



CHAPTER 9 CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

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1 CITIZEN'S PARTICIPATION

The citizen's participation in the environmental impact assessment process is one of the most important tasks to be performed to achieve that the projects or activities effectively minimize and prevent the possible impacts that they could generate. Likewise, they help to establish communication channels with the community where the projects will be implemented.

The Environmental Impact Assessment System (SEIA) ensures a citizen's participation mechanism related to the Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) by establishing a process that begins with the publication of an extract of the Assessment in the Official Gazette and some newspaper of national or local distribution, as may be the case, within ten days of the presentation of the assessment to the System. At that moment, a period of 60 working days begins, so that natural persons and legally constituted institutions may know the contents of the EIA and deliver their remarks to the competent authorities.

Since the construction and operation of the Project "Electric Transmission Lines Maitenes S/S- Alfalfal S/S and Alfalfal II Plant – Alfalfal S/S" require the submittal of an environmental impact assessment, a citizen's participation process should be carried out, where the different interested social sectors, as well as the natural persons themselves may know the project, form an opinion about it and, eventually, make remarks within the legally established instances.

Given the social sensibility of this type of projects, it is important that both the promoter and the citizenship may have the possibility to exchange points of view and clear up all kinds of concerns. Therefore, it is considered as very relevant the creation of meeting instances to explain the scope of the Project and receive the opinions and suggestions of the community that could eventually feel itself affected.

Given the above, the promoter is willing to collaborate in all the citizen's participation activities that the Metropolitan Region CONAMA may establish to that effect. AES Gener S.A. will in this way contribute as much as it is in its power to generate a transparent climate concerning the Project, as well as providing information to the community in the perspective that it may materialize its participation with as many judgment elements as possible.

The following is a program of activities that the promoter will implement during the citizen's participation instances to be organized by the Metropolitan Region CONAMA according to the laws in force.

- Inform about the essential characteristics of the Project, as well as its most relevant environmental impacts.
- Receive the opinion of the agents and representatives of the organized community.
- Contribute to give to the persons, organizations and interested community the elements required to participate, in an informed manner, in the citizen's participation process within the SEIA.

Additionally, the following activities are considered, to be carried out as they may be requested:

- Submittal of the Project to the authorities of the Municipality and Region.
- Submittal of the Project to the professional teams of the pertinent public services.
- Preparation of diffusion material to inform about the characteristics of the Project.

All these activities intend to finally generate an informed public opinion, so that citizens may participate with all available elements in the citizen's participation process regulated by the SEIA.