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Shwe Gas Campaign



The Shwe Gas Project is a large scale natural gas project in Myanmar (Burma) being developed by Daewoo International Ltd. of South Korea (51 percent stake), Korea Gas Corporation (KOGAS), ONGC Videsh Ltd. of India, GAIL Ltd. of India, in a joint venture with the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). Daewoo has been exploring for gas in Myanmar since 2000 and discovered the Shwe gas in western Myanmar in the Bay of Bengal in 2004. Sources indicate that a Chinese national oil company, China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC), signed a deal for the sale and transport of the Shwe gas and is planning to transport it through a 1,200 km overland pipeline from Rhakine (Arakan) State, Myanmar to Yunnan Province, China, in partnership with the Daewoo-led consortium. Exploration and construction work on the project has commenced and the pipeline is scheduled to become operational in 2013. CNPC is in the planning and surveying stages for the construction of a second pipeline, an oil transport pipeline that will bring oil to China from Africa, the Middle East, and South America.

Adverse impacts of the Shwe project on local people have already been documented and little consultation with impacted communities has occurred. In the absence of credible and transparent mechanisms designed to prevent human rights abuses, and in the absence of other preconditions for responsible investment, ERI believes the Shwe project threatens to have serious and direct human rights and environmental impacts, including forced relocation, forced labor, and other abuses committed by Myanmar Army battalions providing “security” for the project.

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