater sources. In summer, the river often dry, the water in them becomes brackish. Major rivers - Ishim, Nura, and small rivers are Kozykosh and Karasu Mukyr.

Permanent and the nearest watercourse crossing the road are Kozykosh, Karasu and Mukyr rivers on the Tselinograd area. The Kozykosh River is the left tributary of the Ishim. The length is 40 km. It is the only river in Kazakhstan, which connects the two great rivers - the Nura and Ishim. It starts on the right bank of Nura Ishim River flows into the village Talapker, flood, rain, snow and groundwater. Dry river, used for irrigation. From the northeast rural district from the neighboring farms separated Shortanbay river, tributary of the river Kairakty. Shortanbay is a shallow river that dries out in summer in the many places. There is a dam, which forms a large reservoir. Fresh water used by the population for household needs, as well as for irrigated horticulture.

The Nura River basin contains shallow freshwater lakes. The largest of them are Zhalmankulak, Kozhakol, Korzhankol, Zharlykol. Zhalmankulak Lake area is15.8 sq.m. The catchment area of 1380 square meters, sloping shore, muddy bottom, around the lake, dark-brown, calcareous soils, which are growing forbs grass meadows reeds and rushes. The highest water level is in April, the lowest - in October, there are waterfowls which nest on Lake (geese, ducks, herons, swans). Lake Kozhakol is 60 sq.m., maximum depth of 3 m in wet years, and in the dry - 0.4 m, the catchment area 1380 sq.m. Lake beds height is 3 meters, the bottom is muddy and sandy coast, and it is a nesting place for migratory birds. Lake Zhosaly-undrained which is located in the western part of the region, the area is 7.1 sq.m. It feeds at the expense of small and groundwater. Along the shores of reed stands cane. Fresh water is used for livestock watering.

Groundwater Sources

Akmola region is part of the Central Kazakhstan hydrogeological regions. Based on the totality of the features of the hydrogeological conditions in the Central Kazakhstan hydrogeological area Ekibastuz-Kokshetau stand, Tengiz-Korgalzhyn and Sarysu-Teniz hydrogeological areas. The territory of the Atbasar district belongs to Ekibastuz-Kokshetau hydrogeological regions. The large area of the hydrogeological and dissected topography close to the surface occurrence of fractured rocks create a favorable conditions for the formation of fresh groundwater, and is limited to the south side Sarysu Teniz raising. Tengiz-Korgalzhyn hydrogeological district covers the territory of the area located south of the Ekibastuz-Kokshetau hydrogeological district, on the southern side is bounded Sarysu-Teniz raising.

Fresh water can be found in the form of individual lenses. Production rates of wells up to 0.5 l/s. They are used for rural water supply. In general, the area forecast operating reserves of groundwater mineralization up to 10 g / 1 are measured in the amount of 1733.3 thousand. M3 / day, including up to 1 g / 1 L-916 thous. M3 / day. Proven reserves are 148.8 thous m3/day.

5.1.6 FLORA AND FAUNA

The methodology of the study of biodiversity along the route

Biodiversity along the route were studied based on the results of field studies of plants and animals in the region of the road. As a result of field research conducted by the representatives of "KazdorNII" PMC JSC and "SAEN Engineering Group" LLP, it has been determined that the alignment in the Akmola region does not pass through the nature protected area. The route will pass along Zhanteke village, 25 km from Kurgalzhyn protected zone. Korgalzhyn reserve zone is located on the territory of Kurgaldzhin district, Akmola region and covers an area of 543,171 hectares, including 199.2 thous. ha - the waters of Lake Tengiz and Korgalzhyn lakes that occupy 2/3 of the territory of the reserve.

During the public hearing in June 2015, there was a discussion of the possible problems with wild animals on the road section. Various studies including those provided by the Association for Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), show that the proposed project route passes through the migration route of the saiga antiilope (*Saiga tatarica*), a nomadic herding species, which is found in the semiarid deserts and steppes of Kazakhstan (fig 1). In particular, the Betpak Dala population of Saiga migrates in summer to the steppes located in Akmolinskaya, Kostanaiskaya and Aktyubinskaya oblasts, the basins of the rivers Irgiz, Turgai, Ulyshilanshik and Tersakkan and Lake Tengiz.



Fig 1. Saiga tatarica

Saiga antelope is an endangered species. Its population in Kazakhstan was around 300 thousand species before the massive die off in summer 2015 when according to the official data a minimum of 150 thousand species have died. Among the hypothetic causes of this massive die off are pasteurellosis, fog sickness and abnormal climatic changes in the area. In addition, Saiga numbers drastically reduced due to high rates of illegal hunting and are highly vulnerable to further population collapse with each additional threat imposed upon them. Factors mentioned above call for special attention on preservation efforts during the project implementation.

5.1.7 LAND RESOURCES

The site of road runs through arable land, but during the pre-inspection of the road section representatives of "SAEN Engineering Group" LLP irrigation systems have not been found. The absence or presence of irrigation systems along the road will be refined during the detailed design of the road section.

The total area of land owned by the state, which will be removed for permanent use in the Akmola region, will be determined after the completion of detailed design, preparation of the list of affected people, and will be described in the project on land allocation and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP).

Additional land is required for mining quarries in the construction materials, as well as a temporary entrance to the construction site for the construction of warehouses, shops and housing for workers. In addition to these, additional land acquisition is required for the storage of building materials and quarrying, and quarries for road-construction materials.

Contractors will get access to all of the land required for temporary use solely through negotiations with the owner or user; In accordance with the requirements of the Land Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan is necessary to ensure that all the land used temporarily for the construction, will be returned to their original state through a program of recovery / reclamation.

According to the project route of the road, which is represented by pastures and rangeland. The land required for acquisition on a permanent basis for the construction of the road, access roads and junctions. Additional land required for building quarries and bases, workshops and camps for the workers for temporary use during the construction period. The area of land needed for construction of the road will be calculated in the detailed design of the project road for land allocation.

5.1.8 PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

The inventory of known physical cultural resources conducted in the project area has not revealed PCR objects that may be potentially affected by the project. The conclusion of the preliminary archaeological investigation of the area of road alignment is presented in Appendix 2. In the event of chance finds, the "chance finds" procedure will be followed (Appendix B of the archaeological report).

The field survey by "SAEN Engineering Group" LLP along the route has identified modern monuments to victims of road accidents. These monuments are installed by relatives of the victims at a distance of about 50-70 meters from the road. At km 19.5 of the road on the right side along the road is a cemetery area of 5 hectares. In Tselinograd district were discovered 7 modern unmarked graves along the route Astana-Korgalzhyn. They are presented in the table below:

Table 5.1.8.2 Cemeteries for victims of road accidents

No	HCH Object	Geographical coordinates of UTM	Location relative to the axis of the route
	Starting point of the Cemetery 1	43 T539648.57 4908051.01	Km route
1	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 34 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
2	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 34 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
3	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 30 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
4	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 29 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
5	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 21 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
6	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 16 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn
7	Modern unmarked grave		Left from the road by 10 km of Astana - Korgalzhyn

5.1.9 SOCIAL-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Akmola region is located in the northern part of the republic within the Kazakh hills and Teniz plains, which was found in year 1961, territory of the region is 146.2 thousand km2. The regional center is Kokshetau city, which was found in year 1824. The capital of the country is Astana city which is located in the Akmola region.

Natural resources

In the territory of the region there are unique composition of resources such as gold, silver, uranium, molybdenum, technical diamonds, kaolin and muscovite, and also iron ore, coal, dolomite, widespread minerals, mineral waters and therapeutic muds. Along the route of the Tselinograd area at a distance of 19.5 km there is an existing sand pit. Near the Karaotkel village there is another sand pit.

The economy of the region of the route

Akmola region - one of the main agricultural regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The main trend in the field of agriculture is the grain production. Livestock is an additional branch of agriculture. The area, which is one of the leading regions of the country for the production and processing of agricultural products, also has a significant industrial potential, which is represented mainly by mining industry, mechanical engineering, non-ferrous metallurgy, processing of agricultural products.

Along the passage section of the road in Tselinograd area 26 km from the left side of the road at a distance of 0.5 km from the highway, there is JSC "Akmola Electricity Distribution Company." At the 34.5 kilometers along the road there is a gas station "Bakhyt" and a hotel complex "Bakhyt" and in the village there are Akmol poultry farm JSC "Akmola - Phoenix" and LLP "Shanyrak". In Korgalzhyn area Sabyndy village, which is located 0.5 km from the road there is a meat-packing plantation "Astana Agroproducts", which has been operating since 2010 and it has a significant proportion of the volume of agricultural products in the area of the enterprise.

Administrative divisions and population

In Akmola region there are 17 rural districts, 10 small towns, 5 villages, 664 rural villages, 253 rural and aul districts, where the urban population is 333.6 thousand people (44.6%), the rural population - 413.9 thousand people (55.4%). The route will pass through rural areas with low population density. Total population of the 5 areas: Tselinograd, Korgalzhyn, Egindykol, Atbasar and Zharkayin area through which the road segment is shown in the table below.

Table 5.1.9 The population of the area through which the road passes in Akmola region on March 1, 2015

	The population as of 1 March 2015 (thousand)			
Districts and cities	T 1	including		
	Total	Urban areas	Village areas	
Tselinograd	65,2	0	65,2	
Korgalzhyn	9,4	0	9,4	
Egindykol	6,3	0	6,3	
Atbasar	49,9	29,6	20,2	
Zharkaiyn	15,0	6,3	8,7	
Total population (along the alignment):	145,8	35,9	109,8	

Since main road passes through the open area, the level of population living directly next to the road is very low.

Tselinograd region

Tselinograd area (up to 1961 - Akmola region) was founded in January 1928, which is located in the southeastern part of the Akmola region, bordered on the north by Shortandy, on the east by Yereimentau and Arshalinskiy, on the west by Korgalzhyn and Astrakhan regions, the south bordered with Karaganda area. The area is 788,785 hectares, including 602,536 hectares of farmland, of which 305,344 hectares of arable land, hayfields and pastures 28,742 ha 246,530 ha, 21,870 ha of deposits.

After the exit of the post of Astana city, on the highway Astana - Korgalzhyn at the right side of the highway at a distance of 0.8 km there is a village Karaotkel, which has the number of the population of 15 000 people, and also there are two schools №2, and №6. Under the program "Balapan", there are six private kindergartens, and 97 enterprises which operate privately and also the private enterprise "Astana Ormany", and all of them provide jobs for the residents of the village. As the village is located very close to the city of Astana, most residents work in the city.

The following villages are located along the route of the Tselinograd district:

Name of village	At km	Population of the village	Remarks
Karazhar	19.50	9850	High school №5, kindergartens "Zhuldyz" and "AltynBalyk", Tselinograd district clinic
Otemis,	40.30	486	Village has 2 privately owned companies, which provide jobs for the local people.
Orazak.	58.6	2160	Village has organizations like «Zhasyl – Orman», «Zelenstroi», «Akmola – Phoenix», Health workers, school number 27, an elementary school №28.

Korgalzhyn district

The district was formed in 1932, under the name of Korgalzhyn as a part of Karaganda region; it was part of the Akmola region starting from year 1944. The name of the district has changed to Korgalzhyn in 1997.

Korgalzhyn district is located in the southern part of the region. It borders with Egidykol and Astrakhan districts in the north, and the east and the south with Karaganda region. The administrative center is Korgalzhyn village.

The villages along the route of the above district are presented below:

Name of village	At km	Population of the village, ppl.	Remarks
Sabyndy	75	1114	The village has a meat-packing plantation "Astana Agroproducts", which has been operating since 2010 and this enterprise composes a significant volume of industrial production in Korgalzhyn district.
Karaegin	87	403	-

Kargaly	95	74	The population of the village consist of 45 men and 29 women
Zhanteke	105	-	The plan passes along the Korgalzhyn protected area, at a distance of 25-30 km from the route.

Egindykol district

Egindikol district was established in 1970, which is located in the southwestern part of the Akmola region, and bordered with Astrakhan in the north, on the east and south with Korgalzhyn, and on the west with Atbasar district. The surface of the area is 541.185 hectares. The projected route passes along the small populated rural districts, through farmland. The distance from the route to the crops is about 15-20 meters on both sides.

The villages along the route of the Egindykol district are presented below:

Name of village	At km	Population	Remarks
8		of the village, ppl.	
Toganas	125.8	250	The structure of Uzynkol rural district. There are 28 farms and one company in the rural area. There is a lake Uzynkol at a distance of 700 meters from the village.
Uzynkol	141.3	318	The structure of Uzynkol rural district. There are 28 farms and one company in the rural area.
Burevestnik	149	109	The population of the village is mainly engaged in agriculture and farming. There is a Zharlykol lake at a distance of 700 m from the earth road, and in a 1000m there is a Lake Koskol. There are also works of culverts along the road. The condition of the culverts is poor.
Korzhynkol	158	375	The village has a company LLP "Korzhinkol-A." The number of employees is 49 people, including livestock complex where 5 people work. There are 3 peasant farms, which are registered in the administrative boundaries. There are 5 individualentrepreneurs,3 engaged in trade,1 does a private carting, and 1 deals with cargo transportation. Employees of the public sector - 16 people.
Bauman	195	-	In this village there are two lakes and four reservoirs covering an area of 137.0 hectares. And there are two reservoirs, which are located at a distance of

		150 meters from the road.

Atbasar region

The territory of the Atbasar district is located in the central part of the Akmola region and borders with Sandyktau District in the north, in the east with Egindykol and Astrakhan districts, on the west side with Zhaksynka and in the south with Karaganda region. The center of Atbasar town is located in the northern part of the district. The distance from Atbasar city to the regional center of Kokshetau is 200 km, and to the capital city Astana - 260 km. The area includes 10 rural districts and 5 villages. The number of settlements - 34, including: 1 - Atbasar city, and 33 - rural settlements. The district has 13 schools (7 averages, 4 main and 2 primaries), district hospital, and 11 health centers (10 AF 1 outpatient clinic), House of Culture, 2 rural clubs, sports complex, and 13 libraries.

The planned road will pass through the land of agricultural land (arable land, pastures and hayfields). The population of the district is mainly engaged in agriculture, cultural cultivation of cereals (wheat, barley, etc.) and farming.

The projected route from Astana to Arkalyk will be laid on the territory of the Atbasar district, on the lands of rural districts Sepe and Sochi. The length of the route along the area of Sepe will be 26 km.

The villages along the route of the Atbasar district are presented below:

Name of village	At km	Population of the village, ppl.	Remarks
Sepe	265	483	Established in 1929, located at 82 km from the center of Atbasar. The workable population is 293 people, 221 of them are constantly working, 65 of them are unemployed, and 7 people are with disabilities, 38 retirees, and 152 children. In the territory of the village, there is LLP «Sepe-2012», 2 farmers, and 4 individual entrepreneurs. Main business in the village is agriculture.
Sochinskoe	324	906	In the territory of the village there is "Sochinskoe" LLP, 3 farms, and 15 individual entrepreneurs. Sochi secondary school (107students), VA, rural library, House of Culture. The able-bodied population of the village is 587 people, 90 of them are at retirement age, 11disabled, 216 children under the age of 16.

Zharkayin district

The district was formed in 1955, under the name of Barankul, in 1997 it re-entered in the Akmola region under the name Zharkain again. Administrative center is Derzhavinsk town. At 384 km of the planned route the road will pass along the liquidatedarea Shalgay across the Tersakkan River. Land is part of Shoiyndykol rural district, administrative center of which is Shoiyndykol village, which is located 98 km from the district center. Shoiyndykol village has a population of 253 people. The working population is mainly engaged in Agricultural production - livestock and crop production. There is a Shoiyndykol village, which is located at 420 km distance. The working population is mainly engaged in agriculture production - cattle breeding and agriculture.

5.2 SECTION 2 – KOSTANAI REGION

5.2.1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The Kostanay region is located in the north part of Kazakhstan. An administrative center is Kostanay. The area borders with four regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Aktyubinsk, Karaganda, Akmolinsk and North Kazakhstan) and three regions of the Russian Federation (Orenburg, Chelyabinsk, Kurgan). Total area is 196,001 sq.km (7.7% of the total area of Kazakhstan).

5.2.2 CLIMATE

Climate in the Kustanay region is sharply continental and extremely dry. Winter is long, frosty, with strong winds and blizzards, summer is hot and dry. In the winter the minimum temperature falls to 35-40 degrees, and absolute minimum is at least 50-53 degrees. Absolute maximum temperature is equal to 41-43 degrees Celsius. The warm period with an average daily temperature above zero degrees lasts 195-201 days.

The annual rainfall of 250-300 mm in the north region and 240-280mm in the south. The vegetation period is 150-175 days in the north and 180 days in the south.

5.2.3 GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

For the Central Kazakhstan, the regional scheme of quarternary deposits is based on data of "Centerkazgeology" ("The regional strategic scheme of the Central Kazakhstan"). The territory is characterized by a relatively flat relief. It occupies the northern part of the south-eastern edge of the West Siberian Plain, in the south of it, there is Turgai plateau; in the west of the area - undulating plain Transural plateau, and in the south-east- Sary-Arka. Along the central part of the plateau from north to south there is 750 km wide fall - Turgai hollow. Road section in the Kostanai region goes throughthe Turgay hollow, also called Turgai Straits or gates of Turgai. They named it aStrait, because it joinedthe West Siberian Sea with Turgay Seain Cenozoic era. The western and eastern falls—are much dismembered and cracked plain. Plateau is mainly composed of marine and continental sediments (clay, sand, marl). Their thickness (layer thickness) reaches 5 km.

5.2.4 SOILS AND NATIVE ROCK

Soils of the region are presented with black soils and chestnut, differing with heavy mechanical structure, raised alkalinity and salinity. In relation with development of virgin lands the entire area is almost under cultivation. The total land area of the region is 19,600 thousand hectares, the area of farmland - 18122.5 thous.ha. In relation of soil, the northern part belongs to a subband of dark-chestnut soils. To the South, the subband of dark-chestnut soils passes into a light brown subband. Among dark-chestnut soils, there is typical dark-chestnut (not solonetzic), dark-chestnut solonetzic and dark-chestnut carbonate and solonetzic soils are widespread. And two last versions predominated.

Only a northern part of the region belongs to a subzone of dark-chestnut soils, which is agricultural. In other parts, it is stock-raising.

5.2.5 HYDROGEOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Surface water

Torgay River is the nearest constant source of surface water along the alignment.(length of 827 km). The river is formed at confluence of rivers Zhaldama and Kara-Torgay, originating from the western suburb of the Kazakh hills, and flows on the Torgay hollow, breaking into a wide floodplain on the sleeve to form a plurality of lakes. It lost in the drainage basins of Shalkarteniz. Mostly, power is generated by snow (the annual drain is formed mainly in the period of a spring floods). In summer, in lower reaches water becomes salty. Length is 825 km, the area of the pool is 156 thousand km., and water consumption on average flow is

approximately 9 m³ / s. Inflows: Irgiz, Saryturgay, and Kayyndy. It freezes in the first half of November, and opens in the first half of April. The river valley is wide. In summer, the river turns into a chain reaches. At low flat spaces, there are many small lakes, mostly endorheic.

The river network is sparse. The largest waterways are Ashutasty, KaraTorgay and Tersakkan rivers. The region of Arkalyk city is not very rich with the river network, it is rare. After a flood Zhosala's stream breaks into a set of small stretches. Fresh water is replenished mainly by atmospheric precipitation. There is a network of reservoirs (former bauxite quarries filled with water) and some small lakes.

River network in Amangeldy region is also very sparse. The rivers within this area are Zhylanshyk, Torgay, Zhaldama, Tasty and Karynsaldy. The Karynsaldy river flows through the east part of the area. The main sources of the surface water in the territory of rural district are the rivers Torgay, Sara-Ozen. Length of the Torgay river in the Amangeldinsky area is about 40 km. There are some channels which are separated from the riverbed: on the right side is Tokanay, Krys, on the left is Tenteksay and Kabyrga. Sara-Ozen's river flows into Sarykop's lake. There are ponds and earth reservoirs on pastures in this area. Many of them are filled with water in the spring, and dry in the summer.

The ground water

Ground waters lie at a depth from 4 to 10 m. Arkalyk, represents part of extensive area of the Kazakh low hills. The district represents the part of the water separate plain, between the rivers Tersakkan in the east and Ashutasta in the West, with a flat inclination towards a Torgay deflection. Neighbor lands has a hilly district with heights of 320 — 360 m., north of the town of Arkalyk it reaches to 390 m. The largest waterways are Ashutasty, Karatorgay, and Tersakkan rivers.

5.2.6 FLORA AND FAUNA

In the territory of the Amangeldy and Dzhangeldydistricts, there is a natural wildlife reserve "Altyn dala", which is in the southern part of the area at distance of 140 km from the Arkalyk city, at 75-80 km from the projected road in areas Amangeldy and 50-60 km from Zhangeldy. The territory of the wildlife reserve is 489766 hectares, and it includes steppes, sandy sites and wetlands which are important habitats for many wild animals, especially for saigas. The areas of the the Kostanai region broadly are habitats for saiga, boar, hare, wolf, fox, jackal, korsak (steppe fox), the groundhog, a gopher, a muskrat, a jerboa, ducks, geese, swans and other species.

More information on nature protected areas is provided in Appendix 4 of this report.

Steppe of Kostanay oblast is a habitat for saiga population. Information on saiga can be found on pp. 48-49.

5.2.7 LAND RESOURCES

The total area of land to be withdrawn for permanent use during the construction of roads in the Kostanai region, will be determined after the completion of the detailed design, preparation of the list of affected people, and will be described in the project on land allocation and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP).

5.2.8 PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

The inventory of known physical cultural resources conducted in the project area has not revealed PCR objects that may be potentially affected by the project. However, the Policy on Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 should be triggered due to presence in the project area of so-called Turgay geoglyphs - unique and previously unstudied large-scale earthworks in the Turgai region of northern Kazakhstan. While Turgay geoglyphs have not been designated a status of historical or cultural monuments to be protected according to legislation of Kazakhstan, the project team

suggests to take into account the sites with geoglyphs in project design and proactively ensure protection and support promotion of geoglyphs as cultural heritage and potential tourism attraction. The location of geoglyphs in relation to the proposed alignment is being surveyed.

Turgay geoglyphs, including Eki Din, Sahna, and Kogai cross forming a pattern of equilateral crosses, swastikas, circles and lines produced on the ground and formed by rocks, live trees, gravel, and earth; these objects were actually discovered in 2007. They are perfectly visible on Google Earth satellite images, made above the territory of the Torgay region. The only thing that distinguished these "drawings on the ground" from the Nazca Lines - is that Kazakhstani geoglyphs are "made of mounds and barrows and exceed them in size". The largest object is Ushtogaysky square, the size of this square is 287 meters, i. e. 25% of the base of the Cheops pyramid. It consists of 101 mounds. The 101st one is located in the center, on each side are 15 barrows and 10 barrows in each half-diagonal. Another object is Torgay three-fold swastika of 90 meters in diameter. However, the soil in this area is different and the object's condition is very bad. In addition, there are the Big Ashi-Tastinsk and Ekindynsk crosses, as well as flat circles. British scientists found out that "the youngest" Torgay geoglyph was constructed between the first century BC and the first century AD, which means that they are 2,5 thousand years. Meanwhile, ancient Torgay geoglyphs, which can be viewed only from space, can be aged between 7000 years of age and older.

The conclusion of the preliminary archaeological investigation of the area of the alignment is presented in Appendix 2. In the event of chance finds, the "chance finds" procedure will be used, which is described in detail in Appendix B of the archaeological report.

5.2.9 SOCIAL ECONOMIC FEATURES

Kostanay region was formed on July 29, 1936. It is located in the northern part of the country, in the watersheds of the upper Tobol. The area is196,001 sq.km. The population is 880,776 people (2014). The Kustanay region is located in Zauralie, mainly in a steppe zone. The most part of area is located in the Turgai and Zaural plateau, with height of 200 — 300 m, with the steep slopes, dissected by ravines, alternating with extensive hollows and wide valleys; the largest of them: The Turgay hollow that is extended from the North to the south, with river Ubagan and a chain of lakes, and the west — deeply incised valley of the Tobol River. Northwestern part of the Kustanay area is occupied with foothill plains and spurs of the Ural and northeast —inclined to the North of Predturgai plain (southwest part of the West Siberian Plain) with height of 120 — 150 m, with a flat relief and an abundance of small lakes.

Natural resources

The territory is rich in minerals, especially iron ore (deposits of magnetite ore are - Sokolovsky, Sarbaiskoye, Kachar et al., and brown oolitic iron ores - Ayatskiy iron pool, Lisakovsk deposits, etc..), there are also deposits of bauxite (Verhnetobolsky and Ubagan bauxite areas) nickel, titanium; there are large reserves of non-metallic minerals: asbestos (Dzhetygara), lignite (Kushmurun District Lake) and construction materials. Near the town of Arkalyk, there are 6 deposits of bauxite - the raw material for the aluminum industry: Arkalyk, Lower Ashutinskoe, Ushtobinskoe, Northern, Upper Ashut, and Aktas. These reserves are associated with the deposits of refractory clay. The bauxite has a component of gallium, which has reserves of 761 kg. At 100 km from the town of Arkalyk, there is Akzhal nefrotoidov field, which was mined with ornamental stonesin 1997; in the 70-100 km from the Akbulakcity there are manifestation of white marble, with reserves of 3-6 million cub. meters., and Agyrzhal has a manifestation of black marble with reserves of about 8 million, cub meters.

The Zhetygarin deposit is the only place in Kazakhstan, which develops chrysotile asbestos, which goes for export.

The economy of the region of the route

The main direction of the economy is in the agriculture area. The economic structure of the area consists of agriculture and the cultivation of wheat and livestock.

Dairy farms and meat cattle are developed in the area (cattle livestock); horse breeding and the development of the poultry industry is also developed. On the territory of Urpek rural district, there is Zhylanshyk oilfield that has the estimated reserves of 40 million tonnes.

Administrative divisions and population

In the area, there are 16 areas, 5 cities, 3 settlements, 686 villages, and 260 aul (rural) districts. The population of the area is 894,2 thousand people. The center of area is located in the city of Kostanay, which is located on the Tobol River and was founded in 1879. The number of urban population is 431,4 thousand people (48,2%), rural-462,8 thousand people (51,8%). Population density - 2.6 people per square kilometer. Plan of the route will pass through the northern, further it bypasses the Arkalyk town, and further to the town of Arkalyk, crossing the existing road of Tasty village, Amantogay, Karasu, Baigabyl, Kumkeshu, Amangeldy through Turgai village, from Akshyganak of Zhangeldin area of the Kostanai region.

Arkalyk city

The territory of the region is 15,580 square kilometers. The city is bordered with Amangeldy district of Kostanay region, Zharkain District of Akmola region, and Ulytau district of the Karaganda region. The administration of the town consists of 19 rural settlements: 2 rural districts and 15 separate villages. Distance to Kostanay - 454 kilometers, to the city of Astana – 611 kilometers, and 309 kilometers to the Zhezkazgan city. As of April 1, 2015 the population of the city was 41973 people, or 100,7% by the corresponding period of 2014 (41685 people). Population density - 2.6 people per square kilometer.

The characteristic feature of the small city Arkalyk is the presence of basic industries and the predominance of urban development and lifestyle. The economic status of the city of Arkalyk is defined by 2 city-forming enterprises:

- branch of JSC "Aluminium of Kazakhstan" the Torgai Bauxite Mine Group (partially functioning). The number of workers at the enterprise, as for January 1, 2015 is 882 people. The enterprise is engaged in bauxite mining and refractory clay. The raw materials are delivered: bauxites on Pavlodar Alumina Plant, refractory clay to Russia (position of the enterprise considerably worsened due to decline in production because of exhaustion of reserves of minerals, decrease in demand for production).
- LLP "Alyuminstroy" (the regional enterprise having the developed construction base with a number of the working 509 people).

Agriculture – the second leading branch of production of goods in the city. There are 30 limited liability partnerships, 346 country farms and 4 state enterprises are engaged in production of agricultural production.

Amangeldy district

The Amangeldy district is located on southeast part of the Kostanay region, and was formed in 1936. The area borders with five areas (Zhangeldy, Naurzum, Zharkain, Arkalyk, and Ulytau). The regional center – Amangeldy village, the population of the regional center – 8,1 thousand people. Distance to the regional center - 420 kilometers.

Administrative division of the area: 9 rural districts, 2 villages, rural settlements -30. For January 1, 2015 the population was 17,2 thousand people, including economically active -10.4 thousand people. The main income of residents in the area comes from the agriculture and trade sphere.

Agriculture – the leading branch of production of goods in the district.

As of 1.01.2015, 391 country farms and 27 limited liability partnerships are doing agriculture in the area. For 01.01.2015 the number of a livestock of cattle made: heavy beasts - 26002 heads, including cows 12810, horses - 12264 heads, sheep and goats -62962 heads, and birds - 142029 heads.

In 2015 all cultivated area of agricultural crops will be 94258 hectares, including grain 91886 hectares, olive 1720 hectares, potatoes of 61,5 hectares, vegetables of 64,1 hectares, melon cultures of 67 hectares.

Gross output of agriculture for 01.01.2015 made -6927.3 million tenges including vegetation-3502,5 million tenges, animal livestock -3424.8 million tenges, 423 subjects of small businesses are registered in the area. 397 subjects are engaged in individual business activity(93.9.0%).

In the territory of the Aksai rural district, there is an Orlov field of brown coal that has an estimated reserves of 1 billion tons. For implementation of this investment project in Tobol OMC the works are carried out with investors represented by «Assets Koal» LLP.

Works with investors are carried out by «NORTN OIL» LLP. For preservation the biodiversity ecosystems of semidesertic steppes and northern deserts of the central Kazakhstan, preservation of key places of an okot, concentration of wintering and a way of migration of the largestbetpakdalinsky population of saigas, works the natural state of wildlife reserve "Altyn dala" with an area of 489776 hectares. The territory includes steppes, sandy sites and water marsh grounds which are important habitats for many wild animals, especially for saigas.

There are many historical heritages are available in the territory of the area (mausoleum of Khans, places of national-liberation revolution of 1916 and so on). There are hunting places as well.

Automobile route passes through territories of 6 districts of the area.

Tasty village – located in the North East of the Amangeldy area. The village of Tasty borders with Arkalyk and two rural district of the area (Karynsaldy, Amantogai). The population of the village – 515 people. Number of the self-employed population is 80 people, the unemployed – 9 people. In the territory of the village of Tasty lands of a stock, there is a pit for production of construction sand.

Amantogai rural district - located in east and northeast part of the Amangeldy region. The Amantogai rural district borders twith five rural districts of the area (Ushtogai, Karasu, Tasty, Urpek, Amangeldy) and with Aktas village of Arkalyk town. The center of the village – the village of Zhaldam. Population of the district is 1440 people. Number of the self-employed population -309 people, the unemployed – 78 people.

Karasu rural district - located in east and northeast part of the Amangeldu region. Karasusky rural district borders with three rural districts of the area (Ushtogai, Amantogai, Amangeldy). The center of the village – Karasu village. Four settlements are a part of the rural district: Karasu village, Sat Esenbayev village, Abu Syzdyk village and Agaydar village. The population of the district – 1130 people. Number of the self-employed population is 312 people, the unemployed – 61 persons.

Amangeldy rural district - located in the central part of the Amangeldy region. Amangeldy rural district borders to a five rural districts of the area (Ushtogai, Karasu, Amantogai, Urpek, Baigabyl) and the lands of Kaiyndin rural district of Arkalyk town. The center of the village – Amangeldy village. Five settlements are a part of the rural district: Amangeldy, Esir, Akkisi, Kemer, Kogalykol villages. The population of the district – 9117 people. Number of the self-employed population is 2216 people, the unemployed – 159 people.

Baigabyl rural district - located in the western part of Amangeldy region. By the Baygabylsky rural district of the area borders with four rural districts (Amangeldinsky, Urpeksky, Kabyrginsky, Kumkeshusky). The center of the village – the village of Baygabyl. Three settlements are part of the rural district: Baigabyl, Zhanaturmys, Zhetybay villages. The population of the district – 948 people. Number of the self-busy population is 265 people, the unemployed – 43 people.

Kumkeshu rural district - located in northwest part of the Amangeldinsky area. The Kumkeshusky rural district borders with three rural districts of the area (Amangeldinsky, Baygabylsky, Kabyrginsky). And lands of the Zhangeldinsky area. The center of the village – the village of Kumkesh. Two settlements are a part of the rural district: village of Kumkesh, village Aytbay. The population of the district – 722 people. Number of the self-employed population of 205 people, the unemployed – 35 people.

Dzhangeldy region - Dzhangeldinsky area, 37,6 thousand sq.km, is located in 565 kilometers in the southwest from the regional center - the city of Kostanay on the river Torgay, founded in 1928. Borders with Amangeldinsky, Kamystinsky, both Naurzumsky the Areas of Kostanay regions, and regions of the Karaganda and Aktyubinsk areas. The center of the area – the village Torgay, is located on the river Torgay.

7 villages and 6 aul of rural districts are a part of the Dzhangeldinsky area.

In the territory of the area the main prevailing population Kazakhs, also Russians, Ukrainians, Germans, Armenians, Azerbaijanians, Tatars Population density – 0,4 persons on one square kilometer.

In the area, the main direction of the economy is agriculture. In structure of economy of the area the specific weight of agriculture - cultivation of wheat and animal livestock.

5.3 SECTION 3 –AKTOBE REGION

5.3.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Irgiz region

Aktobe region is located in the western part of Kazakhstan. Road section in Aktobe region goes only on the territory of Irgiz and Shalkar regions, so data on the road section 3 includes only the data of Irgiz and Shalkar regions. Irgiz region is located in the south-east part of the Aktobe region. The total area of region is 41,5 thous. sq. km. The area on the north-east borders with Kostanai region (length 240 km), on the east Karaganda region (170 km), in the south wit Aral district of Kyzylorda region (140 km), in the south-east Shalkar district (220 km), in the north with Aiteke Bi

District (300 km). The total length of the external borders of the district is 1070 km. The Irgiz district center is located in 450 km from the regional center of Aktobe.

Shalkar region

Shalkar region is situated in the south-east part of Aktobe oblast in West Kazakhstan, near lake Shalkar. The total area is 61,85 thous.sq.km. The region borders with Uzbekistan, Kyzylorda oblast and with Baiganin, Mugalzhar, Irgiz regions of Aktobe oblast. Population density is 0.8 persons per 1 sq.km. Local akimats are located at the distance 18-220 km from rayon center Shalkar. Rayon center is located at the distance of 365 km from Aktobe. Long distance railroad (Europe-Asia) passes through the center of Shalkar.

5.3.2 CLIMATE

The climate along the passage of the roads in Irgiz and Shalkar regions is dry continental; winters are cold and summers are hot and dry. There are frequent summer droughts and dust storms; there are snowstormsin the winter. The average July temperature is $+25\,^{\circ}$ C, the highest recorded temperature of absolute heat is $44\,^{\circ}$ C. The average annual humidity is $102\text{-}183\,$ mm. The lowest temperature is observed in January-February. The average temperatures in these months are - $12\,^{\circ}$ C to - $17\,^{\circ}$ C. The lowest recorded absolute temperatures are - $39\,^{\circ}$ C to - $42\,^{\circ}$ C below zero. The vegetation season start from $175\,$ days in the northwest to $190\,$ days in the south-east.

5.3.3 GEOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

Main part of the territory is hilly and has steeply sloping plain. Road section in Irgiz and Shalkar districts of Aktobe oblast passes across Turgay hollow as well as the section of road in the Kostanai region. In this regard, the geological structure along the section of road in Irgiz and Shalkar districts of Aktobe oblast is similar to the geological structure of the road section in Kostanai oblast, which is described in Section 5.2.3.

5.3.4 GROUNDS AND NATIVE ROCK

The soil forming rocks of breeds in Aktobe region are various. Soil formation generally happens on quaternary deposits of various mechanical structures. In the central and especially southern parts of area quaternary deposits of easy mechanical structure are widespread.

Further to the south the subzone of dark-chestnut soils is replaced by a subzone of light brown soils. All of them solemnized, which lies down in a complex with solonetzic soils. The mechanical composition of the soil in the Irgiz and Shalkar area is heavy. The planned route will pass through the pasture of Irgiz and Shalkar area.

5.3.5 HYDROGEOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

In the Irgiz region, the main waterway is the Irgiz river (length of 539 km), Telkara and Torgai. River valleys of the main rivers are wide. The river Irgiz is the transboundary river. There are many small lakes at low flat areas, especially in lower flowrivers, in between Irgiz-Olkei lakes, and in the downstream of the Torgay. Waters of the rivers in the spring and in the summer becomes fresh, but in the spring salty. Shalkar lake passes across Shalkar region, used for watering of experimental area, fresh, in separate years weak mineralized, salt concentration is from 0,2 to 0,5 g/l with maximum in autumn months. The special aspects of agriculture technique on clay sands are

frequent irrigation, but by small watering norms: $700-800 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ for lucerne on stern at irrigating norm $5000 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ and $400-500 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ on seed grains m^3/ha at irrigating norm $3500-4200 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$.

5.3.6 FLORA AND FAUNA

The projected plan of the road passes near the territory of the state Irgiz-Turgai's natural wildlife reserve, at a distance of 40-50 km. Steppe of Aktobe oblast is a habitat for saiga population. Saiga migration mainly runs in two routes Irgiz and Turgai. First in the area of 55-60 km of Irgiz-Nura, and second in the road of Nura – Akshyganak at 15-20 km. Irgiz Turgai State Nature Reserve is located 35 km from the village Irgiz and covers an area of 763,549 hectares. More information about the Reserve is presented in Appendix 4 of this report.

Information on saiga can be found on pp. 48-49.

5.3.7 LAND RESOURCES

The total area of land owned by the state, which will be removed for permanent use in Irgiz and Shalkar districts of Aktobe region, will be determined after the completion of detailed design, preparation of the list of affected people, and will be described in the project on land allocation and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP).

5.3.8 PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

During field surveys no historic or cultural sites were found along the alignment which passes through the territory of Irgiz and Shalkar districts of Aktobe region. However, during an implementation of the project "chance finds" of HCH objects might be discovered. In these cases «chance finds» procedure will be used. Conclusion of Archaeological Survey is presented in Appendix 2.

5.3.9 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FEATURES

Irgiz region is located in the southeast of the Aktobe region. Road section in Aktobe region passes through the village of Nura, Mamyr, Duken and to the Irgiz village located in Irgiz area. The following are socio-economic characteristics of localities; there are Nura villages, Mamyr, Duken and Irgiz that are located along the route plan.

Shalkar region is situated in the south-east part of Aktobe oblast in West Kazakhstan near lake Shalkar. Territory area is 61,85 thous. sq.km. Region borders with Uzbekistan, Kyzylorda oblast and with Baiganin, Mugalzhar, Irgiz regions of Aktobe oblasts. Population density is 0.8 persons per 1 sq.km. Local akimats are located at the distance of 18-220 km from regional center. Regional center is located at the distance of 365 km from Aktobe. Long distance railroad in the direction of Europe-Asia passes through center of region of Shalkar town.

The economy of the regions of the alignment

The main activity of the regions is the production of agricultural products and its processing. The number of employees in the branches of material production is dominated by agriculture, and among the non-production sectors - education.

Administrative divisions and population

The territory of Irgiz region includes the regional districts, 7 rural districts, and 20 settlements. Population is 15.2 thousand people, including number of the men -7.6 thousand, women -7.6 thousand, retirees -1.1 thousand, youth from age 16 to 29-4.0 thousand, children of preschool age

-1,2 thousand, studying -3,0 thousand, the working people -3,1 thousand, the self-occupied -4,2 thousand and jobless -0,3 thousand people.

On the area, 2676 yardsare registered andthere are 3004 families. The infrastructure of Irgiz region is presented by the following objects:

- state institutions (akimat of the area, akimat of the rural district, departments of akimats, district maslikhat, Department of justices, |Employment center, regional prosecutor's office, district court, center service population, pay center, management of treasury, internal revenue service, archive, territorial inspection, sanitary, veterinary station, department of defense, and department of an emergency).
- agricultural organizations (194 KX, 22 LLP, 10 PK, 262 IE);
- maintenance facilities (total 126 objects: trade objects- 100 units., household service objects are 16 units., catering facilities 10 units);
- education facilities (22 schools, 13 kindergartens for 730 seats, 16 mini centers for 370 seats, a school of art, and an art school);
- health facilities (the central regional hospital, 14 health centers, 5 rural health clinics);
- cultural facilities (2 House of Culture, the central district library, the museum, 14 rural clubs, 14 rural libraries).

Irgiz village was established in 1845, which is located at 450 km from the regional center, and its takes 156 km to the nearest railway Shalkar station. It is a center of Irgiz district. The total area of the village is 196 952 hectares, out of which the residential areas - 39,435 ha, and agricultural land destination - 157,517 hectares. The village is bordered with Shalkar district and Aytekebi district of Aktobe region. The population of the village is 6056 people, including men - 3035, women - 3021, retirees— 502, youngsters from age 16 to 29 — 1546, pre-school children-510, students — 1348, employees - 2758, self-employed - 1302 and unemployed - 110 people. There are 1154 yards and 1296 families are registered in village.

There are 2 settlements around Irgiz v. (Akshi, Kalalykol) that has about 618 people. These towns are closely linked economically with c.Irgiz, as it is located very close to the international highway Western Europe-Western China.

The infrastructure of the village Irgiz is represented by the following objects:

- state institutions (akimat of the area, akimat of the rural district, departments of akimats, district maslikhat, Department of justices, |Employment center, regional prosecutor's office, district court, center service population, pay center, management of treasury, internal revenue service, archive, territorial inspection, sanitary, veterinary station, department of defense, department of an emergency).
- agricultural organizations (26 KX, 19 LLP, 4 PK, 165 IE);
- maintenance facility (sewing shop, hairdressers);
- education facilities (school named under Y.Altynsarin, Kazakh school №1, Russian school, Irgiz gymnasium sanatorium group "Akbota" with 25 seats, a kindergarten "Baldyrgan" with 140 seats, a kindergarten "Akkayyn" with 125 seats, a kindergarten "Balapan" for 50 seats, school of Art, art School);
- Central District Hospital;

• objects of culture (Cultural House "Arai", the central district library, museum).

The main focus of v. Irgiz is agricultural production and it's processing.

The number of employees in the branches of material production is dominated by agriculture, and among the non-production sectors - education.

Nura village is located 90 km from the district center, along the river Turgai and the center of Nurinsk rural district of Irgiz area. The total area of the village is 319 079 hectares, the residential areas take - 22,249 ha ,and agricultural land destination - 296,830 hectares. The village is located in the north-eastern part of the district center, bordered with Zhangeldy area of Kostanai region. The population of the village is 706 people, including men - 344, women - 362, retirees- 68, children under school age- 32, students – 132, working -139, self-employed – 206, and unemployed - 20 people. The village has 117 registered households, and 138 families. There are 3 settlements around v. Nura (Mamyr, Duken, and Belsher) that has 664 people. The infrastructure of the village of Nura is represented by the following objects:

- State institutions the rural district akimat, department of "Irgiz Turgai nature reserve."
- Agricultural units (13-CH);
- educational objects (high school named after T.Zhurgenov with a boarding school, kindergarten "Bobek" for 30 seats);
- Rural outpatient clinics;
- Cultural facilities (rural club, rural library, and mosque).
- other (departments of mailing, communications, power lines)

Mamyr village islocated at 110 km from the regional center; it is part of the Nura rural district of Irgiz region. The total area of the village is 80 002 hectares, including the territory of the village - 5949 hectares, and agricultural purposes land - 74,053 hectares. The village is located in the north eastern part of the district center, bordered with Zhangeldy area of Kostanai region. The population of the village is 207 people, including men – 101, women – 106, retirees –17, youth from age 16 to 29 – 39, children under age -16, students - 43, working – 43, self-employed – 55 and unemployed – 18 people. There are 31 households and 33 families are registered in the village. The infrastructure of the Mamyr village is represented by the following objects:

- Agricultural units (1 CH, 6 IE);
- Objects of education (main school, mini centers for 20 seats)
- Medical center;
- Objects of culture (club and library).

Duken village is located at 70 km from regional center; it is part of the Nura rural district of Irgiz region. Total area of the village is 132778 hectares, including the territory of the settlement – 19118 hectares, and agricultural purposes land -113660 ha. The village is located in the north eastern part of the district center, bordered with Zhangeldy area of Kostanai region. The population of the village is 184 people, including men – 92, women – 92, retirees – 11, youth from age 16 to 29 –25, under age children- 15, students - 47, working -33, self-employed -33, and unemployed -5 people. There are 28 households and 28 families are registered the village. The infrastructure of the Duken village is represented by the following objects:

- Agricultural units (4 CH, 1 IE);
- Objects of education (main school, mini centers for 15 seats);
- Medical center.

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Shalkar. Administrative rayon Shalkar was established on October 21, 1921 within Aktobe administrative-territorial structure.

On February 20, 1932 Shalkar region was again formed and became a part of Aktobe oblast by Resolution of All-union Executive Committee.

Now region consists of one urban district and 12 rural districts, where 45526 people live.

At present time 7 crushed-stone manufturin plant function, 5 from them opened over the last 8 years. As a result in 2012 year 1192,2 thous.cubic meters of crushed-stone produced, it makes in 3,8 times above, than in 2002.

There is the dynamic growth of agriculture during the last 10 years. Now agricultural sector has 2 legal entities (firms) and 475 peasant farms. The dairy products and meat, made in the region, completely satisfy the demand for these products in the rayon. The main activity within the agricultural sector is animal husbandry: main focus is on improvement of quality of a livestock and improvement of breeds.

Agricultural sector is supported through allocation of the credits to SMEs. The joint-stock companies finance "Financial support of agriculture", "Shalkar zhaylauy" rural credit cooperative, the organizations for allocation of the credits "Shalkar nesie", "Akzhanat", and "Nur". 591,1 million tenges of the credit money were allocated within 10 years. Credits were provided exclusively to support small businesses. Greenhouses, 2 bakeries, 7 restaurants, 6 cafes, 6 retail trade centers, 3 wholesale stores, groceries and stores for industrial goods, car repair shops, shoemaker shops, and shops for repairing household appliances were opened during the past 10 years.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The section of the roads of Astana-Arkalyk-Torgai-Irgiz-Shalkar of Center-West Corridor goes through the Akmola, Kostanai and Aktobe regions. The environment as well as the technology, methods used in road construction is the same in the whole road section, thus Environmental Impacts are generic for the whole territory of the planned road section.

During the construction of roads the main types of environmental impacts normally are:

- air pollution caused by exhaust gases of various construction vehicles and various moving and stationary equipment;
- noise caused by machines and equipment and other various construction activities;
- contamination of food production activities in the production of road-building materials, the development of soil sub-grade device and road pavement;
- possible contamination of agricultural food production activities during the extraction of road building materials, dredging, and new construction activities;
- possible depletion of resources and reserves of ground water
- Disturbance to nesting birds and the habitats of animals;

During operation phase impacts such as air, noise, etc. depends on the distance from the carriageway:

- Air pollution and noise from all vehicles passing along the new route;
- contamination with dust and wear products pavement and erosion of soil contamination adjacent road by dumping of industrial and household waste;
- Cases of deaths of birds and animals on the road;
- Interruption of random movement routes;
- Potential pollution of surface runoff from the roadway;
- Potential contamination of air, water and soil as a result of filling stations, and shops the along the road;

Zones of Impact

For roads, depending on the category, theareas of influence are distinguished below:

- Influencing area: more than 3000 meters, which may be the effect of the road (eg, noise, dust, air pollution);
- Protection zone: the territory that borders with the right of way has a quite significant impact. In some cases, the impact can be very significant; noise and air quality, drainage, soil pollution, etc.
- Reserve zone: road is adjacent to the territory, which is needed for emergencies, has the potential future use for roadside service, cut and fill. Significant impact and environmental changes will occur during the construction period

Table 6.1- Estimated size of the zone of impact, the protection strip and reserve strip

Impacted zones	Distance from road, m. for different categories of roads		
	I	II	III
Zone of Impact	3000/1500	2000/1000	600
Protection strip	250/150	150/90	60/30
Reserve strip	30	12	-

6.2 AIR IMPACT

Construction and Operation Period

Planned economic activity on the construction and further exploitation of the road section will be accompanied by emissions of air pollutants and then spread them in the surface layer of the atmosphere during operation of construction equipment (emissions from construction activities and from the engines and machinery) during the construction period, and emissions from the engines moving vehicles on the alignment during operation.

In table 6.2.1 there are lists of work, name and description of sources of allocation of emissions to the atmosphere during the construction and operation of the highway.

Table 6.2.1 - Characteristics of emission sources

Types of	Name and characteristics of	Name of potential air emissions	
work	emission sources		
1	2	3	
Road	Isolation of soil dust and	Inorganic dust	
Construction	construction materials during		
	the work of machines and		
	machinery		
	Isolation of products of	Nitrogen dioxide, soot, carbon monoxide,	
	combustion in engines and	benz(a)pyrene, carbohydrates	
	machinery		
	Welding	Iron oxide, manganese and its compounds,	
	_	hydrogen fluoride	
	Paint works	White spirit, xylol	
Operation of	Isolation of products of	Nitrogen dioxide, soot, sulfur dioxide,	
the road	combustion in fuel engines of	Carbon monoxide, carbohydrates C12-C19, lead	
	vehicles	compounds	

The road construction is associated with concrete plants and stone crushers, work of which leads to high dust content. During the concrete production, cement and organic dust, as well as silicon, are emitted into the atmosphere. These substances can cause harm to the human health and environment. Prevention of air pollution as a result of the concrete plant and stone crushers operation is under responsibility of owners of the plant and quarries and is not included in the EIA within the road construction project.

The composition of engine emissions comprise: carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, nitrogen dioxide, lead, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter (soot).

The assessment of the level of air pollution caused by exhaust gases shall be done based on predictions in accordance with calculations. The values of maximum permissible concentration (MPC) of pollutants is obtained from the sanitary-epidemiological regulations and guidelines "Sanitary-epidemiological requirements to the atmospheric air." № 629 of the Republic of Kazakhstan of 18 August 2004. As the calculated value the concentration of harmful substances contained in exhaust gases from the various types of cars in mixed-flow traffic is accepted. The impact on the atmosphere is considered acceptable if the content of harmful substances in atmospheric air of populated areas does not exceed the maximum permissible concentration laid down in SanPiN "Sanitary-epidemiological requirements to the atmospheric air" dated August 18, 2004 N 629.

Assessing the level of impact on adjacent residential areas and sensitive uses is based on modeling of emissions in the atmosphere, according to "Methods of calculating concentrations of air pollutants contained in the emissions of businesses. RND 211.2.01.01-97". In calculating the dispersal of emissions from vehicles and in determining the concentration of toxic substances at a distance of 20 meters from the road, the Gaussian model is used by distributin the pollutants in the atmosphere at low altitudes. Calculations have been made for a single concentration (MPC) in accordance with SanPiN Requirements for atmospheric air of populated areas, developed in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan for each section of the projected road.

Conclusions on the construction and operation period:

Construction period: the results of calculations of air emissions in the construction and operation period must be within the value of the applicable laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan. As the road passes through open land with only a few residential areas, the harmful effects on health of the people will be minimal. It is very important that the organization of building warehouses or construction sites is located far from the residential areas. During the construction period, it is necessary to carry out a constant monitoring in accordance with Kazakhstan and international standards (eg WHO), except the parameters are not regulated by local standards. The Contractor will be responsible for monitoring, which will be accountable to the consultant to oversee the construction and local environmental authorities.

Operating period: Emissions from transport should not exceed the maximum permissible concentration at a distance of 20 m from the nearest lane. The concentrations of toxic substances contained in the exhaust gas within the area adjacent to the road - a reserve-technological strip, it will be within the allowable during the period of maintenance, and will not have a negative impact on the environment and health of human.

6.3 Noise and Vibration Impact

Construction Period

The various mechanical processes during the construction of roads are a source of intense noise, which can adversely affect human. The intensity of the ambient noise of the road machinery depends on the type of machinery and equipment, and the distance from the workplace to residential development. Especially the noise is created by the work of bulldozers, vibrators, compressors, excavators, and Diesel Trucks. The noise produced during construction is temporary and localized, but can still create an annoying impact.

According to GOST 12.1.003-83 Section "Noise" standards for noise level have been adopted of 70-80 dBA. The zones with noise level above 80 dBA must be marked with safety signs. In order to ensure acceptable levels of noise, building plan should be excluded with the works at night.

Conclusion: Construction Period

Given that the route plan will take place within the existing road, it can be assumed that the impact of noise on residential houses will be negligible. Based on the experience of road construction on similar projects can be assumed that the noise level is below the recommended level in the regulations mentioned above. Due to the construction, the intensity of traffic on the existing road will slightly increase and in the access and adjoining roads leading to the highway project.

The designer will identify the possible location of quarries along the transmission route plan. Location pits will be approved and the selected contractor, in consultation with engineers and local authorities on environmental issues, which will offer the most suitable locations to begin operational activities. However, no matter what career is used, the existing secondary roads will be used for the passage of the alignment to the project.

On the main road it is unlikely that the construction traffic will have a significant impact on traffic flows and noise disturbance to the existing communities. Nevertheless, this will need to be reviewed by the contractor, to be monitored in detail prior to the commencement of the construction period. For the minor roads that cross the new alignment and for any access routes, construction traffic will significantly increase traffic flows and potential noise disturbance. A traffic count on all possible access roads to road construction site together with a regular monitoring program will be prepared prior to the commencement of the construction period as part of the environmental due diligence and management measures.

Operation Period

Operation noise levels are influenced by traffic volume, fleet composition, speed, vehicle operating condition, age of vehicle, and condition of the road. Sources of noise on the car are the engine and the tire noise hitting the road surface. The noisiest are heavy trucks and trailers with diesel engines; the most "quiet" are new and more expensive cars.

Maximum permissible noise levels (MPL) – this is the factor level, which is in daily work (during the working experience) should not cause annoyance, distress or cause or worsen health of the present or future generations.

Calculated MPL are adopted in accordance with the "Standard Specifications of noise levels in residential and public buildings and housing areas» № 841 dated from December 3, 2004, by the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Permissible maximum levels of noise, caused by vehicles, are adopted in accordance with the above standards- 70dBA. Analysis of the results obtained from noise level calculations show that the distance from the road for the 70dBA standard is approximately 20 meters without installation of any noise barriers, and 10 meters with the installation of appropriately designed barriers.

Conclusion for the Operation Period:

From experience and engineering judgment, it is still predicted that noise levels will remain below the levels recommended in the regulations referred above.

In conclusion, during the operation period the predicted noise impact to any residential or sensitive uses will be minimal, and if necessary it can be reduced by engineering tools, such as noise protection barriers, green areas and landscape elements. It is necessary to monitor the noise level, characteristics along the alignment and the adjoining roads regularly. If the additional measures are needed to reduce the noise level, they will include it in the budget of the contract for the maintenance and repair roads and implement within the framework of this contract.

6.4 HYDROLOGICAL IMPACT

This section covers: 1) the availability of water for the construction and operation of the road, and 2) the potential impacts, including contamination impacts that the road will have on water resources in the areas: surface and groundwater.

Water Needs for Construction Period

In the process of construction of the facility, water is used for domestic needs, production needs and for drinking needs of workers involved in the construction. The use of surface water and groundwater in the construction of roads is permitted only with the consent of the Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture of RK. Sources of water for construction purposes will be determined after the completion of the design and obtaining a permit for special use by the Committee on Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture of RK.

The scale of water consumption for construction needs is insignificant. Water is used only for the preparation of concrete and mortar.

Calculation of drinking water consumption is carried out taking into account the number of workers and the duration of the construction period. The calculation of water consumption in the construction period for the entire section of the road will be made in the site-specific EIAs/EMPs, in accordance with regulations of RK.

Conclusions on water resources in the construction period

In the course of construction, water is used for domestic and production needs (preparation of mixtures, makeup wheel washing system, out door irrigation). Safety and qualities of water will be provided according to "The instruction of quality and safety of food products", approved by the Government resolution of the Republic of Kazakhstan, from November 29, 2000 №1783.

Technical water supply is scheduled to be received from the rivers, which are close to the road and with the approval of the Committee on Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture of RK. Drinking water will be imported and will be supplied by the contractor.

According to information, the results of the research section of the road, the representatives of "KazdorNII" and LLP "SAEN Engineering Group" the region is rich in groundwater. Surface water is sufficient to meet the needs of water during construction. It is assumed that the reserves of water will not be depleted in construction activities.

Water Needs for Operation Period

Water intake for various purposes related to road maintenance will be undertaken by road maintenance companies. Both drinking and non-drinking water is also needed for rest/service areas.

Conclusions on Pollution of Groundwater Resources: Construction and Operation Period

Based on the groundwater levels which are available along the road section and the characteristics of the project, it is expected that risks of contamination of groundwater during the construction and operation period are minimal. Significant work which is less fertile layer, such as dredging and drilling is not expected. Water for construction work and for the camps will be taken in small quantities from existing wells, or existing water supply system. In general, water availability is not a problem in the project area. Also, the top water level is not used as a source of drinking water, and it will not be disrupted.

During the operation period, pollution of groundwater will not occur, provided that the provisions of good practice are reflected by the designer and properly implemented.

Pollution of surface runoff from the roads

Assessment of pollution runoff from the roads and identification of needed mitigation is done by calculation of maximum allowable discharge (MAD) of pollutants into the water body. The detailed design is recommended to calculate the maximum allowable discharges for bridges located in areas of the projected road. The calculation of the MAD will be made in accordance with the "Recommendations on accounting requirements for the protection of the environment when designing roads and bridges"

Conclusion on Pollution of Surface Water: Operation Period

Discharges to water should be within the MAD, and thus – if complied with - the project will not have major negative impacts on the water sources during the operational period.

Quarries

Potential quarry on sites will be known after completion of project works. However, the final choice is up to the quarry contractor.

Existing career must be approved by the EIA from the competent authorities, and thus, it can be assumed that they will not affect the aquifers that are used as a source of drinking water. Moreover, apart from the occasional spill (unlikely, that is no coincidential) quarrying has a slight risk of contamination. The greatest risk associated with improper closure and reclamation of quarries can lead to their transformation into illegal landfills, which already have a significant risk of contamination. An important part of closing of quarry, thus, it is the dismantling and / or blocking all access roads.

Construction camps

Construction camps will generate sanitary waste from workers and staff, who work and will live close to the alignment. At this scale of construction, the number of workers will simultaneously reach several hundred in the area. At this stage, it is impossible to determine the location of the workers' settlements. As part of the road mainly passes through the agricultural land, it is necessary to prevent the contamination of soil and groundwater. Therefore, it is necessary to provide an apparatus of sewage treatment systems and garbage removal, which should be provided in the draft workers' settlements.

Hydrology Conclusion

Overall, the impact on groundwater and surface water is expected to be low. Streams and rivers will be crossed by bridges, with appropriate dimensions. In the sub-grade, a sufficient number of culverts are established to prevent congestion of the water and subsequent water logging.

6.5 SOIL AND LAND IMPACT

Soil Damage

Cleaning the area, excavation and backfilling of the mound, the subgrade device usually gives a major impact on soil and subsoil. A substantial amount of topsoil will have to be removed for the construction of roads and detours, quarrying, construction camps and other construction activities.

In those areas, there is a possibility of contamination, disturbances and damage to the soil cover. In particular, the soil may be compacted and damaged along the temporary access roads and on construction sites. Violation of soil is inevitable, and it will be more critical in areas with high soil humus content, which are very fertile. However, this can be minimized during the construction work with requirements of environmental protection.

Soil Contamination

There is a potential for contamination of soil during construction, as a result of the oil spill on quarrying along the route. Such contamination can then move on to the surface and underground water and agricultural activities in the vicinity of the alignment. Some contamination can occur during normal construction work, but the most serious contamination can occur during theaccidental fuel spills, and during the prolonged storage of building materials without precautions.

During the construction phase the most important potential for contamination will be on the sub soil, which will be exposed after the removal of fertile layer.

Soil contamination may also occur during the operational period. The main criterion for evaluating the hygienic danger of soil contamination by chemicals is (MPC) - the maximum amount of this substance in mg / kg of absolutely dry soil, which guarantees the absence of a negative direct impact on human health. Hazardous assessment of the effects are made on lead, it is an indicator which has a presence in the soil of other toxic elements. Maximum permissible concentration of lead in soil (MPC) in the Republic of Kazakhstan according to the "standards of maximum permissible concentrations of harmful substances, harmful microorganisms and other biological pollutants in the soil," is approved by the joint Order of the Minister of Health from 30.01.2004 №99 and Minister of Environmental Protection of 27.01.2004 of №21-p, and is set at 32 mg / kg.

According to the calculations of lead level at a distance of 20 meters from the road 14 to 47 mg / kg the lead in the soil is 32 mg / kg. Accordingly, at a distance of 20 meters, measured lead in soil in some areas is quite higher than the MPC. Where there is a waste, broken pavements and tires, broken exhaust pipe of a vehicle, leaking fuel and lubricants, and negligent actions of drivers and maintenance staff, and other poor management and maintenance of roads, there may be other additional pollution and lead levels may occur.

De-icing materials, especially salts of falling precipitation and melting snow from the road at the roadside, are less dangerous than other toxic materials. With significant accumulation, they can change the biological composition of roadside soils.

Soil Impact Conclusions: Construction and Operation Periods

Based on the research and the characteristics of the territory, it can be concluded that, subject to the appropriate construction technology, the harmful effects on the soil and subsoil during construction and operation period, such as pollution, erosion and landslide, will not arise. Similarly, during the operation period, there won't be any adverse impact on soil and subsoil.

6.6 FLORA AND FAUNA IMPACT

The Project is not expected to impact established protected areas. The alignment goes through Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe regions and 25km away from Kurgaldzhyn State Nature Reserve, located at the territory of the Kurgaldzhyn district, Akmola region. Nature Reserve Altyn Dala located in Kostanai region is 75-80 km away from the alignment in Amangeldy and 50-60 km - in Zhangeldinskiy district. About 90 km of the alignment will pass at a distance of 40-50km from the territory of Irgiz-Turgai state nature reserve.

In general, the construction of the road and its operation may affect flora and fauna 1) during construction through the loss and habitat destruction, or 2) during the operation of the effects of pollutants on flora and fauna. Air emissions can cause destruction of the pigments, the suppression of the synthesis of proteins, enzymes and disrupt other functions of plants. The alignment can also impact on certain types of animals that pass through the route or live near it, because of the separation of populations of some animals in small unstable group.

Contamination of flora can lead to impaired growth and development; accelerate the aging process, especially for perennials. Pollution of surface and vegetation transport emissions occurs gradually, and is directly dependent on the distance from the carriageway of the road. For some sensitive plants the pollution by exhaust gases of vehicles is higher than for humans and animals. Among inorganic contaminants that can have a significant impact on the environment, it should be noted a variety of anti-glaze chemicals, mainly salt. Salts have a negative effect on the road adjacent to the territory, the soil, plants, insects, animals and birds. Additionally, under the influence of the salt, the structure and physico-chemical properties of soils worsen, and adversely affecting all plants.

The harmful effects of salts on the greenery and plants occurs both in direct contact with the aerial parts, and through the root system. Direct contact with salts leads to the destruction of plant tissues, especially the cortex. Concentrated in the soil sodium ions interfere with the absorption of the root system of the plant nutrients.

During the operation stage, as a result of roadside pollution by heavy metals, salts, oils and other harmful substances, animals and birds may be poisoned through direct contact or through eating vegetation in the vicinity of the road. However, the new planting and landscaping may minimize pollution impacts in the immediate vicinity of the road.

Dust, depending on the chemical composition has a specific effect on plants caused by the penetration of harmful compounds into the leaf tissue. This accumulation of compounds in plant tissues causes a disturbance of metabolic functions of the body, reducing the amount of absorbed leaves photo, synthetically active energy and results in the acceleration of the aging process. Hedgehogs, foxes, rats and mice often die. The total number of animals killed on the road is not so high.

Potential impacts on saiga migration

Traffic flow and the noise of moving vehicles may eventually create conditions that prevent saiga from crossing. Associated facilities (e.g. construction camps or borrow pits) may divert animals to other areas or migration routes. Additional potential impacts include cases when animals are hit by moving vehicles or hunted by construction workers or local inhabitants.

Conclusion on Flora and Fauna Impact: Construction and Operation Periods

Overall assessment of the impact of the proposed project on vegetation is characterized as acceptable. Potential impacts of construction and operation of the road on population of *Saiga tatarica* are assessed as acceptable if areas of concentration and migration routes of saiga are surveyed and taken into account during preparation and implementation of site-specific EMPs.

6.7 WASTE GENERATION

Estimated generation of waste during construction

During construction and operation of the road a number of waste streams will be generated:

• Inert materials such as crushable material, scrap iron and steel, ash of welding electrodes, sand and gravel, crushed stone from crushing plants, concrete, crushed stone, which must be recycled and used as a construction material for filling, forming and landscape..

- Household waste, as well as harmful and dangerous substances such as waste from construction camps, container out of fuel, lubricants and construction chemicals such waste will be disposed according to Kazakh standards.
- Remains of trees and shrubs, and other organic matter from the clearing of land for construction.

Waste Estimates during Operation

Waste during the maintenance period will be mainly from sludge ponds for water waste from the road surface, the asphalt, the remnants of concrete and gravel materials after the repair and maintenance of roads. These wastes are not dangerous and can be transported on existing municipal landfills, in landfills for inert materials (gravel, rubble), or recycling plants (cement and asphalt). The annual amount depends on weather conditions (duration and severity of wintery conditions) and volume of maintenance works. Volume varies from hundreds to thousands of m3 per year.

In addition, waste and garbage will be generated by road users as a result of various activities in the areas provided for recreation / roadside service. The volume of such waste can be significant if all areas of services will operate, but most likely all of these areas will work for a long time.

6.8 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

Overall, construction and operation, noise and air pollution, water pollution may affect the nearby residents and in extreme conditions could impact on people's health, particularly on vulnerable groups; the old, those already sick, and children. However, as referred to above, noise, and air pollution and water pollution are not predicted to be a significant impact for this road project.

The road development will also require the acquisition of some land which may affect people's income and livelihoods particularly in the short term. Land acquisition is discussed in the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and detailed social impacts in the volume "Social Assessment."

The road development may have some impact on the economic activities of the local communities on the present road. However, it should be noted that there are only few small businesses near the alignment near the villages, which are not expected to be relocated and the negative impact is expected to be minimal.

The highways Committee considers, that it is important to consider of service improvement in the areas, and according to the project, the possibility of resettlement potential recreation areas / service. Normally these areas will provide facilities for resting, for buying petrol, for buying other goods and for eating and possibly overnight accommodation. These service areas could accommodate areas for local traders and farmers to sell their products. Although there may be some local economic adverse impacts on overall economic of the road, it will bring significant benefits to the local, regional, and national economy. A fast, safe and all weather roads will allow the efficient and rapid movement of goods between Astana and Irgiz. goods manufactured within all the linked cities will benefit the fast route. Agricultural production from the area, which is a major employment sector and a significant part of the local economy, can be transported rapidly to a wider market. Labor will be able to move more freely between the countries, and most important for regional and international economies tourism will be encouraged and the natural and social features of Kazakhstan can be exploited sustainably. On a regional basis, the larger communities along the alignment will benefit from faster travel times between the towns and to other urban centers in the

south and south west of Kazakhstan. More opportunities for employment and business will be opened.

Conclusion on Social and Economic Impact: Construction and Operation Periods

There can be some negative impacts on the socio-economic environment, including possible losses in trade and business on the existing road, but in general the construction of the highway have a positive impact on the socio-economic environment in the Akmola, Kostanay and Aktobe regions of Kazakhstan.

6.9 IMPACT ON PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

A detailed study of the territory in the vicinity of the road section was carried out by means of work with archival and bibliographic data, and topographical maps and satellite images. During the study, historical and cultural monuments in the area of the passage of the road were found. In order to ensure the conservation of the property TSC, which are identified in the area of expertise, it is recommended to agree on security measures against them during the construction of the road to the local executive bodies.

It is expected that with properly designed alignment, which takes into account location of Turgay geoglyphs (Turgay region of Kostanay oblast of northern Kazakhstan), the project will not have negative impacts on physical cultural resources.

The conclusion of the preliminary archaeological survey is contained in Appendix 2.

6.10 ROAD SAFETY AND AESTHETICS IMPACT

Road Safety

Road safety and possible accidents involving pedestrians and road users is an important issue for all new road developments. It is expected that the existing route traffic flows, particularly for long distances (trucks and buses), are expected to reduce and the incidence of traffic accidents should also be reduced. Correspondingly, hazards to pedestrians and non-motorized traffic along the existing route should also decrease.

Traffic on the highway project will be much safer because of the improvement of the project (such as optimized turning radius), separated carriageways in both directions, visibility and limited local access. Cross movement, slow and motorized movement will be excluded.

Nevertheless, there will still be a residual element of danger for pedestrians. Farmers, people working in the farm and herdsmen may need to cross the road at certain points and there will be some pedestrian trafficnear the settlements. There is a range of engineering and organizational measures available to slow down motorized traffic and improve traffic safety for pedestrians, animals, animal-powered carriages and cyclists. This includes signposting and speed enforcement with speed cameras; pedestrian crossings, if required with traffic lights; rumble strips and speed bumps to force speed reduction; light signals to warn drivers of crossings or non-motorized traffic participants. The design already foresees anumber of these measures, the final scope, layout and locations will be decided in consultation with the affected communities prior to construction.

Aesthetics

The proposed route passes through the Turgai hollow. The draft of the proposed route will ensure that there is no negative impacts on the landscape, and will not reduce the beauty of the landscape.

6.11 Cumulative Impacts on Environment

In future, the improved access will have broader economic/social development implications particularly of new or significantly improved roads. These future developments are not considered to be associated with this project in the sense of needing to apply the safeguard policies to them. This is because there are no specific developments that can be expected as a result of the project.

7. MEASURES FOR MITIGATION OF ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT OF THE PROJECT. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Road sections Astana-Arkalyk-Torgai-Irgiz-Shalkar of the Center-West Road Corridor passes through Akmola, Kostanai and Aktobe regions. Environment as well as the technology, methods

used in road construction is the same thus Environmental Management and Mitigation Measures are generic for the whole territory of the planned road section.

7.1 AIR QUALITY MITIGATION

Mitigation measures during the construction period

The concentration of pollutants for each source of contamination when working on the reconstruction of the road shall not exceed the maximum allowable limits set by the Kazakh standard SanPiN RK № 3.03.015-97. Various measures to ensure accordance with this requirement and to reduce the intensity and toxicity of emissions during road construction can be summarized as follows:

- Ensuring that all construction vehicles and equipment are maintained in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations and that any repairs are carried out immediately in accordance with manufacturers recommendations;
- Systematic monitoring of the technical state of fuel equipment of diesel engines, the exhaust gases of which are prone to contain significant amounts of soot;
- Ensuring the uniform and proper operation of paving machinery, sealing equipment and asphalting machines that will help prevent unacceptable concentrations of pollutants (e.g. aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons, including carcinogenic benz-a-pyrene, PAH)the working area and the surrounding areas.
- Due to the fact that there are no roads near the natural protected areas, there is no need to limit the works at night or in the placement of the construction depot and shift camp in places that will not have an impact on residential areas
- Must be performed regular monitoring of air pollution during the construction period, to monitor and, if necessary, take action to mitigate the impact on communities and workers involved in the construction
- Control dust and gas contamination of the working area (concrete plants, crushers, places with heavy dust formation and work with bitumen and others. Corrosive substances). Protective measures for people working in these zones

Mitigation during Operation Period

- Improving the design of highways. Reduced longitudinal slopes, improved visibility in the horizontal vertical curves, increase in their radius leads to ensure a higher operating speed of traffic flow and reduce toxic emissions. These requirements are incorporated into the design of this alignment.
- Proved in the projected road passes through flat terrain, the longitudinal slope does not
 exceed 10% of the radii of curves and visibility on the road comply with the technical
 categories, thus providing the highest operational condition of the road, giving significant
 reductions in emissions of toxic pollutants. These requirements are incorporated into the
 design of this alignment.
- Construction of road with signs, markings, and fences will provide non-stop and reduce% of emissions in the exhaust gases (EG) vehicles. These requirements were included in the draft of the proposed road.
- Recent legislation has established the requirement for every motor vehicle to be inspected
 and checked once a year for basic technical functionality, including emission standards. The
 inspection certificate has to stay with the vehicle at all times and is checked by road police
 during routine traffic controls.

• The use of unleaded gasoline is increasing in Kazakhstan and leaded gasoline will be phased out, which will progressively reduce lead emissions into the environment. Regular monitoring of air pollution should be carried out throughout the operation period and focusing specifically, close to the communities.

Dust Mitigation during Construction and Operation

Dust can be a major problem during construction and is caused as a result of preparation and construction activities, including site preparation where the soil is disturbed, during aggregate and cement handling for concrete production, from the transportation of materials particularly cement, and transport generally on unpaved surfaces.

To reduce dust pollution during construction and repair work on the road during operation the following mitigation should be carried out:

- Maintaining, cleaning and watering of road sections where there is intensive dust formation.
- Periodic watering of dirt roads at a rate of 2 l/m² per watering cycle;
- Set and enforce speed limit on sections of roads subject to intense dust formation;
- Ensure that the transport of all potentially dusty materials is done in covered trucks or the material is contained in secure bags.

7.2 Quarries and Borrow Pits Mitigation

Quarry sites which have been identified during the Consultant's site visit and will be identified in the on-going detailed (In order to reduce impacts associated with quarry activities and borrow pits, contract documents will specify only licensed quarrying operations to be used for material sources). If licensed quarries are not available the contractors will be responsible for setting up dedicated crusher plants at quarry sites approved by the MoID. Further, for all borrow sites, contractors will ensure that they acquire appropriate environmental permits from the relevant authority before sourcing the material.

The contractors will be required to prepare a plan to identify the sources of material and that will be used for the embankments. The plan will be agreed with the engineer of the construction works supervisor and submitted to MoID, which will ensure that the plan is implemented. The materials and spoil plan should show the location of any borrow pits to be used and the measures to be taken to rehabilitate these pits upon finalization of the project. MoID will approve and monitor implementation of the plan.

Prior to the start of the construction, the contractor should also prepare a borrow area operation plan indicating the borrow area, access and departure road, proposed area for extraction of material, and geological cross section.

However, no quarry shall be located within 500m of any urban/built-up area, protected area or sensitive receptor. In addition, Contractors should ensure that quarries and crusher plants are:

- located at least 500 meters from urban areas to prevent noise and dust impacts;
- located outside of agricultural land; and
- where possible located on government owned lands.

The following good practice for excavation, material storage and transportation is recommended:

- top soil must be stored separately, covered and used for re-vegetation of borrow area or slopes at the construction site
- material has to be excavated only in designated areas in coordination with Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)
- excavated material has to be stored at designated areas in coordination with CSC
- excavated material should not be stored in the vicinity of open water courses to prevent siltation or obstruction of water ways
- The contractor has to wet unpaved routes which go next to settlements to suppress dust pollution when hauling material from borrow pits
- Crashed-stone material (sand) has to be covered with tarpaulin to prevent dust generation and contamination of transport roads
- Aggregate load has to be wetted by the contractor to reduce potential dust emissions trucks must not be overloaded to prevent road accidents

To mitigate the impacts from quarry sites and borrow pits, it is recommended that in addition to the preparation of the materials and spoil plan, that bid and contract documents specify that (i) pit restoration will follow the completion of works in full compliance all applicable standards and specifications; (ii) arrangements for opening and using material borrow pits will contain clauses mandatory for implementation by contractors; (iii) the excavation and re-cultivation of the borrow areas and their surroundings, in an environmentally sound manner to the satisfaction of the Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC) Site supervision by CSC will be required before final acceptance and payment under the terms of contracts; (iv) topsoil from borrow pit areas will be saved and reused in re-vegetating the pits to the satisfaction of the CSC. Extraction of construction material from the river bed should be avoided to prevent erosion and destruction of the river banks including alongside infrastructure (roads, settlements).

7.3 Noise and Vibration Mitigation

The level of traffic noise at any sensitive point generated by vehicles traveling on the highway, shall not exceed the values set in, SanPiN № 841 from 12.03.2004, Republic of Kazakhstan, at 70 dBA.

Mitigation of Noise during Construction Period

Level of the noise is high at traffic on the road and can be caused by a range of equipment and by vehicles transporting goods and equipment. Significant noise can be created by bulldozers, scrapers, pneumatic hammers, vibrators, cutters.

Reducing construction noise is achieved through the following activities:

- Impose a speed limit of traffic during construction to 60km/h. This can reduce noise by 7 dB (as compared to 80 km/h);
- Undertake construction work during the daytime to reduce any potential impact on sensitive uses particularly in construction access roads;
- Effective soundproofing of all vehicles and equipment by the use of foam, rubber and other soundproofing materials, as well as through the use of hoods with multilayer coatings; ensure that Contractors either have modern equipment that fulfill noise reduction norms, or that equipment is retrofitted to meet the required standards;
- Stationary units (e.g. aggregates or compressors) shall be placed in sound-absorbing areas or tents, which can reduce the noise level by up to 70%.

- The definition of road construction zones with high sound levels above 80 dBA must be designated with safety signs, and workers in this area should be provided with personal protective equipment (ear mufflers of plugs).
- All depots, special working areas, batching or mixing plants should be located at a distance from any sensitive areas
- Due to the fact that natural protected areas, reserves are located far away from the road would not be necessary to limit the works at night or in the placement of the construction depot and shift camp
- There should be regular monitoring of noise levels near natural protected area to make sure there are no impacts on residents and workers involved in the construction

Operation Noise Mitigation

The calculation of noise during the operation period indicates that traffic noise does not exceed the maximum permissible at any location along the alignment. However it will be particularly important to monitor operation noise levels along the built-up areas to determine whether noise levels are exceeded or whether the community is disturbed by the noise.

Vibration Mitigation

Vibration normally occurs when piling takes place. This may only occur at a number of locations mainly at bridge construction. If it does not take place near the sensitive uses the impacts on the community will be small. The most important impact will be the impact on workers on the construction site. All workers exposed to vibration should be given special clothing, earplugs and given regular breaks.

7.4 Hydrological Mitigation

Construction

Overall the impact on groundwater and surface water is expected to be low. The impact on groundwater levels is likely to be minimal and contamination will be unlikely. It is unlikely that any groundwater resources will be impacted by the construction activities. Embankments will have sufficient culverts to prevent damming of surface runoff and subsequent water logging.

During road construction in order to control and prevent pollution watercourses must be constantly monitored.

Discharge of Waste Water from Construction

Chemical composition of the wastewater must comply with sanitar7y norms (SanPiN Protection of surface waters from pollution, № 3.02.002.04). The discharge of wastewater to water courses is only allowed based on a permit of the sanitary-epidemiological service and authority on fishery.

The operational period

Potential pollutants include: heavy metals from fuel combustion, cancerogenic dust from wear of car tires, oil products, deicing salts and other substances. Gas stations and roadside servicing stations which are located within the right of way are potential sources of pollution. Detailed mitigation measures will be prescribed in the site-specific EMPs.

Surface and Groundwater Protection

In order to prevent negative impacts on the water objects in the river set water protection zone. Dimensions of the water protection zone on each side of the middle of summer the water's edge for small rivers with the length of 100km up to 200 km; for the rest of the big rivers with the length more than 100km - 300 m:

In water protection zones is prohibited pollution of the earth's surface, especially landfills, waste production, as well as parking, fueling, washing and repair of motor vehicles and road equipment. For the pollution and contamination of waters, commissioning works without devices to prevent pollution and contamination of water, wasteful water use, violation of water protection regime at watersheds and other violations, the perpetrators are liable in accordance with legislation

According to the instructions on the approval and issuance of permits for special use of water in the Republic of Kazakhstan the Contractor should during the work on reconstruction of the road to get permission for use of water.

Works within the water protection zone can be allowed under special permit by territorial departments of the Committee on Water Resources, Ministry of Agriculture.

Specific Mitigation during Construction should include:

Department of Roads, regional departments of the Committee of Water Resources and local authority in consultation with Contractors to ensure all water extraction for construction and workers only takes place from sustainable resources from wells (for construction activities) and from piped supply system (for domestic use in camps etc). The contractor shall be responsible for obtaining all permits required for use of surface and groundwater resources from the akimats and local authorities. No water shall be used without specific permits.

- Good housekeeping of all areas of the construction site to ensure no flooding occurs.
- Good management of all areas of the construction site to prevent contamination from construction activities .
- All surface water courses in the area of construction will be protected by settling ponds and filters.
- Waste water from construction camps to be treated on site before discharge into surface rivers;
- Septic sludge from toilets to be taken to offsite treatment plants.

Operation

During operation to prevent contamination, the road will include drainage channels and culverts for removing storm water from the carriageway of the road outside. Water from road bridges passes to the paving blocks and curbs along the borders assigned to drainage cradles at the beginning and end of the bridge, and then enters the water receiving wells, where the filtering occurs.

To ensure the removal of pollutants from the roadway of the bridge sidewalk concrete curbs are located along the entire length of the bridge. Rain water on the pedestrian part of the bridge is protected from harmful toxic substances from the roadway of the bridge by a continuous barrier so there is no threat to the ecosystem. On small bridges pollution is also excluded from entering the surface water by a continuous curb railing.

Discharge of water from the carriageway flows by longitudinal trays along the edge of the roadway, and then cross-trays, arranged on the slopes of the embankment height greater than 4 meters, with a

longitudinal slope of a slope of 0.03, as well as for concave curves. The ends of the trays are arranged along the slope embankment to prevent erosion of the sub grade.

7.5 Soil Erosion and Contamination Mitigation

Soil Contamination

During the construction period it is important that the contractor undertakes all activities in accordance with contract specifications and manages all site activities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

During the construction of the road to the number of priority works should include the elimination of pockets of erosion and the elimination of the causes of its occurrence. Due to the characteristics of the landscape and design solutions, even in extremely dry or humid conditions, landslides or erosion is likely will not occur. In spite of this, all construction work must be carried out with the prevention of erosion.

To ensure soil is not polluted it is essential to undertake the following activities:

- Ensure, through proper construction management, that oil and other spills do not occur, and that if they do immediate action is taken to minimize impacts on the soil.
- Storage of construction materials only takes place in properly prepared locations;
- Immediate sorting and removal of construction debris to an offsite landfill;
- Cover the fertile layer after the open excavation sites to prevent contamination of soil layers of earth.

Soil Reclamation

The Construction of the road will require the use of land for a temporary period for construction activities and it is a legal requirement that all land used for a temporary period for construction must be reclaimed and returned to the original users and owners in a condition suitable for its original agricultural use. Any use of land that involves the removal of any soil creates instability to the local environment and wider environment and it is essential to preserve the natural topography and existing vegetation.

According to the Land Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan from 20.06.2003 and "Guidelines for the assessment of proposed economic and other activities on the environment in developing predesign and project documentation", Astana, 2007 all land used must be returned in a condition suitable for agriculture.

Biological reclamation allows for the planting of grasses to encourage the restoration of fertility. Land reclamation should be done during or after the completion of the construction activities. It is important to reclaim in all place where soil and sub soil has been disturbed by construction and associated activities.

Remediation of activities to reduce loss and erosion of soil during construction includes the following:

- Removal of sand and detritus mixture (20 cm) from the surface of the road with a bulldozer moving into piles up to 50m, followed by loading an excavator to dump 0.65 m2 to transport up to 1 km (35,000 x 0.20);
- The preparation of the road surface by bulldozer;
- Deep subsoil loosening by bulldozer;

• Backward sliding of topsoil from the dumps to the prepared surface layer by the bulldozer

Activities on the site after construction should include:

- Use of tillage cultivator;
- Mechanized sowing of perennial grasses as follows: alfalfa 25% of 18 kg / ha 30% perennial ryegrass 75% of 35 kg / ha of 30%.
- After sowing, rolling the surface by a ring-roller

The best perennial grasses are wheatgrass and sainfoin. Wheat has a high resistance to drought. The wheat grass grows equally well in early spring and autumn. Sainfoin - a long-standing drought-resistant and extremely valuable winter-hardy legume crop is sown in wide aisles with 30-60cm. It is planted mainly in the early spring period and the green mass is eaten by cattle, and also provides excellent hay.

Immediate and proper reclamation of land reduces the adverse impact of disturbed land on the environment. It will reduce dust and pollution, can have a beneficial impact on human health and eliminates environmental damage.

Operational period

During operation it will be important that all pollution is minimized and managed. All liquid wastes of any kind must be taken from the road and disposed of in an approved landfill. It will be the responsibility of the road agency to ensure speedy and full clearance of all waste from the road and from its vicinity.

7.6 Mitigation of Impacts on Flora and Fauna s

Air pollution, noise and vibration, flooding, wind and water erosion can potentially have negative environmental impacts.

The mitigation methods referred to above for air pollution and noise and vibration impacts will also benefit the flora and fauna. Specifically to reduce the negative impact on flora and fauna the following environmental protection measures are proposed:

- Ensuring high quality condition of the road surface throughout the operation period to minimize noise and particularly air pollution which has adverse impacts on fauna and can also impact sensitive flora;
- Reduce the use of salt and chemical materials used to disperse snow and ice in winter so that soils, plant tissues, animals and birds are not adversely affected or killed. An alternative is to replace salt and other chemicals with friction materials such as sand or gravel;
- Use de-icing materials that are less toxic to the environment including anti-HCF-type materials (calcium chloride, inhibited phosphate) or MRA (potassium-magnesium acetate), which do not lead to irreversible changes in photosynthesis and the subsequent destruction of plant tissues and animal death;
- Reduce the incidence of dust pollution by good maintenance of the road, regular cleaning and watering to reduce negative effect on vegetation.

Additionally all transport and haulage vehicles using the road, including construction traffic, should use dust protection tarpaulin or other suitable cover.

Temporary or longer term localized flooding and water logging shall be prevented by culverts and drainage systems to ensure flora and fauna are not affected. Cutting down of trees and landing of new trees in this project isn't provided

The ability to filter the green zone is observed not only with dust, but also reduces the noise impact of motorways. Green plants contribute to the enrichment of air with oxygen. Gardening helps to fight erosion and loss of soil at the site.

Compensatory measures are - planting at least the same number of trees, and the additional provision for non-germinated seedlings. These activities are provided for planting in a separate contract and will not be part of the contract the construction of roads.

Specific Fauna mitigation during Construction:

As a result of the meeting with the planners and the locals, the underpasses will be built according to the regulatory requirements applied in Kazakhstan. More information on underpasses will be available after the completion of the detailed design for the all sites and it will be described in the PMP.

The Contractor shall ensure that no excessive and/or unnecessary disturbance to fauna within or close to the alignment takes place. Game hunting by the contractor's personnel will be forbidden in the project area. The Contractor and Supervision Engineers will strictly enforce these requirements.

Saiga protection

Specific areas with high concentrations of saiga and potential critical habitats and their migration routes will be surveyed. The Client and their contractors will establish collaboration with environmental organizations that perform saiga monitoring which will become an important part of preparation and implementation of site-specific EMPs. According to the report "Saiga crossing options" (by Kirk A. Olson from Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute for the Frankfurt Zoological Society, Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan, Fauna & Flora International and Convention on Migratory Species) properly designed underpasses/crossing points are considered to be sufficiently effective and acceptable measure for saiga migration and the road would not lead to significant degradation of the habitat (i.e. not significantly interfere with migration). Specific locations for such crossings (if needed) will be determined during preparation of site-specific EMPs.

7.7 MITIGATION OF IMPACTS OF WASTE

Waste during the construction period

Inert materials, such as sand and gravel mix, concrete, crushed stone, which must be recycled and used as a building material for filling, forming and landscaping. These types of waste are disposed in accordance with sanitary regulations and the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Timber from felled trees and other organic matter from the clearing of land for construction should be collected and stored in special places outside the construction zone, it can also be sold to the public as firewood.

The project preparatory work should be provided special places for temporary storage of waste, indicating the methods and the ways of their removal to the place of burial, processing or marketing. Export of wood and waste from clearing vegetation should be carried out during the season of felling and winch works (preferably in the winter).

Contractors should have separate containers for collection of waste metal, plastic, construction materials. Wastes classified as secondary raw materials (scrap metal) to be stored separately. Waste for recycling and re-use at the construction site should be clearly marked. In all cases, the storage should be done in designated areas and removed from the site if necessary. For all questions of

waste should be consulted for the control of waste. The Contractor is responsible for garbage removal, which should be in accordance with regulations. Hazardous waste must be disposed of in accordance with local and national regulations. Garbage collection in the surrounding areas, with or without the owner's permission, the construction site is prohibited so long as these areas will not be approved as a place for waste disposal. Burning of any waste is prohibited.

All wastes in urban settlements and the locations of office are taken by the contractor to landfills that have the appropriate permissions. Solid waste will be transported to the landfill. Waste in the form of construction of the electrode stubs, metal fittings and pipes will be sold to specialized companies for receiving the wastes. Unauthorized burning of waste at the construction site is prohibited. There will be temporary place at the site to be marked appropriately for collection of garbage.

Upon completion, all the waste, as well as temporary construction and installation, unused materials will be removed from the site. No rubbish should be left at the site of any construction activity.

Waste Estimates during Operation

Waste generated during operation will mainly be gravel and salt remnants from winter care, sludge / cake from settling ponds for storm-water, and asphalt, concrete and gravel from repair and maintenance works. None of these wastes is very hazardous and disposal pathways will either be existing municipal waste management facilities, landfills for mineral materials (gravel, rubble) or recycling facilities (cement kilns or asphalt plants). The annual quantities will fluctuate depending on weather conditions (length and severity of wintery conditions) and volume of maintenance works. The range is expected to lie between a few 100s to a few 1,000s of m³ per annum.

Control over the export of waste is the responsibility of the akimat. DEU agrees on the content of waste for disposal. The exports of waste to other places have to be agreed with the regional Akimat. Any hazardous or medical waste transported separately agreed to landfill. DEU is responsible for garbage collection within the territory of the road and service areas and its export in the appropriate places. Garbage dump on the road and service areas is prohibited. Do not dispose trash on the road or in the field of service, unless it is permitted by local and national regulations.

The question regarding the places of moving cattle and agricultural equipment as discussed in the RAP.

7.8 SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MITIGATION

Local Businesses

The road development may have some impact on the economic activities of the local communities on the present road alignment. Alongside the present road there are various permanent and temporary commercial activities including restaurants, convenience stores, car repair establishments, and temporary stalls selling local fruit, vegetables and other local produce. These businesses rely predominantly on passing traffic for their customers.

Mitigation approaches for impacts would be:

- Providing sites for local businesses and farmers to sell their produce to travelers using the
 new road. Recommended the design should include sites for local farmers and business as a
 means to ensure that the local community can benefit from the new road and as a means of
 offsetting potential losses to existing businesses on the present road.
- Good signage on the new road and at junctions to show the location of the nearest petrol station, shops, market, restaurants etc. located on the original road. This will enable users of the new road to make easy access to the local commercial uses on the original road.

• After the construction of the road and prior to opening of the Service/rest areas to allow small traders to set up at vacant sites at some interchanges. This would need to be in accordance with road safety regulations and should only occur at specific approved sites where space is available of the road for parking and visibility is good. Signs informing roads users of these locations should be incorporated into the proposed road signage.

Livestock crossing points

During the first consultation many farmers were concerned about ensuring that sufficient livestock and farm equipment crossing points were included in the design. This is particularly important where a farmer's land is along both sides of the road alignment. But it is also an issue where the road blocks traditional routes for farmers moving livestock and machinery. As a result of public hearings as required to be included in the project of livestock and place of travel for agricultural machinery. It is desirable that the decision to deploy additional underpasses were taken before construction.

Land acquisition mitigation aspects are covered in the Resettlement Policy Framework. Any objections and complaints should be in accordance with the Grievance Mechanism included in the RPF for the completion of the land acquisition and for the construction period.

Potential Bypasses

On the section of the road Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz-Shalkar may require potential detours along the settlements. The need to build bypasses will be determined during the detailed design and this will be reflected in the working design.

7.9 MITIGATION MEASURES TO PROTECT CULTURAL HERITAGE

The contractors will follow the procedures described in paragraph 2 of Article 39 of the Law on "the Protection and Use of historical and cultural heritage of the Republic of Kazakhstan": "In the case of detection of objects of historical, scientific, artistic and cultural value, Individuals and legal entities are obliged to suspend the further conduct of work and inform the competent authority."

In case there is a threat of damage to geoglyphs, re-routing of the alignment will be done at design stage. If re-routing is not possible, Site Management Plan will be done as part of site-specific EMPs. The project will also support further research and promotion of geoglyphs as historic and cultural heritage and a tourism attraction in the project area. The Client will make every effort to avoid damage to geoglyphs.

In the event modern funeral monuments will require relocation, these monuments will be moved by contractors in consultation/coordination with local authorities.

7.10 ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY MITIGATION

The project will have a temporary impact on access and movement in the areas of rehabilitation during the construction of detours and traffic inconvenience, and local roads may be damaged during transport of building materials and construction equipment, or the movement of abnormal amounts of transport, and this issue has been raised at the hearing. Mitigating the effects of the above will include:

- The contracts will include a clause stipulating that during the construction violations of traffic rules are minimized. The Contractor shall ensure that the roads will remain open to traffic during construction;
- The contractor will prepare a Traffic Management Plan (TMP), which must be approved by the Supervision Engineer. The plan will include temporary routes, access roads to quarries, traffic

control devices, temporary fencing, barriers and obstacles, detours, road signage and speed limits and provisions for safe passage of pedestrians:

- During preparation to works start the contractor will install all the signs, barriers and control devices required to ensure the safe use of the road by vehicle traffic and pedestrians, in accordance with the TMP;
- Signs, transitions, and other appropriate security measures to be included in the rail and road crossings;
- Before installing the detours and making any changes will be consulted with local authorities and with residents of the project area;
- Footpaths and roads will remain clean from waste and other materials during the construction period;
- Designated recycling and routes will be defined and agreed with the local authorities; and
- Construction vehicles will use temporary roads constructed for this purpose, in order to minimize damage to agricultural land and access to local roads. Where use of local roads, they will be restored to its original state after the completion of the work.

At junctions it is necessary to provide the warning and information signs, lighting and safe crossings for pedestrians and non-motorized transport movement. The project may include speed cameras at intersections connected to a central control system. The project will provide the band "comb" of thermoplastic material at the entrance to the contiguity and elsewhere to warn drivers of the closures and the need to reduce speed.

Pedestrian crossings

If necessary, pedestrian crossings in areas of frequent movement of pedestrians will be organized. Pedestrian crossings should include white markings (zebra) on the roadway, signs and advance warning signs.

At junctions and access roads adequate warning and information signs, and street lighting will be provided, if necessary.

Aesthetics

Aesthetic requirements are needed to avoid negative visual impacts on landscape and project territory broadly.

This can be achieved through the following design and operational requirements:

- The design of the road and its construction should take into account preservation of landscape characteristics and features, pleasant to the human visual perception;
- Where possible, the road must be designed in harmony with the natural landscape in a way that deep pits and embankments are less visible;

The above two requirements will be included in the project route.

Landscaping and planting of trees and vegetation, which are characteristic and suitable for harsh climatic conditions of Kazakhstan will be required. Signs, kilometer post and all other road accessories should be designed and installed in harmony with the landscape. All elements of the road, especially the adjacent elements of the surrounding landscape should be properly maintained. This will be operational requirements for road maintenance organization.

8. INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

The following section presents a description of the environmental management activities that will be undertaken as part of overall project implementation. The roles and responsibilities of various organizations in carrying out these activities are defined and the institutional strengthening activities that are required to allow those organizations to achieve their nominated roles and responsibilities are determined.

An environmental monitoring program will be prepared and the expenditures, associated with its implementation will be included in the Civil Works Contracts and consultancy supervision service project.

8.1 ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN PROJECT

The institutions to be involved in the environmental management of the project are the following:

- Government of Republic of Kazakhstan(RK)
- Ministry of Investment and Development (MoID)
- Committee for Roads(CfR)
- International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
- Committee of Environmental Protection of the Ministry of Energy of RK
- «KazAvtoZhol NC» JSC National Operator responsible for management of republican roads
- «KazakhAutoDor» RSE Enterprise on roads operation and maintenance
- Project Management Consultant (PMC)
- Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)
- PMC Environmental staff
- Contractor
- Regional and local administration
- Affected communities

8.2 INSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS

MoID bears responsibility for preparation, implementation and financing of environmental management and monitoring tasks as they pertain to the project. MoID will implement its functions through PMC which will be responsible for general project execution, and which will be tasked with day-to-day project management activities, as well as monitoring.

Specialist staff will be assigned to the PMC to perform all tasks related environmental assessment. The PMC environment staff will be supported by the CSC (Construction Supervision Consultant). The CSC's team is necessary to provide an environmental monitoring specialist and social impact monitoring specialist. At the present time there are no permanent workers in the PMC, assigned to environmental assessment, management or monitoring. Such tasks will be implemented on each project basis by Consultants.

At the implementation of environmental management and monitoring tasks specific technical assistance will be provided by:

• Environmental specialists, which are part of supervision consultant's andall included into project contracting organizationsteam. The specialists will assist in all aspects of

environmental planning and implementation, internal monitoring and evaluation and training of PMC staff and relevant government establishment on environmental assessment and World Bank's Environment Policy questions;

• An independent monitoring agency (IMA) could be hired to (I) conduct periodic monitoring and evaluation, (II) check implementation of the IEE and EMP activities by third person, and (III) to ensure that all the identified adverse effects at this moment have been mitigated.

The consultation with Committee of Environmental Protection (CEP) under the Ministry of Energy of RK will be conducted during the feasibility study and detailed designing and also it will be required to confirm the project category. The CEP will be suggested to review the EIA and confirm the project for its environmental importance. Ongoing consultation with CEP will be required during the implementation of the project.

The rural communities and village leaders and organizations will assist in arranging meetings and submit information about affected communities and environmental impacts. An account of the process will be an integral part of the internal monitoring, prepared by PMC.

Responsibilities for the implementation of the monitoring requirements of this EIA are shown in Table 9.1 and Table 9.2 in accordance with the Environmental Management Plan, Monitoring and Institutional Responsibility of Chapter 9.

Implementation of mitigation measures during the construction stage will be the responsibility of the Contractor in compliance with the contract specifications and loan requirements. The Environmental specialists of project supervision consultant will supervise the monitoring of implementing of mitigation measures during the construction stage. The local ecologist will coordinate together with the international environmental specialist for resolving complicated issues that arise in this field and provide continuously updated information in order to submit reports to PMC and WB.

After project completion, MoID will be in charge of the operation and maintenance of the roads. PMC in cooperation with the district/regional administrations will conduct regular and occasional monitoring and sample analysis in CEP's analytical control laboratory in Astana as scheduled in the monitoring plan.

Conduction of periodic environmental monitoring of fauna after road construction completion is recommended. It is desirable that work acceptance after completion should include a full examination of the contractor's compliance with the specified requirements for the protection of the environment. This should include verification of the proper clean-up and restoration of all temporary work sites (quarries, camps, etc.) and of the proper landscaping, planting and draining of all borrow pits and spoil areas.

In the longer term, it is essential that the authorized bodies of road maintenance monitor the effectiveness of the erosion protection measures. Some form of reporting should be implemented to ensure that information regarding defects in design or construction methods is fed back to the centre and to the Road Maintenance Units.

Carrying out by CSC periodic assessments of the fatality rate of livestock and migratory herds and migratory animals especially at new alignments if it is necessity to build due to traffic impact is also recommended. Corrective measures should be taken if the frequency of such occurrences increases significantly. The different phases of the implementation of the EIA on separate road sites are as follows:

(a) Planning of the road project with special account being taken of:

- areas with large excavations (cuttings) and embankments, and quarries for construction materials;
- soil reserves for embankments and dumping areas for spoil;
- storage areas for toxic waste and garbage,
- locations of temporary concrete plants and other material processing plants,
- contractors' camps,
- sources of water for construction purposes,
- temporary access roads and other temporary constructions.
- (b). Obtain written agreement from local administrative authorities concerning spoil dumps, burial of garbage, contaminated soils and toxic substances.
- (c). Obtain written permits (from local authorities, representatives of the environmental protection authority and sanitary inspector) concerning permanent and temporary land acquisition for road construction, quarries, spoil dumps, contractors' camps, concrete plants and other materials processing plant.
- (d). Agreement of any changes with local institutions, responsible for irrigation system, if they are touched upon by the project.
- (e). Agreement of the planning requirements for bridges and other structures in rivers or other water bodies with the agencies responsible for fisheries and the local representatives of the environmental protection authorities.
- (f). Monitor (by measurement) emissions to the atmosphere and discharges into the ground during construction.
- (g). Monitor (by measurement) vehicle emissions during the operation of the road.
- (h). Monitor (by measurement) noise levels in towns and other settlements during construction, and the subsequent operation of the road.
- (i). Monitor effects of construction-related vibrations, contractor to be responsible for any avoidable damage caused by himself. Contractors who do not comply with the legislative requirements must be held responsible for the violations and required to compensate for any damages caused.

After EIA document confirmation, a copy of confirmation and a summary of the document will be sent to all relevant communities and villages. Information regarding the approved project and the proposed environmental management measures will be posted in appropriate locations on the project site.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, MONITORING PLAN AND INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

9.1 Environmental Monitoring Plan

Environmental monitoring is a very important aspect at project realization taking into account requirements on environment protection to safeguard the environment. During construction, landslide monitoring, side slope monitoring and embankment monitoring will be conducted for the purpose of timely prevention of potential erosion. Borrow pits restoration, quarry activities, material storages, locations of asphalt plants, community relations, and safety provisions are described within the EMP.

In response to the environmental impacts identified during the study, an environmental monitoring plan has been developed and is presented in Table 9.1 and Table 9.2. The contract documents will contain a list of all required mitigation measures and a timeframe for the compliance monitoring of these activities. The monitoring will include supervision to check the Contractor's execution of Contract provisions during construction period.

The construction supervision consultant (CSC) in cooperation with MoID during project implementation will be required to:

- The Contractor will develop appropriate EMP. The CSC will use this monitoring plan as a basis for supervision of the Contractor's compliance with these EMP.
- Regular control for environment monitoring conducting, and submission of quarterly reports: the main parameters to be monitored are outlined in Table 9.1 and 9.2. Usually the CSC provides an Environmental Specialist as part of the CSC team.
- Regular control of the subproject roads, and submission of quarterly reports based on the
 monitoring data and laboratory analysis report. The Contractor and the Supervision engineer
 will be responsible for data collection of environmental monitoring.

A lump sum budget is allocated to cover monitoring cost during construction phase of the project. PIG will hire a consultant for environmental monitoring and ensure that the road is monitored regularly during construction works.

The following measures will be taken to provide an environmental compliance monitoring program during project implementation:

- The tender and contract documents will clearly determinate the contractor's obligations to undertake the environmental mitigation measures as set out in chapter 7 of this EIA and which shall be stipulated as enclosure to specifications;
- The recommended environmental mitigation cost should be included as an item in the Bills of Quantities. It will guarantee of specific environmental mitigation budget available, which will be conducted as required. During the procurement, Contractors will be encouraged to include these costs in their rates and present the mitigation cost as an item in the Bill of Quantities

During construction, the Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC) in accordance with the Project Management Consultant (PMC) will control over construction, compliance with the requirements of safety, health and environment.

9. EMP: MONITORING AND INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY: ASTANA- ARKALYK - TORGAY - IRGIZ-SHALKAR ROAD SECTION

Table 9.1 PROJECT IMPACT, MITIGATION MEASURES, MONITORING AND RESPONSIBILITY

CATEGORY	POTENTIAL IMPACT	SIGNIFICANCE	LOCAL IMPACTS	MITIGATION	RESPONSIBILITY	MONITORING	RESPONSIBILIT Y	LONG TERM IMPACT
1. Air quality	Air pollution: emissions from construction machinery and equipment, emissions from cement-concrete, asphalt-concrete plants, crushers, etc. Dust: from construction activity borrow pits and crushers transportation of materials	Potentially significant, especially during dry season	Generally in the main area of construction, the existing roads or bypass roads; Potential impact on adjacent villages Local influences on sites in Akmola, Kostany and Aktobe aren't predicted	All vehicles and the equipment used in construction have to be modern, be appropriately maintained and used according to recommendations of manufacturers. All access and bypass roads have to be watered. All plants/dust-generating equipment should be in good repair and be located at distance from all sensitive zones.	The contractor shall bears the responsibility for implementation of mitigation measures. Supervision Engineer monitors the compliance with mitigation plan.	Regular (monthly) monitoring by licensed laboratories at designated sampling points and on-site compliance checks by Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC), Engineer and local environmental protection authorities	Contractors Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer	Long term impact is limited
2. Noise and vibration	Noise from construction machinery and equipment Noise from cement- concrete and asphalt concrete plants,	Potentially significant	The area of construction, access and bypass roads. Potential impact on nearby residential areas. Potential impact on the settlements and villages Local impacts	All vehicles and the equipment being in use in construction have to be modern, regularly maintained and used according to recommendations of the manufacturers. All plants/noise making equipment have to be in good	The contractor shall bears responsibility for implementation of mitigation measures. Supervision Engineer monitors the compliance with mitigation plan.	Regular (monthly) monitoring, implemented by certified laboratory in specified places of selection of tests and Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC),	Contractors (through licensed laboratories) Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer	No long term impact

	crushers, etc. Transport noise on the access roads		onAkmola, Kostany and Aktobe sections are not predicted.	repair and locate at distance from settlements. Any types of works during night time near residential areas of the villages/settlements of on Akmola, Kostany and Aktobe should be prohibited. Speed limit of 60 km/h for all construction equipment shall be enforced.		Engineer and local authorities (bodies on EM).		
3. Water, drainage system and floods	Pollution by a runoff from the construction sites in the areas of bridge construction is possible Infiltration of the polluted water in the water-bearing horizons Pollution of underground waters at pits/quarries (accidental spills) Pollution of surface and underground water sewage from camps.	Influence is from moderate to insignificant. Places of water intakes from wells (drinking water and technical water) will be agreed with Committee on Water Resources. Pollution of underground waters is unlikely as deep soil excavation isn't planned. Pollution from rotational camps can be from moderate to significant	Potential impacts in the area of surface water, located along the alignment (bridge construction). Potentially – all alignment Areas of location of the construction camps	CfR, Committee on water resources and Akimats of districts in consultation with contractors. The contractor shall provide water intake only from designated sources. Good management at construction sites. Areas of potential pollution of rivers will be designed to prevent accidental spills and runoff and protected by sediment basins. Sewage at construction camps will be collected in septic reservoir and transported/discharged at wastewater treatment plants.	CfR, Regional Departments of the Committee of water resources (permits for water intakes) and Akimats of districts in consultation with contractors. The contractor shall bears responsibility for implementation of mitigation measures. Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC), Engineermonitors the compliance with mitigation plan.	Regular (monthly) monitoring by licensed laboratories at designated sampling points and on-site compliance checks by Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC), Engineer and the Committee of Water Resources of RK implements control on site.	Contractors (through licensed laboratories) Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer Committee of water resources	Long-term impacts are possible in case of not execution of mitigation measures
4. Erosion and pollution of soils and subsoil layers	Soil erosion (wind and water) due to removal of vegetation and topsoil. Pollution of the soil and subsoil layers as a result of construction and	Potential impacts are low to medium (earthworks on the alignment and operation of borrow pits).	Local impacts are expected only in the areas of borrow pits and earthworks on embankment along the alignment.	All recommended methods on reduction and elimination of an erosion were included in the program of construction Construction methods on reduction or elimination of pollution of soils and subsoil layers.	The contractor shall bears responsibility for implementation of mitigation measures. Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer monitor the compliance with design impact reduction	Construction Supervision Consultant/the Engineer	Contractors Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer, the Committee for Roads	Erosion is possible if there is no proper management and prevention during construction.

	accidental spills.			All temporarily used lands have to be restored and returned in an agricultural turn according to the legislation	plan.			
5. Flora and fauna and the sensitive and protected territories	Impacts on vegetation along the alignment. Disturbance of fauna in the area of influence of the construction works	Potential impacts are Low to Medium Temporary disturbance of birds and animals in the immediate proximity to the construction sites, concrete plants, crushers or borrow pits is possible.	Moderate loss of planting. Illegal hunting is possible	Culverts, cattle underpasses and bridges will serve as crossing points for wild animals. Hunting by workers around the project area will be prohibited.	The contractor shall bears the responsibility for implementation of themitigation measures. Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineershallmon itors the compliance with design impact reduction plan.	Regular monitoring of proper vegetation and topsoil management shall be carried outby the Contractor. Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer shall monitor the compliance with design impact reduction plan.	Contractors Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer Committee of forest management and wildlife	No significant long-term impact on flora and fauna is expected
6. Social / Economic / Farmers	Land loss/ land acquisition . Possibility of employment during construction Inconvenience for farmers (cattle crossing the road) Loss of trade along the road	Potential impacts are low to moderate Employment opportunities emerge for local population Potential impacts on farmers (animal husbandry)	There are cases of land (open space land) acquisition along the alignment	Land acquisition will be carried out according to the legislation of Kazakhstan and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) Encouragement of hiring of local labor Consideration with local population on additional cattle crossings as required Compensation for loss of income should be paid or other appropriate mechanisms will be put in place according to the legislation of Kazakhstan and RAP	Contractors Akimats	CfR, Akimats/local authorities and contractors	Regular monitoring of possible impacts on farmers shall be carried outby Construction Supervision Engineer Committee for Roadswill monitor the compensation payment to the affected persons.	Long-term consequences are possible if cattle crossings are not built
7. Physical Cultural Resources	There are no registered PCR monuments observed along the	Potential indirect impacts on modern burial ground along	Potential chance finds	Archaeological monuments and geoglyphs should be fenced to secure protection if they are	The contractors will be responsible for fencing of the archaeological monuments, geoglyphs,	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer, local	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer and	Provided that all laws will be observed and the

	Turgay geoglyphs can be potentially found in Turgay region (Kostanai oblast)	Turgay geoglyphs may be potentially affected in the area of the construction of the road	The area of construction, access and bypass roads, borrow pits, construction camps and various associated facilities with spatial physical footprint.	found adjacent to the road Memorial place marks will be relocated in coordination with local authorities. Other historic places outside Right of Way, but within 2 km from the route have to be protected from plunder and destruction. Contractors shall observe the appropriate procedures in case of chance finds. According to the state procedures, works will be immediately stopped, for studying, record and excavation.	burial grounds if they are found. In case of chance finds appearance, the Contractor should immediately inform the Department of Cultural Heritage and Art of the Ministry of Culture and Sport on any found artifacts or remains, and stop all construction works and notify the authorities on cultural heritage. Protection of other monuments on Section 1 is responsibility of state institutions on protection of cultural and archaeological heritage (i.e. Ministry of Culture and Sport)	authorities and authorized representatives of the Department of Cultural Heritage and Art of the Ministry of Culture and Sport will check compliance with this plan and procedures in case of findings appearance.	authorized representatives of the Department of Cultural Heritage and Art of the Ministry of Culture and Sport	specified archaeologica l sites will be fenced and memorial place marks relocated, long-term influence is not expected.
8. Traffic safety	The intensity of traffic on the main road can affect the traffic safety.	Potential impact is from low to medium	Road sections, located close to settlements and places of access/bypass roads joining the main road	Speed limit enforcement Correct road marking and signage shall be erected Informing of local population. Responsible actions of the contractor. Organization of additional	Committee of road traffic police	Regular monitoring and reporting of any accidents and complaints	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer Committee of road traffic police MIA RK	No long-term impacts

				crosswalks, if necessary.				
9. Waste management	Generation of the construction debris and household wastes which are subject to landfill disposal.	Potential impact is low to medium	Potential impacts near construction camps	Construction debris will be used (if technically possible) for construction of embankments. Household waste regularly to be disposed at designated landfills	Contractor together with local authorities	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer should carry out regular monthly monitoring of sites and activities on waste management	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC)/Engineer and local authorities	Provided that all waste will be taken out to designated landfills, long-term impacts aren't expected
10. Borrow pits/quarries and access roads	Quarries/Borrow pits: Local violations in environment, especially dust and noise from equipment and vehicles. Inconveniences for agricultural activity Access roads: Inconveniences for agricultural activity	Potential impacts are possible. Existing pits have been already defined, but additional borrow pits will be needed. Location of access roads have to be coordinated with local authorities within 2 weeks after the beginning of works.	Considerable local impacts near pits and access roads are possible.	Location of borrow pits and access roads have to be coordinated prior to commence the works Only approved pits can be used, together with the plan of works on closing and reclamation	Contractors Territorial administration Committee for construction, housing and utilities infrastructure and land management of RK	Regular monthly and special monitoring of any influences, cases and complaints	Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC/Engineer), and local authorities	Provided that impacts are mitigated properly, long-term influences aren't expected.

10. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION, CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC HEARINGS. PARTICIPATION OF PARTIES AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

During collecting the basic data for an ecological and social assessment, executed by «KazdorNII» JSC and «SAEN Engineering Group» LLP for consultations with local residents the public hearings were held. Public hearings dates were advertised in the newspapers. Copies of the announcement in newspapers are attached in the Appendix 3. JSC «KazdorNII» JSC and «SAEN Engineering Group» LLP carried out the public hearings in the settlements located along the plan of the road alignment. The first round of public consultations was oprganized on June 9-12, 2015 in 5 regions of Akmola oblast, Tselinorgrad, Kurgaldzhin, Egindikol, Atbasar and Zharkaiyn regions, in Kostanay region, in Arkalyk town, Amangeldy and Dzhangeldy regions, and also in Irgiz and Shalkar regions of Aktobe oblast. On June 29, 2015 repeated public hearings were held in Akkol, Zhanteke, Egindikol, Sochinskii villages. The carried out public hearings gave the opportunity to local residents and to the parties involved into the project to get acquainted with the general details of the project and to discuss the effective points concerning ecology and social aspects, to express the wishes and recommendations which have to be included in ESIA and RPF.

Consultation at a stage of preparation was carried out in the form of interview with local residents, discussions and meetings. The following persons were involved in process of consultations during preparation of the project:

- a. Head of households likely to be affected
- b. Household members
- c. Community
- d. Local Akimat representatives;
- e. Major project stakeholders such as women, highway user groups, health workers

During public consultations the information brochures were distributed. The brochures include general description of the project, the general explanation of the process of project preparation, the rights of owners and land users, the list of category of compensation, payment and grievance mechanism, and also contact information. These brochures and other information, concerning the project, were available in all oblast and regional akimats.

The draft ESIA was disclosed in the Infoshop (in English) and locally (in Russian) by the Employer on September 29, 2015. The second round of public consultations was organized on the draft ESIA on November 9-11 for local communities along the alignment (Zhanteke, Egyndykol, Sochinskoye, Arkalyk, Amangeldy, Torgay, Irgiz and Shalkar). The finalized ESIA was disclosed locally and in the Infoshop. Information about public consultations (announcements, minutes, list of participants) is contained in Appendix 1.

More informal consultations will be done during implementation through:

- The preparation and dissemination of a brochure in Kazakh and Russian, explaining the project, works required and anticipated timing of the works; and
- Setting up a formal grievance redress committee with a representation from the local community. The Project supervision Consultant in association with the contractor and CR will be responsible for managing the effective grievance redress program.

During preparation of design for specific road sections/lots site-specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) will be developed. Site-specific EMPs will provide baseline information, key potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures for specific road section. These EMP will include the Monitoring Plans which would help the efficiency of mitigation measures. Site-specific EMP for each of sites/lots will be translated both into Russian and Kazakh languages and published on the website of the project, Committee for Roads and available in hard copy at offices of the relevant regional akimats. English versions of site-specific EMPs will be published in the Infoshop. Also, each EMP will be consulted upon in the project region.

10.1 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

The Project Management Consultant (PMC) will play a key role in the organizational setup for Resettlement and Lands Acquisition Management during Project implementation. According to the PMC's Terms of Reference (TOR) there will be two social safeguards specialists (One International and one National) working in the PMC for the duration of the Project. Part of their duties and responsibilities will be the management of implementation of this ESIA and RAP.

The PMC will carry out an independent assessment of the land acquisition process to inform the Committee for Roads and World Bank and prepare one final report on external monitoring and evaluation of resettlement and submit to the World Bank.

10.2 GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISMS INCLUDING GRIEVANCE DURING CONSTRUCTION

Guideline on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM Guideline) is designed and approved in 2014 by Committee for Roads MoID RK for all road sector projects. GRM Guideline is intended to be used as a guidance document for stakeholders involved in design, preparation and implementation of road projects, and complements grievance redress requirements incorporated in the loan agreements, as well as environmental and social safeguard documents (in case of projects funded by IFIs).

The overall objective of the GRM Guideline is to establish an effective communication channel among the stakeholders for providing a timely and efficient two-way feedback mechanism to address any complaints made about the project, including those from members of the communities, local businesses and other stakeholders, as well as raising public awareness on the projects and on the availability of a GRM mechanism. The Grievance redress procedure suggests resolution of grievances in the spirit of mediation between the parties, and should comply with the spirit of IFI standards and practices.

The GRM will be available for those living or working in the areas impacted by the project activities. Any person impacted by or concerned about the project activities will have the right to participate in the GRM, will have easy access to it, and will be encouraged to use it. The proposed GRM does not replace the public mechanisms of complaint and conflict resolution envisaged by the legal system of the RK, but attempts to minimize use of it to the extent possible.

10.3 GRIEVANCE REGISTRATION

Complainants or stakeholders may visit Akimats, call or send a letter or e-mail or fax to grievance focal point, at CSC, GRC Coordinator and CfR MoID RK to register their grievances related to road sector projects. Receipt of grievances received through a letter or e-mail or fax shall also be acknowledged through a letter / e-mail / fax within 3 working days upon receipt by GRC coordinator at regional level. Receipt of grievances lodged in person or via phone will be acknowledged immediately.

Complainants or stakeholders may visit, call or send a letter or e-mail or fax to community Akimat, grievance focal point at CCs and CSCs, GRC Coordinator at CoR MoID RK to register their grievances related to road sector projects. Receipt of grievances received through a letter or e-mail or fax shall also be acknowledged through a letter / e-mail / fax within 3 working days upon receipt by GRC coordinator at regional level. Receipt of grievances lodged in person or via phone will be acknowledged immediately.

Each project level party participating in the GRC at regional level shall maintain a record-book to register the complaints, and regularly share the grievance details with GRC coordinator at regional level, in order to keep the alignment of grievances and the status of their resolution. The GRC coordinator at the regional level shall coordinate with each member of the GRC on a weekly basis, collect relevant documents, maintain a consolidated registry of complaints received, follow-up on the status of resolution of each complaint received, maintain an up-to-date grievance database and provide relevant reporting.

Whichever method is used for receiving the grievance (e.g. e-mail, mail, fax, call, etc.), its registration will be made by the GRC coordinator at the regional level, who will acknowledge receipt and follow up with the grievance investigation and consideration by the GRC at regional level. All the grievances will be recorded in a standard format, which will include but not limited to the following details:

- Contact information of the affected party;
- Date, time, and place where the complaint was received;
- Name of the person who received the grievance;
- Details of the grievance.

The project will pursue a participatory approach in all stages of planning and implementation. This is expected to ensure that the affected people have nothing or little to complain about. However, some people may still remain dissatisfied for some reason or the other. Many grievances arise due to inadequate understanding project policies and procedures, and can be promptly resolved by properly explaining the situation to the compliant.

In case the complainant refuses to provide contact details or no contact information is available in the grievance received by e-mail / mail / fax, the GRC at the regional level will consider the anonymous complaint. In such cases, the printed response will be posted at the information board of the KazAutoZhol's respective regional branch, as well as at the information board of the relevant Akimat, so as the complaining party can approach and get familiarized with the feedback.

The GRC coordinator at regional level will collect the data on grievances and centralize the grievance registry to assure that every affected person, group or community has an individual registry number and that follow-up and corrective actions are implemented as per resolution provided, or if the issue was not resolved at regional level, it is passed for consideration at the central level. The grievance database will be maintained and updated on a bi-monthly basis by the GRC coordinator at regional level for each project. The database will be designed to make it simple and easy to input data, provide information on grievance and status of its resolution, timeline for resolution and level at which the issue was considered and resolved, alignment

individual grievances, etc. The grievance database will specify details of grievance resolution and include information on satisfaction of complaining party by the resolution provided (excluding the cases of grievance lodged anonymously). Where it will not be possible to resolve grievances to the satisfaction of both parties, appropriate information will be reflected in the database. The GRC coordinator at regional level for each project will share the grievance database with the safeguard specialist of KazAutoZhol central office / GRC coordinator at central level, who will maintain and update the centralized grievance database for all road sector projects.

10.4 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

Depending on the nature of grievance, this step may include verification, investigation, negotiation, mediation or arbitration, coordination with appropriate agencies and decision-making. Verification includes gathering of documents, proofs and facts, as well as clarifying background information in order to have a clear picture of the circumstances surrounding the grievance case. Verification will be undertaken by members of the GRC at the regional level, and overall coordination of activities will be ensured by the GRC coordinator on regional level. Results of verification or fact-finding activities will be presented at the meeting of the GRC at regional level, where the issue will be considered and resolution will be sought.

The GRC at regional level will discuss the grievance case within ten working days and recommend its settlement to parties. Meetings of the GRC at the regional level will be held on a bi-monthly basis; however, special ad hoc meetings can be arranged is between of regular meetings as needed. The GRC coordinator at regional level will ensure that actions and decisions are properly documented in order to demonstrate that the GRC at regional level is providing an appropriate attention to the grievance and is actively seeking ways to obtain resolution that could satisfy the parties.

If grievance cannot be resolved by the GRC at the regional level and is passed for consideration by the GRC at the central level, appropriate documents collected during investigation and fact-finding shall be shared with the GRC coordinator at the central level. The GRC coordinator at the central level will circulate such documents among the members of GRC at central level, to ensure that they are aware of all relevant details prior to GRC meeting.

Consideration of grievance case by GRC at central level may require further verification of the issue, including gathering of additional documents, obtaining input from various state stakeholders and project parties in order to have a clear picture of the circumstances surrounding the grievance case. Additional verification will be undertaken by members of GRC at the central level (as needed), and overall coordination of activities will be ensured by the GRC coordinator at central level. Results of verification will be presented at the meeting of GRC at the central level, where the issue will be considered and resolution will be sought.

The GRC at the central level will discuss the grievance case within twenty working days and recommend its settlement to parties. Regular meetings of GRC at central level will be held on a monthly basis; however, special ad hoc meetings can be arranged is between of regular meetings as needed.

If following its consideration by the GRC at central level, the grievance cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of the parties, the recommendation will be made to seek resolution through the courts. Irrespective of the outcome of grievance consideration, documentation regarding the case by the GRCs at regional and central levels will be collected and maintained by GRC coordinator at central level (with input from GRC coordinator at regional level). The GRC coordinator at the central level will keep a separate alignment of cases, which were not resolved through GRM and were referred to the RK legal system.

10.5 DISCLOSURE OF GRIEVANCE REDRESS PROCEDURE

The grievance redress procedure information for the project will be disseminated through information leaflets and brochures, and presented during the project related meetings and public consultations. During these gatherings, it should be emphasized that the informal GRM is aimed at quick and amicable resolution of complaints and does not substitute the legal process established under national legislation.

At the beginning of each project (commencement of construction at each section of the road) community consultation shall be carried out by CCs and CSCs under the coordination and supervision of the GRC coordinator at regional level to ensure people's awareness of the availability of the GRM, steps of grievance resolution as well as contacts and locations of focal points to be approached in case of grievance. CCs, CSC, PMCs, CfR, MoID RK regional branches and Akimats, as well as NGOs and professional mediators are considered as the key actors of the GRM and play a crucial role in disseminating the information on GRM and facilitating quick and amicable resolution of complaints. The GRC coordinator at the regional level shall coordinate information dissemination activities on GRM, and ensure that the posters providing details on GRM and contacts of grievance focal points at CCs and CSCs, GRC coordinator at regional level are posted in publicly accessible and visible places at every construction site and in every affected community. In addition, the information on GRM (leaflets, brochures), including contact details grievance focal points at CCs and CSCs, GRC coordinator at regional level, should be available at the offices of CCS, CSCs, PMCs, Akimats, CoR.

In the areas populated by minority groups meetings shall be held and information leaflets shall be provided in the linguistically appropriate manner, if the language used by the minority group is different from official language of RK.

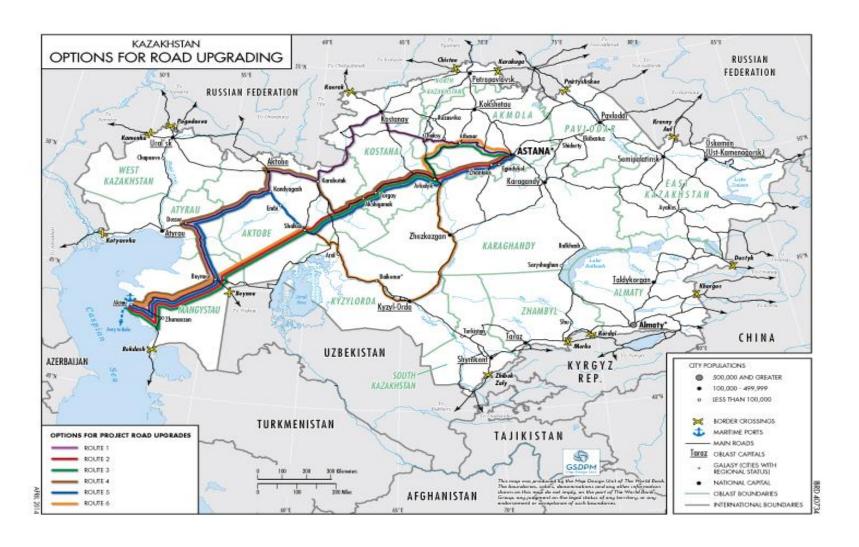
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ANNEX A - ROUTE OPTIONS



ANNEX B - CAREC CORRIDORS



APPENDIX 1

Public consultations on the Draft of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

Zhanteke, Egyndykol, Sochinskoye, Arkalyk, Amangeldy, Torgay, Yrgyz

November 9-11, 2015

Announcements regarding public consultations

http://korgal.akmol.kz/a/52/content/otdel_zjkx_ad_i_pt

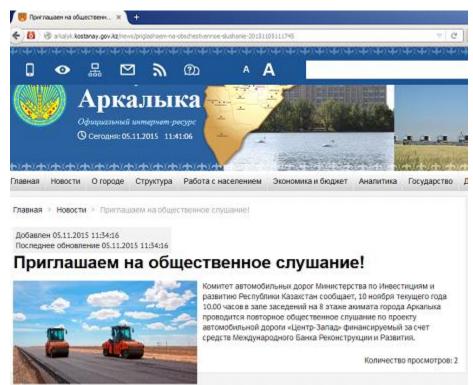
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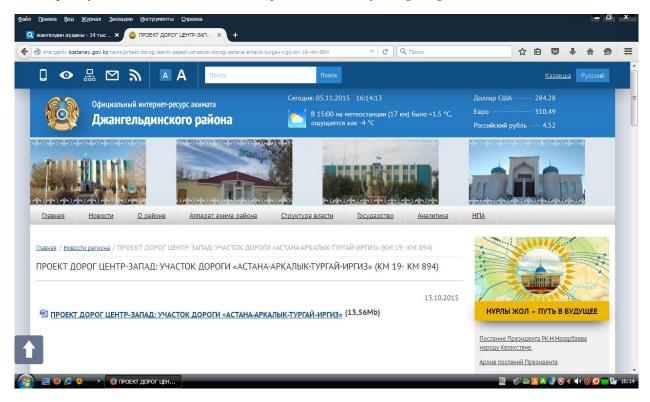
http://atbasar.gov.kz/print.php?num=546&leng=ru

 $\underline{http://arkalyk.kostanay.gov.kz/uploads/files/gosprogrammy/18ef20aa88667cd77e18d2af1e9796fe.doc}$

http://amangeldy.kostanay.gov.kz/kz/sluwanie?node=7552



Final report of EIASS on Centre-West Road Project: Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz road section









Телефонограмма 3Ж

Акимам с. Мирное, с. Фурманово, с. Родина, с. Восточное прошу обеспечить информирование жителей, хозяйствующих субъектов о проведении общественного слушания 10 ноября 2015 года в 10.00 часов по документу Охрана воздействия на окружающую среду(ОВОС) Проекта строительства автодороги Астана-Аркалык-Иргиз, место проведения слушания в здании акимата города Аркалыка, 8 этаж, зал заседания. Для ознакомления с документом ОВОС необходимо разместить твердую копию в доступном месте в акиматах сел, источник для скачивания: http://invest.mid.gov.kz/sites/default/files/pages/ovos_cz_rus.doc

Заместитель акима города

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Абишев К.Т.

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Есеп беру жиналысы

Аудан әкімдігінің мәжіліс залында Ырғыз селолық ардатерлер ұйымының село бөру-сайлау жиналысы етті. Жиынға аудан әкімі М.Дуа аңбеков, аудандық ардагерлер кеңесінің төрағасы Қ.Кенжебаев. Ырғыз аумалдық округінің жейімі А.Сарин және ардагерлер қатысты. Ырғыз селолық ардагерлер ұйымының терағасы Әлібек Сарин-селті бамынды жаслам.

Бүгінде аудан орталығында ұйымға мүше 487 ардагер бар. Селолық ардагерлер ұйымы оніғе қарасты ербір ердігердіг турмысын, денсаулық жағдайын үнемі бақылауда ұстап келеді. Ауданда атқарылған кез-келген ізгілігі сіте са радгегерлердің колтаңбалары бар десек, қарттарымыз қазірдің өзінде қоғамдық шараларға белсене араласып келеді.

Баяндамашы бұдан әрі ардагерлердің өлдің ауызбіршілігі, таза пық, қылмыстың алдын алу мәселелеріндегі ықпалы мен үлестерін

Дін төңірегінде пікірлесейік

Бүгінгі таңда қоғамымыздағы ең өзекті, ең күрделі моселенің бірі- дік Сондықтап, дін жөніндегі жан-жақты әрі дұрыс ақпарат алу баршамыз үшін де маңызды. Жалпы дінің біздін

өміріміздегі орны қандай? -Дін - адамзат өмірінің шындығы, оны дел солай қабылдау

адамға өмірдің құрылымын, адамға өмірдің құрылымын, өзінің осы жарық дүниедегі орның, өмірдің, мәнін керсетеді. Дін адамдарға басу айтады, үміт сыйлайды, рухани тірек бо-

бұрмайды.
-Дін адамдардың іс-әрекетін өзінің құндылық жүйесі, рухани құрылымы мен тыйымдары арқы-

құрылымы мен тыйымдары арқылы бақылайды. -Дін адамдарды біріктіреді, ұлтты

және мемлекетті нығайтады. Осы және басқа да мәселелер жөнінде тұрғындарға, оның ішінде



Мерейлі мезет

Устіміздегі жыл тарихымызды таразылауын ел өсінде қалымқ. Қаза жандығының 550 жылдығынан бастау алған тарихты ұлықтау жыле қазақ өлімін көз-көлген жерінде тағылымды шаралар жалғасын тәуы жатыр. Ал осы тарихымызды түгендеуде тарихшыларымыздың еңбегіні ұшан-теңіз өкені анық.

Аудандық "Арай" мәдениет үйінде өткен тарккшы, өлкетанушы жерлесіміз бекарыстан Мыражайдың 60 жаса толған мерейтойына жоналған жұртшылық тарих талғаммен таразыланатынының күәсі болды десек артық айтпағандық болар. Тарихо оқималармен тұспа-тұс келгем мерейлі жас бекарыстанды тағы бір қырынан таныткандай болды.

Аудан өкімі Мирхан Дуанбеков мерейтой иесін аплыс жасымен құттықтап, мыныме шапан жауып, сый-сиялат көрсөтті. Әсерлі өктіменін тиейн ағытқан Бекарыстанмен институт қобырғасынан бергі досы Естай Жайлыбаев студенттік кезден қоғамдағы құбылыстарға Бей-жай қарай алмайтын Бекарыстанның тарихты түтемдеудегі сибейнікі кейі, бе



Аудандық қоғамдық - саяси газет

№58-59 (7844) 27 қазан, сейсенбі 2015 жыл



Есеп беру жиналысы

Аудан өкімдігінің мекіпіс залында Бірғы селолік ардагерлер ұйымыны есел беру-сайлау жилынды өтт. Жимна аудан әкімі М.Ду-анбаков, аудандық ардагерлер көңесінің терағасы Қ.Кенжебаяв, Бірғы аумілдік, округінің әкімі А.Сарын және ардагерлер қатысты. Бірғыз селолық ардагерлер ұйымының төрағасы Әлібек Сарин еселті байылама жасалы.

Бутікде аудан ортальнында ұйымға мүши 487 ардагер бар. Село лық ардагерлер үйымы озінс карасты өрбір ардагеріді турмысын денсаулық жағдайын үнемі бақылауда ұстап көледі. Ауданда атқа рылған ка-келсені зіліктісі тісте ардагерлердің колтанбалары бар десек, қарттарымыз қазірдің өзінде қоғамдық шараларға белсене арапасып келеді.

Баяндамашы бұдан әрі ардагерлердің елдің ауызбіршілігі, таза лық, қылмыстың алдын алу мәселелеріндегі ықпалы мен үлестерін

Дін төңірегінде пікіолесейік

Бүгінгі таңда қоғамымыздағы ең езекті, ең күрделі мәселенің бірі - дін. Сондықтан, дін жөніндегі жан-жакты өрі дүрыс ақпарат алу баршамыз үшін де маңызды.

Жалпы, діннің біздін еміріміздегі орны қандай? -Дін - адамзат емірінің шынлығы, оны дел солай кабылдау

 -Дін, өмірге көзқарас ретінде, адамға өмірдің құрылымын, өзінің осы жарық дүниедегі орның, өмірдің мәнін көрсетеді.
 -Дін адамдарға басу айтады, үміт сыйлайды, рухани тірек бо-

оұрмайды.

-Дін адамдардың іс-әрекетін әзінің құндылық жүйесі, рухани құрылымы мен тыйымдары арқы-

лы оақылайды.
-Дін адамдарды біріктіреді, ұлтты қалыптастыруда көмек көрсетеді және мемлекетті нығайтады. Осы және басқа да мәселелер үзінде тросындара оқын іншілде



Мерейлі мезет

Үстіміздегі жып тарихымызды таразыпаумен өп өсінде қалмақ, Қазақ, хандығының 550 жылдығынан бастау алған тарихты ұлықтау жылы қазақ елінін кез-келген жерінде тағылымды шаралар жалғасын тауып жатыр. Ал осы тарихымызды түгендеуде тарихшыларымыздың еңбегінің ұшан-теңіз екені анық.

Аудандык "Арай медениет үйінде өткен тарукшы, апктанушы жер лесімі Бекаристан Мырамбайрың 60 жасқа толға мөрейтейнін жина леан құртшылық тарих талғаммен таразылағатының күсеі болда десек артық айтпатандық болда. Тарих оқиғалармен түсінгі-үс көп гем мерейлі жас Бекарістанды тағы бір қарынан танытақарай болда Аудан екімі Мерхан Дулабесов мерайтей жейі жейі жейіне жасыме Аудан екімі Мерхан Дулабесов мерайтей жейі жейі жейін жейіне жасыме тарих танымын шығын жаурап, сайн-сайнат керселгі. Әсерлі екімені тарих танымын шығын жаурап, сайн-сайнат керселгі Әсерлі екімені тарих танымын жасым қаратын қарамдар қаратын қарамдар тарих танымын қаратын қарамдар қаратын қарамдар тарих қарамдар қаратын қарамдар қарамдар тарих қарамдар қарамдар қарамдар тарих қаратын қарамдар қарамдар тарих қарамдар тар

жақсыпығын aum

осы отр мажалды озсыма тс түскенде тереңірек түсінгендей болдым. Осы жылдың сәуір айының соңынан бастап Алма-ты қаласындағы "Республика-лық педиатрия және балалар лық педиатрия жене балалар хирургиясы ғылыми орталығында" немерем Амангелдин Маргуланды "Лейкоз" диагнозымен (соңны сатысы) сатысы жүрмін. Дәрігерлер "баланың иммунитеті темен, ауруға дәрілермен бірге қарсы тұра алмайды", деп, зүелі мерзімінде әте ауыр болды. Немерем "Жан сақтау" бөлімінде 27 күн жатып, бізді қатты корқытты. Бұған дейін мұндай қиналмап

едім. Себебі, басыңа қандай да бір қиын іс түссе қасымнан та-былатын ағайындар алыста, ал Алматыдағы туысқандардың түрлі шаруалары бар, оларға да ренжіуге болмайды. Осы сетте ауылда жатып маған қолдау ауылда жатып маган қолдау керсеткен Жанат пен Гүлайым Малдықуповтарға ризашылығым шексіз. Үнемі телефонмен хабарласын, қаржылай кемек керсетіп, немереме планшет алып бөріп мәз қылды. Қиын сәтіг кеңілімізге медеу болған Жанат пен Гулайымға отбастарыма амандық ленгеліне саулық амандық, дендеріне саулық

Өмір болған соң кім-кімде де түрлі жағдайлар кездесері сөзсіз. Осындай сеттерде бірін-бірі демеп, қолдау кез-келген адамның

адамгершілік парызы. Осы ретте аудандық аурухананың гемо-тологиялық белімінің дерігерлек Марал. Әлия қыздарыма жене Күпей Баймановаға алғыстан басқа айтарым жок. Сез соңында барлық қолдау керсеткен ағайындарыма осын-дай көпке үлгі істеріңіз кебей берсін демекпін. Жақсылықтын шыңынан көрініп, тек қана ағай-ын-туысқа ғана өмес, ауылына, еліне елеулі үлек қосып үлгін сібасы атама берініздер. Алғыс алған - арымас" дегендей алар алғыстарыных «бебіе берсін демекпін.

Райса ДЕРБІСАЛИНА, зейнеткер, Қазақстан Республикасының Білім беру ісінің озық қызметкері.

зейнеткер Шеңбертал ауылы

Ақтөбе облысы Әділет департаментінің нормативтік құқықтық кесімдерді мемлекеттік тіркеу тізілімінде 2015 жылғы 9 қазанда №4535 ретпен

Ырғыз ауданы, Ырғыз ауылдық округі әкімінің 2015 жылғы 23 қыркүйектегі №105 шешімі Ырғыз ауылы

Шектеу іс-шараларын белгілеу туралы

Ырғыз ауылдық округінің әкімі

Зарегистрировано в реестре нормативных правовых актов Департамента юстиции Актюбинской области от 9 октября 2015 года за №4535

Решение акима Иргизского сельского округа, Иргизского района №105 от 23 сентября 2015 года село Иргиз

Об установлении ограничительных мероприятий

В соответствии со статьей 35 Закона Республики Казахстан от 23 января 2001 года "О местном государственном управлении и самоуправлении в Республике Казахстан, "статьей 10-1 Закона Республики Казахстан от 10 июля 2002 года "О ветеринарии" и на основании представления главного государственного осударственного сударственного учреждения "Иргизская районная территориальная инспекция комитета ветеринарного контроля и надоэра министерства Сельского хозяйства ветеринарного контроля и надоэра министерства Сельского хозяйства сельского комута РЕШИП!

пусники казахстан от 22 сентяоря 2013 года 19817-02/201, аким иргизского сельского округа РЕШИЛ:

1. Установить ограничительные мероприятия на территории села Акши Иргизского сельского округа, в связи с выявлением болезни бруцеллез

Иргизского сельского округа, с вереди мелького скота.

2. Контроль за выполнением данного решения возложить на заместителя акима Иргизского сельского округа М.Нурпейс.

3. Настоящее решение вводится в действие после дня его первого официального опубликования.

Аким Иргизского сельского округа

А.САРИН

ХАБАРЛАНДЫРУ!

2015 жылғы 11 қарашада сағат 14.00-де аудандық "Арай" мәдениет үйінің ғимаратында Қазақ-стан Республикасы Инвестициялар және даму министрлігінің Автомобиль жолдары комите «кілдерінің қатысуымен Орталық батыс жолының: "Астана-Арқалык-Торған-Бірғыз" жолы учаскесінің жобасы бойынша қоғамдық тыңдау қайта өткізілетіндігі хабарланады. Қоғамдық тыңдауға қатысуларынызды және өз ұсыныс-пікірлеріңізі білдірулерінізді сұрай-

Ырғыз ауданы әкімінің аппарать

Хабарландыру

Кұрметті Ырғыз ауданының тұрғындары мен қонақтары!
Сіздерге ер айдың екінші сейсенбісінде, Ақтебе облысының Тетенше жағдайлар департаменті электр дабылдары мен теле - радио эфирі арқылы халықты хабарлағыры жүргізілетіндігі туралы хабарлаймыз. Назар салыныздар; дабылды естігеннен кейін, ері қарай жасалатын іс-өрекеттер тертібі туралы ақпарат алу үшін келесі: "24К2",
"ОРТ Евраман", "ТРК Қазақстан", "Қазақстан", "Қазақстан Ақтебе", "Рика ТВ" телеарналарының бірін қосуынызды енкесе
радиоқабылдағышты "Ақтебе радио" толқынына қосуыныз қажет. Осы меліметтерді туыстарыныза, достарынызға, таныстарыңызға жеткізуді және де балаларынызға міндетті түрде үйретуді сураймыз.

MINUTES

of public consultations

Akmol village

Date: June 29, 2015 9 a.m.

Venue: Conference room of Akimat office of Tselinograd region

Public consultations were arranged by the Akimat of the Tselinograd region, «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP.

The information about public consultations was communicated to the public by means of: Announcement (a photo is attached).

Attended by: 14 persons, residents of Akmol village, representatives of local executive bodies, representatives of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP.

Agenda for public hearings:

Briefing for the public on the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay - Irgiz-Shalkar), briefing for local residents on the Feasibility Study, the detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and the Environmental Management Plan.

The agenda:

Election of the Chairman of public consultations;

Election of the Secretary of public consultations;

Summarizing the public opinion on the subject matter of consultations;

Time limit on speeches 3 minutes:

By majority of votes:

- 1. Representative of public hearings is Deputy Akim of Tselinograd region Ospanbekov Bahidbek Amantaevich.
 - 2. Secretary of public hearings is Stybayev Arman Zhusupovich.

Speakers:

3. Representative of local exevutive bodies

Having welcomed all attendees, he introduced to residents the representatives of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP, suggested the candidature of Stybayev A.Zh. as secretary of public hearings.

The purpose of public hearings is to discuss the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay – Irgiz-Shalkar), to brief local residents on the Feasibility Study, detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessments and the Environmental Management Plan.

1. Representative of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP Syrymbek Alibek.

Having welcomed all attendees, he thanked them for participation in consultations.

He emphasized the importance of public consultations and said that improvement of road and infrastructure is the main component of the new national economic policy – «Nurly zhol». He presented a summary of Terms of Reference for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment. He emphasized the importance of renovation, reconstruction and construction of new road sections. Reconstruction and new construction will change the existing road.

Final report of EIASS on Centre-West Road Project: Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz road section

2. Representative of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP Albergenova Aktolkyn Muratovna.

Having welcomed all attendees, he thanked them for participation in consultations.

She emphasized the importance and told, that indicator of ecological situation and social sphere are important element of economic activity impact assessment on environment.

For the purpose of observation of ecological legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan and reduction of adverse effects of projected activities on environment and population health the ecological and social management plan, mitigation measures on management and mitigation are stipulated:

3. Akmol village resident Tulkubayev R.Zh. noticed the state importance of this road.He said, when road projecting the designers took into account climatic conditions of the region and all requests of residents. Thanking to all, who will construct and will take part in road construction.

The public and rayon residents were informed about the draft feasibility study, social and environmental activities under the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay - Irgiz).

Conclusions on outcomes of public consultations:

Following the results of consideration and discussion of ESIA project preparation in connection with absence of any objection and unanimity that projected activity will not have great impact on environment and population health, the following results were conducted:

Project under consideration Center-West (Astana-Arkalyk-Torgai-Irgiz-Shalkar) has been approved.

Reporesentative of public hearings:		
Deputy Akim of Tselinograd region		
Ospanbekov B.A.		(signature)
	(stamp)	
Secretary of public herings		
Stybayev A.Zh.		(signature)

MINUTES

of public consultations

Sochinskii village

Date: June 29, 2015 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Culture centre of Sochinskii village

Public consultations were arranged by the Akimat of Sochinskii region, «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP.

The information about public consultations was communicated to the public by means of: Announcement (a photo is attached).

Attended by: 12 persons, residents of Sochinskii village, representatives of local executive bodies, representatives of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP.

Agenda for public hearings:

Briefing for the public on the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay - Irgiz-Shalkar), briefing for local residents on the Feasibility Study, the detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and the Environmental Management Plan.

The agenda:

Election of the Chairman of public consultations;

Election of the Secretary of public consultations;

Summarizing the public opinion on the subject matter of consultations;

Time limit on speeches 3 minutes:

By majority of votes:

- 1. Representative of public hearings is Akim of Sochinskii village Semizbayeva Kumys Saduvna.
- 2. Secretary of public hearings is Dimitryuk Gulmira Serikovna.

Speakers:

1. Representative of local exevutive bodies, Akim of Sochinskii village Semizbayeva K.S.

Having welcomed all attendees, she introduced to village residents the representatives of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP, suggested the candidature of Dimitryuk G.S. as secretary of public hearings.

The purpose of public hearings is to discuss the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay – Irgiz-Shalkar), to brief local residents on the Feasibility Study, detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessments and the Environmental Management Plan.

2. Representative of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP Syrymbek Alibek.

Having welcomed all attendees, he thanked them for participation in consultations.

He emphasized the importance of public consultations and said that improvement of road and infrastructure is the main component of the new national economic policy – «Nurly zhol». He presented a summary of Terms of Reference for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment. He emphasized the importance of renovation, reconstruction and construction of new road sections. Reconstruction and new construction will change the existing road.

Final report of EIASS on Centre-West Road Project: Astana-Arkalyk-Turgai-Irgiz road section

Highway on this section from km 19 to km 93 is planned to be reconstructed on technical category I, and km 93 to km 515,3 under technical category II.

Road pavement type and cover type – asphalt concrete (improved lighter pavement type).

Center-West Road, construction of 2-band road traffic of new plans of roads and mainly concstruction og one carriageway.

3. Representative of «SAEN Engineering Group» Company» LLP **Albergenova Aktolkyn Muratovna**.

Having welcomed all attendees, he thanked them for participation in consultations.

She emphasized, that we attach a big importance to care the environment and nature resources. So our efforts at environment preservation..

For the purpose of observation of ecological legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan and reduction of adverse effects of projected activities on environment and population health the ecological and social management plan, mitigation measures on management and mitigation are stipulated:

4. Sochinskii village resident **Kondratenko V.N.** said, he is very glad, that new road will be built. We, village residents, are open to idea and looking forward to this. We will very glad to new workplaces, which will form with road construction.

The public and rayon residents were informed about the draft feasibility study, social and environmental activities under the Center - West Project (Astana - Arkalyk - Torgay - Irgiz).

Conclusions on outcomes of public consultations:

Following the results of consideration and discussion of ESIA project preparation in connection with absence of any objection and unanimity that projected activity will not have great impact on environment and population health, the following results were conducted:

Project under consideration Center-West (Astana-Arkalyk-Torgai-Irgiz-Shalkar) has been approved.

Representative of public hearings: Akim of Sochinskoe village Semizbekova K.S.

Secretary of public hearings Dimitryuk G.S.

Arkalyk , 10, November 2015 1. Аркалык , 10 ноября 2015 года, Аркалық к. , 10 караша 2015 ж.

Ŋž	Name, Surname Ф. И.О. А.Т.Ж.	Occupation Место работы Жумыс орны	Contact details (phone, e-mail) Контактные данные (тел. эл. адрес) Байланые акпарат (тел., эл. мекен-жайы)	Signature Подпись Колы
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List of participants of public consultations (Zhanteke, November 9,

List of Participants of the Public Consultation for "Center-West" reconstruction of the road Project, Список участников общественных слушаний по проекту реконструкции автомобильной дороги "Центр-Запад" "Орталық-Батыс" автомобиль жолын қайта құру бойынша қоғамдық тындаудың қатысушылардың тізімі

С. Mautore , 22, November 2015 Коргаля и р 12 ноября 2015 года, фила обр. , 09 караша 2015 ж.

No.	Name, Surname Ф. И.О. А.Т.Ж.	Оссиратіоп Место работы Жумыс орны	Contact details (phone, e-mail) Контактные данные (тел. эл. адрес)	Signature Подпись
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List of participants of public consultations (Sochinskoye, November 9,

List of Participants of the Public Consultation for "Center-West" reconstruction of the road Project, Список участников общественных слушаний по проекту реконструкции автомобильной дороги "Центр-Запад" "Орталық-Батыс" автомобиль жолын қайта құру бойынша қоғамдық тындаудың қатысушылардың тізімі

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List of participants of public consultations (Egindykol, November 9,

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APPENDIX 2

REPORT OF PRELIMINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUYRVEY AND CHANCE FINDS PROCEDURE

CONCLUSION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH OF CONSTRUCTION TERRITORY OF "CENTRE-WEST ROAD CORRIDOR" «ASTANA-ARKALYK-TURGAI-IRGIZ-SHALKAR» SECTION

This Conclusion made in accordance with Legislation of RK dated July 02, 1992 about «Protection and usage of objects of historical-cultural heritage».

Base for investigation carrying out: «Centre – West Road Corridor» road construction «Astana-Akmol-Sabyndy-Zhanteke-Egindykol-Arkalyk-Karakudyk-Amangeldy-Kunkeshu-Turgai-Akshygynak-Irgiz-Shalkar» sections.

Works purpose: Determination of availability or lack of objects of historical and cultural heritage on lands allocated under road construction.

Research territory: Akmola, Kostanai, Aktobe oblasts.

Research was conducted according to method of archeological expertise carrying out by preliminary works with archival and bibliographic data, topographical maps and space images/aerial photographs of the area).

Research was conducted without on-site investigation of road construction territory.

During inspection carrying out all objects of historical-cultural value were fixed (hereinafter on text «Monuments») within expertise zone (200 m to the right and 200 m to the left from Road alignment axis).

As the result of the research.9 historical and cultural monuments were found in a zone of passing of the road. (see Table 1)

No.	Object name*	Geographic coordinates (width/lengthr. m. c.)	Location
1	Earth house	N51 11 47.3	Astana
1	Earth House	E71 40 54.5	
2	Earth house	N51 13 08.4	Astana
2	Larui nouse	E71 38 58.7	
3	Earth house	N51 14 36.5	Astana
3	Earth nouse	E71 35 10.8	
		N51 17 02.7	Astana
		E71 25 12.1	
		N51 17 03.1	
		E71 25 12.6	
4	Group from 5 burial	N51 17 03.4	
4	mound	E71 25 15.2	
		N51 17 03.8	
		E71 25 15.4	
		N51 17 03.2	
		E71 25 16.3	
5	Settlement	N51 16 48.6	Astana
3	Settlement	E71 15 32.3	
6	Village hall of	N51 22 22.2	Astana
6	ethnographic period	E71 07 53.4	
7	Ancient production	N51°02'49,21" E71°42'01,37"	Astana
8	Burial mound	N50°55'09,38" E70°29'03,06"	Sabyndy vil.
9	Neolithic site	N50°21'50,86" E67°24'29,73"	Arkalyk town

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2. Article 39 Law RK "About Protection and Use of Historical and Cultural Heritage". I. 1. At development of territories before land acquisition research works on identification of objects of historical and cultural heritage have to be performed. I 3. Work performing, which can create threat to existence of objects of historical and cultural heritage is forbidden.

* The objects determined by a road construction site are considered in the most part on Akmola area. Because of Kostanai and Aktobe oblasts don't conduct regular examination and identification of new monuments of historical and cultural heritage, information on these areas is limited..

Conclusion:

1. As a result of work with archival and bibliographic data, 9 monuments of historical and cultural value on road construction territory were installed. But it is necessary to consider the following information: on the territory of Akmola oblast 1032 historical and cultural monument, Kostanai - 722, Aktobe - 650 have been registered, that leads to a conclusion, about carrying out more detailed studying of the territory, allocated under road construction.

Practice shows that the quantity of unaccounted monuments many times surpasses quantity of the monuments included in the state lists.

Such example can be the following historical and cultural monuments of local value which aren't considered even in the preliminary regional list of monuments of culture:

 Keikibatyrmausoleum is located in the territory of Amangeldy region, from Arkalyk city, approximately 65 km. (Tasty village);



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i. Baimyr batyr mausoleum is located in the territory of Dzhangeldy region approximately 18 km from Torgai village;



ii. A.Baitursunov monument is located in Akkol village, Dzhangeldy region



³ The resolution of akimat of Akmola oblast dated June 1, 2010 No. A-5/197 «About the approval of the State list of historical and cultural monuments of local value». ¹

⁴The resolution of akimat of Kostanai oblast dated June 1, 2010 No. 207 «About the approval of the State list of historical and cultural monuments of local value of the Kostanai oblast».

⁵The resolution of akimat of the Aktobe oblast dated June 4, 2010 No. 180 «About the approval of the State list of historical and cultural monuments of local value of the Aktobe oblast»

cording to Kazakhstan historical and cultural zonation the territory of road construction coincides with two extensive historical and cultural oblasts – Northern Saryarka and the Torgay deflection;;

Recommendations:

1. To conduct on-site investigation of Expertise territory for the purpose of preparation of the conclusion of archaeological examination of final character;

Construction works without carrying out archaeological examination are connected with risks for the project.

AccordingtoArt.127 of the Land code of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated June 20, 2003 No. 442-II

In case of n case of detection of the objects, having historical, scientific, art and other cultural value, land users are obliged to suspend further conducting works and to report about it to authorized body on protection and use of objects of historical and cultural heritage.

Carrying out all types of works which can create threat to existence of objects of historical and cultural heritage is forbidden.

AccordingtoArt.39ofLegislationoftheRepublicofKazakhstan dated July 2, 1992 No. 1488-XII «About protection and usage of objects of historical and cultural heritage»:

- 2. In case of detection of the objects, having historical, scientific, art and other cultural value, individual and legal bodies are obliged to suspend further conducting works and to report about it to authorized body.
- 2. At carrying out construction works to observe vigilance and care. In case of detection of ancient constructions, artifacts, bones and other signs of material culture to work according to the *Instruction on carrying out actions* in case of identification of subjects of the territories which are of historical and cultural value during development (see the Appendix B)

Enclosures:

- A. The historical and archaeological information on the region of research;
- B. Typology of monuments of archeology, characteristic for the construction territory of the road
- B. Instructions on carrying out actions in case of identification of subjects, representing historical and cultural value during territory development.

Appendix A. Historical and archeological information on research region;

According to Kazakhstan historical and cultural zonation the road construction territory coincides with two extensive historical and cultural areas – Northern Saryarka and the Torgai deflection

Saryarka is the region covering the Kazakh hummocky topography and his periphery. This region was the large cultural centre in the ancient period and the Middle Ages. It was promoted by an environment. The small steppe rivers and streams allowed ancient farmers to fulfill skills of creation of irrigational networks. The low technological level didn't allow them to ride the whirlwind of such rivers as Syrdarya and Ili. In these conditions in Saryarka the type of economy designated as "stream agriculture".

Saryarka is one of transit sites of primary settlement of the continent by the individual. Sites of vagrant hunters and collectors of the Stone Age are usually dated for the water sources so valuable in desert conditions. Water also attracted animals on which the most ancient people during a watering-place hunted.

The stone was the main material of which instruments of labor of that time were made. Therefore traces of human activity often manage to be revealed in places of an exit of stone raw materials. The most valuable breed was flint.

During a bronze era the mankind carried out break in the development – production of metal instruments of labor was mastered. Everywhere in the territory of Kazakhstan the making types of economy – cattle breeding and agriculture extended. The central Kazakhstan region becomes the largest centre of bronze metallurgy at this time¹.

At this time the Central Kazakhstan was included into an area of an andronian cultural and historical community and was one of its largest cultural centers. The Central Kazakhstan variants of cultures of an andronian circle – atasu and nurin are brightly allocated against synchronous cultures with wealth and an originality.

At this time the binding of human settlements to natural sources of water weakens as people learned to sink wells. For this reason even in deep areas it is possible to meet the remains of settlements of a bronze age.

In the early Iron Age there is a change of a business pattern – the basic mass of the population of Kazakhstan passes to nomadic cattle breeding. The nomadic cattle breeding throughout two millennia was the most productive farm pattern in arid conditions of the Euroasian zone of steppes.

Riding, mobile way of life of the population increased its mobility. Interregional contacts are extended. The large areas mastered by the person. At this time Saryarka and Torgai deflection appear in an area of tasmolinsky archaeological culture. The Tasmolinsky culture is included in turn

⁶KadyrbayevM.K.,KurmankulovZh.K.Culture of ancientcattle farmers and metallurgists of Sary-Arka. Almaty, 1992

⁷A.H. Margulan, K.A. Akishev, M.K. Kadyrbayev, A.M. Orazbayev.Ancient culture of Central Kazakhstan.Almaty, 1966.

into a circle of cultures of saksky type which along with cultures of Scythians and Sarmatians form the skifo-Siberian cultural unity. The main characteristic of this unity is so-called the «Scythian triad» are similar subjects of arms, horse equipment, and also Scythian animal style.

The beginning of the medieval period is marked by entry of the territory of Kazakhstan into structure of the Turkic kaganate⁸. During the subsequent periods the Central and Northern Kazakhstan appeared under the power of the kimaks and the kypchak tribes⁹.

In the developed Middle Ages Kazakhstan is a part of the Mongolian empire of Genghis Khan. In structure of the empire the region concerned to ulus Dzhuchi, in subsequent received the name of the Golden Horde. Throughout two centuries the region consisted in east wing of the Golden Horde. During political processes the region appeared under the power of the Kazakh sultans.

From XV century the region is a part of the Kazakh khanate. Kazakhs used the region as a transit site at seasonal meridional removements from North to the Southern Kazakhstan¹⁰.

During this period the population completely refuses from the under burial mound entombments. Burials of its bigger part are made out in the form of stone fencings or laying out. The population masters elements of gummy memorial architecture that is expressed in increase of number of mausoleum burials.

In the XVIII century process of Kazakhstan joining to the Russian Empire begins. Deepening of process of colonization brings to creation of the new administrative units which aren't considering traditional routes of movement and led to reduction of routes of removements and increase of settled lifestyle. The increase of number of the stationary dwellings representing winterings became archaeological expression of this process.

The Torgai region is allocated against other regions of Kazakhstan with expressiveness of cultures of the posglacial period – the Holocene. It coincides with mesolitas – the neolithic – eneolithic on an archaeological periodization¹¹.

It is possible to assume that mobile elements of life and economy played an essential role in life of the mesolytic population of the Turgai deflection. Possibly, they were closely connected with hunting, as one of main types of economic activity. The climatic situation of this time was probably favorable for hunting development. Much warmer and humid, than now, the climate of the second half of the boreal period, undoubtedly, highly affected on development of vegetation of the Turgai deflection. The steppe spaces covered with dense grassy vegetation, the island and tygai woods engaged the various representatives of both steppe, and forest fauna. Biological efficiency of numerous lakes and rivers was also considerably bigger, in this regard the number of waterfowl lived on them is significantly higher.

Neolythic site considerably surpass the mesolythic in the sizes. The proximity of forms and a set of instruments of mesolythic and neolythic monuments of the Turgai deflection testifies in itself to experience in the neolithic of many lines of economy of a mesolythic era for which the mobile way of life of people is supposed.

Appearance of such monuments as Bestamak and Sulukol 1 with their huge area can be explained with numerous seasonal dwelling of the population in these parts. Both monuments are located in very convenient places at wide sites of the valley of the small rivers in a place of their narrowing.

River pools rich with fish and bird are dated for them. Nearby there is a wood site of ten kilometers length. Such combination of natural objects attracted people here at all times.

Addition the eneolithic of cultures in steppes of Eurasia is connected, probably, with the middle of the Atlantic period. In any case, the cultures of the Mariupol community of the East European steppes referred to an eneolithic are dated no later than the first half of the IV millennium B.C.

The modern science has a scanty information on an early encolithic of the Turgai deflection. About economy of the early encolithic population of the Turgai deflection as well as about cultural accessory, it is possible to speak only very allegedly. It is possible to think that mobility of the steppe population in an early encolithic, in comparison with the neolithic, was significantly less. Decrease of mobility of the steppe population in an early encolithic probably is to some extent connected with changes of a climatic situation.

Throughout an average eneolithic there are essential changes in flinty industry, at the beginning of this period during some time the main mass of instruments is continued to do from plates. At this time tips from plates, including kelteminar type probably gained the distribution. Then owing to some reasons there is a transition from lamellar to chip industry which undividedly dominates in a late eneolithic. Ceramics of this time round-bottomed, ornamented with prints of a gear stamp and a string.

⁷Gumilyov L.N.Ancient turks. M.: 1967

⁸AkhinzhanovS. M. Kypchaks in history of Middle aged Kazakhstan .Almaty, 1995

⁹KlyashtornyiS.G.,SultanovG.I. Kazakhstan.. Chronicles of three millenium. Almaty, 1992.

¹⁰LogvinV.N. Turgai deflection in mesolite-eneolithic period. Author's summary of dissertation in candidacy for a degree doctor of historical science. Surgut, 2002.

AppendixB. Archeology monuments typology, characteristics of road construction territoryи

Period	Types of monuments	Archaeological reference
Stone Age	Parkings and workshops of a paleolith, mesolitas, neolithic, eneolit	The high concentration of monuments of this period is due to the wealth of the region stone raw material needed for the production of tools, and also abundance of the wild fowl which was object of hunting.
Bronze Age	The settlements, burial grounds, menhirs, irrigation systems, mine workings	In the Bronze Age Saryarka was the most developed in relations to the socio-economic in regions of Kazakhstan. This was facilitated by climatic conditions that are optimal for integrated farming tribes of that era, as well as the wealth of the region's non-ferrous metals. The last factor provides a stable economic base, high demographic and consequently the highest concentration of archaeological sites in comparison with the neighboring regions.
Early Iron Age	Burial mounds, Burial mounds "with mustache"	During this period, the number of archaeological monuments some extent reduced compared with the previous epoch. This is due to climate change, as well as the transition to nomadic cattle breeding.
Early Middle Age	Turkic funeral and funeral complexes in the form of fencings from stones, stone sculptures – balbala, kipchaksky kurganny burial grounds, rocky burials.	During this period concentration of monuments of archeology continues to remain comparable to the previous period.
The developed Middle Age	Ancient settlements, mausoleums.	This period corresponds to time of existence of the Golden Horde. At this time the Ulytau subregion becomes one of the political centers of possession of the eldest son Genghis Khan – Zhoshy (Dzhuchi). It caused the fact of sharp growth of the cities- residences.
Late Middle Age	Kazakh cemeteries and mausoleums	This period is characterized by growth of population in the region and respectively high quantity of monuments, mainly funeral type.
New Age	Kazakh winterings	During this period the population reduces mobility. There are stationary settlements at which the winter pasture of cattle was carried out.

Appendix B. Instructions on measures carrying out in case of identification of subjects representing the historical and cultural value during territory development (Procedure at detection of findings).

Law of RK «About protection and use of objects of historical and cultural heritage»

Article 39. «Ensuring of safety of objects of historical and cultural heritage at territories development»

item 2. In case of detection of the objects having historical, scientific, art and other cultural value, individual and legal bodies are obliged to suspend further works conducting and to report about it to authorized body.

item 3. Work carrying out, which can create threat to existence of objects of historical and cultural heritage is forbidden.

Objects which can be correlated to historical and cultural monuments are: bone remains of people and animals, artifacts¹², remains of architectural constructions, burials and industrial complexes.

At identification of similar objects it is necessary:

- 2. to stop construction works;
- 3. to enclose a site of detection of objects with an alarm protection;
- 4. to inform the bodies for protection of monuments of historical and cultural heritage, subordinated regional governments of culture;
- 5. to invite archeologists from the regional research centres.

Before arrival of experts it is necessary to conduct the following events:

- 1. in case if archaeological material was naked, but isn't disturbed it is necessary to powder with soil observing precautionary measures,
- 2. in case if archaeological material during works was moved it is necessary to put in firm not tight container (boxes from a cardboard or a tree), as the filler preventing free movement of findings in a box and direct contact with air it is recommended to use soil in which they lay down:
- 3. before arrival of experts it is necessary to provide storage of boxes with archaeological material in the dry room;
- 4. it is extremely desirable to record on what site, what finds were revealed;

In case the historical and cultural value of the revealed artifacts is unevident it is necessary to photograph them. At photography it is necessary to try to reach the maximum image sharpness. At a shot there has to be a subject allowing to present the extent of the photographed object – a ruler, folding meter or the widespread standardized subjects – matchboxes, banknotes, standard capacities, etc.

To touch archeological finds proceeding from reasons of their safety and sanitary and hygienic norms should only in gloves.

¹¹Artifact (Latin artefactum from arte – is artificial + factus – made) in archeology — the object subjected in the past to the directed mechanical influence, found as a result of purposeful archeological excavations or any casual event single sometimes. Examples of artifacts are stone instruments, jewelry, the weapon, ceramics, constructions and their details, coals of an ancient fire, bones having traces of influence of the person, etc.

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APPENDIX 4 INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATURAL PROTECTED ZONES LOCATED ALONG ROAD SECTION

The Kurgaldzhin reserve in Akmola area

Flora – Fauna

There are 350 species of the higher plants in flora of the reserve which lion's share is made by herbs. Here only about 15 species of bushes which are met mainly in inundated thickets of the rivers - shrubby willows, hedge rose, a honeysuckle. In the territory of the reserve there are 45 species of the rare and endemic plants demanding special protection. This is endemic of Kazakhstan steppe – Kazakhstan astragal, relic – a jug yellow, a water-lily purely - white, Shober's saltpetre. Shrenk's tulip, a tulip hanging, a pasque flower – yellowish and opened are brought in the Red List of Kazakhstan.

In the steppe the pea tree and a meadowsweet are met, and on coast of lakes, often marking old housing of people or ancient graves, Shober's saltpetre – a prickly spherical bush with small rigid leaves and roundish black berries grows. The steppe is generally covered with herbs which can live at small reserves of moisture. There are feather grass, sheep fescue, biyurgun, a ferula, a wormwood.

Lakes and shors are surrounded generally with the plants adapted for salty soils - there are various solyankas, kermeks, sea blites.

But there are also such species of herbs which are not so strongly depended on dry and hot summer - there are water and semi-aquatic plants. The most widespread among them are - a reed and reed mace. Their thickets to 6 meters in height cover huge spaces, forming labyrinths of channels and protected from world around river reach. Standing in water, they are green all warm season.

Wildlife – Fauna

The fauna of the Kurgaldzhin reserve is typical for steppe and semidesertic zones. Here 38 species of mammals, 274 species of bird, 6 species of reptiles, 2 types of amphibious, 11 species of fish are registered. The fauna of invertebrates of the reserve is almost not studied.

The fauna of the Kurgaldzhin reserve is very rich with birds. The main sight of the Kurgaldzhin national reserve – is a flamingo colony. In the steppe birds of rare species remained: the bustard, a sociable lapwing, a demoiselle crane, a lot of larks, especially black and white-winged. In total there are 20 types in the reserve brought in the International Red List of IUSN, and 37 – in the Red List of Kazakhstan are registered.

Animals in the reserve are presented by 42 types, more than a half of them – rodents. In damp places the boar is ordinary. And saigas are found in dry steppe sites . By the end of the XX century the number of a saiga catastrophically fell, and now only separate small groups meet here. From predators the fox is most numerous, the badger, a wolf, a steppe polecat are ordinary. In steppe decreases it is often possible to meet hares - a hare and a white hare. On the territory of the reserve the roe also occasionally comes.

«Altvn dala» reservein Kostanai region

In the territory of Amangeldy, Zhangeldy areas along alignment pass there is "Altyn dala" natural wildlife reserve which is located at distance of 140 km from Arkalyk, in 75-80 km from the designed road to Amangely and 50-60 km to Zhangeldy areas. The territory of reserve makes 489766 hectares, and includes steppes, sandy sites and wetlands which are important habitats for many wild animals, for saigas in particular.

The saiga, boar, hare, wolf, fox, jackal, dog fox, ground squirrel, muskrat, jerboa, duck, goose, swan and others lives in Kostanai oblast.

The Uly-Zhilanshy site of the reserve includes virgin feather grass and sheep fescue dry steppes, which are replaced by cereal and wormwood steppe deserts to the south. The main places of kittenning and summering of betpakdaly population of a saiga are dated for this site. The site is valuable to preservation and restoration of a steppe complex of birds including the bustard, little bustard.

The Tosynkum site will keep the massif of sand - northern sandy deserts with rich cereal and wormwood pastures, and also wood and shrubby vegetation (the sucker, willows, chingil, tamarisk) in decreases. Here the rare relic species of a desert poplar – Asiatic poplar, on northern border of the area. The site is also important for saiga, floods of Kabyrga river and lake are valuable as a place of nesting and migrations water and semi-aquatic birds.

The Sarykopin site completely covers the territory of the existing Sarykopin state natural reserve created in 1986. Coasts of lakes are occupied with wetland and meadow vegetation. The system of lakes of Sarykopa is included into the list of key ornithological territories (IBA) as one of places of high concentration wetland and the semi aquatic birds in the period of their seasonal migrations and a molt, and also nesting of rare species (pelicans, etc.). Here the stiff-tailed ducks, white-eyed pochard, sociable lapwing, imperial eagle, little bustard, pale harrier, lesser kestrel, belladonna, at the end of the XX century one of the few places of nesting of the bustard remained.

Irgiz-Turgai reserve in Aktobe area

Irgiz-Turgai reserve was created for preservation and restoration of natural complexes, protection of habitats (winterings, summering, kittening), ways of saiga migration – the representative of betpakdaly population; preservations of unique wetlands of Irgiz-Turgai lake system, as one of places of the greatest concentration of wetland birds in the period of seasonal migrations and a molt; nestings of a flamingo, natatorial and semi aquatic birds, places of spawning areas of fish. The natural reserve consists of two regional places – northern and southern which are divided by the Turgai state natural reserve (zoological). The northern section of the reserve has the area of 89 040 hectares, includes lakes of Olkeiek group and the valley of Olkeiek river. The southern section has the area of 674 509 hectares, includes wetlands of the international importance, system of lakes on Turgai river, Shalkar teniz flat hollow, Shalkarnur mountains, Kurdym lake, Karakol and Bakshakol located in lower reaches of Turgai river.

Flora

The flora is presented by 430 species from 64 families and 216 generation: the largest families of Asteraceae (64 types) – a yarrow tansy, an austrian wormwood, halophytic sosury, divided cousine etc.; Chenopodiaceae (29 types), sedgy (24 types). From coastal and water vegetation the reed, a cane, reed mace, tuberous bulrush, flowering rush, water plantain, arrowhead, a water buttercup, bur reed, a horsetail, a water moss are noted; from the real water plants - water-lilies, duckweeds, pondgrass, water milfoil, naiads, bladderworts, hornweed, 9 types of harofits and 42 types of versions and forms of the dominating microseaweed.

Fauna

According to zoogeographical zoning the territory of the reserve belongs to the Central Asian subarea, the Kazakhstan-Mongol province, Kazakhstan district, located in the western part of a semidesert zone.

29 species of mammals, 250 bird species, 14 species of reptiles, 4 types of amphibious and 10 species of fish are found in the reserve. The fish fauna is presented by ten types: sazan, silver and gold crucian, ide, roach, bream, tench, perch, ruff, pike. A Aral sazan, the tench, the bream are the introduced and acclimatized types.

Open landscapes are preferred by birds of prey: pale harrier, lesser and common kestrel, golden eagle, imperial eagle, steppe eagle and others, only 30 types. 32 rare and endangered species of the birds included in the Red List of Kazakhstan are met here: pink and curly pelicans, the spoonbill, a glossy ibis, a small white heron, a flamingo, a small swan, whooping swan, red-breasted goose, stiff-tailed ducks, a white crane, a gray crane, demoiselle crane, the bustard, houbara bustard, strept, little bustard, sociable lapwing, slender-billed curlew, great black-headed gull, black-bellied sand grouse and pin-tailed sand grouse, Pallas sand grouse, duck hawk, saker falconsea eagles, whitetailed and grenadier, a golden eagle, imperial eagle, a steppe eagle, harrier eagle, fish-hawk, common vole, large-toothed souslik, southern birch mouse, mouse hare, on clay plains – fat-tailed jerboa, on the dry-type playa and saline soils - lesser five-toed jerboa, on easy soils - a yellow gopher and feather-tailed three-toed jerboa; in reed and the reed mace thickets on shallow sites on coast of the rivers and lakes the water vole, a muskrat, a boar meet. From predators on open spaces dog fox, steppe polecat, the fox, wolf live. In the southern part of reserve the saiga - the representative of betpakdaly population, lives in the past of the largest in Kazakhstan on an area and number. The main places of wintering, kittening and summering are – the plain between Turgay river and Shalkarnur's mountains. From the rare types included in the Red List meet Bobrinsky's leather jackets, Kazakhstan endemic and a barkhan cat, a rare small species in fauna of Kazakhstan.

APPENDIX 5 ROAD SECTION PHOTOGRAPHS

Astana – Turgai road section

Akmola oblast



Figure 1. at 75 km from Astana Egindykol village, administrative centre of Egindykol region



Figure 2.Egindykol village (panoramic view)



Figure 3. at 172 km road along Korzhynkol village



Figure 4.Agro-industrial complex "Baumanskoie07"LLP



Figure 5. Panoramic view of Sepe village



Figure 6. at 227 km Terissakan river, width 5 meters



Figure 7.Road view along Sochinskoie village at 229 km



Figure 8.at Km 235, Off-road. Cross through Terissakan river, width 3 meters

Kostanai oblast



Figure 9.Panoramic view of Arkalyk town at 560 km



Figure 10 . Railway crossing (Arkalyk t.)



Figure 11. at Km 590 Tasty river, width 3 meters



Figure 12.at Km 613,5 bridge (season river)

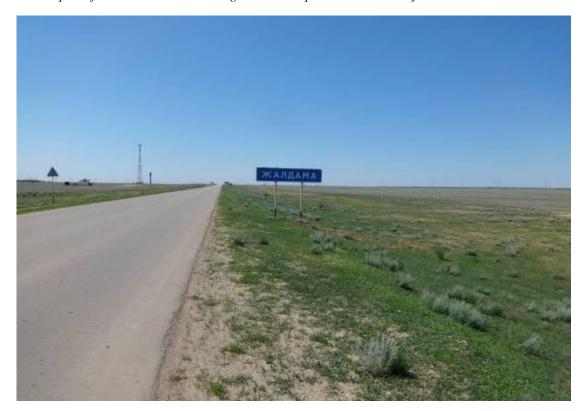


Figure 13. at Km 630 Zhaldama village



Figure 14. At km 670 rehabilitation /construction works are carried out

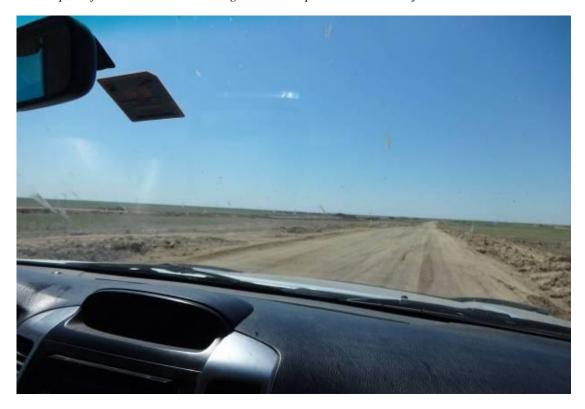


Figure 15. By-pass road view



Figure 16. Sign for cattle pass close to Akaidar village



Figure 17. Exit road from Amangeldy village



Figure 18. Sarykopin reserve



Figure 19. River near Taush village



Figure 20. River near Taush village



Figure21 «Turgaiskoye» hunter economy



Figure 22. Panoramic view of Turgai village



Figure 23. Monument to Holy man, territory of Akshyganak village (on border of Aktobe oblast)



Figure 24. Akshyganak village