

Wipro CSR impact assessment report



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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An impact assessment study to check, what extent renewable power sourced has helped to create impact on the environment was carried out as part of Wipro's Corporate Social Responsibility initiative. The base information for the study was shared by Wipro. The study covered; desk review and rating the environmental impact; high, medium, and low. A set of principles from DNV Verisustain protocol; Materiality, Reliability, Completeness and Neutrality was applied as part of the assessment. Outcome of the assessment was rating of "High Positive".

2 INTRODUCTION

DNV Business Assurance India Private Limited ('DNV') was commissioned by Wipro Limited to carry out impact assessment on environment, health & safety, and social impact by a set of renewable energy suppliers to Wipro as part of its CSR initiative. Wipro has a dedicated focus on the assessment topics as part of its CSR policy. As a part of green transition, Wipro has been procuring renewable energy and investing in renewable energy projects. In FY 2022, Wipro procured 78 million units of energy through the vendors in the state of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

In its policy it has stated that its engagement with social and ecological issues goes back a long time. The central tenets of its approach have been the emphasis on strong, meaningful work on systemic social issues. It's CSR policy therefore reflects these principles and strategies that have informed its long history of corporate citizenship and social responsibility over the years. It's framework of ethical business starts with a set of foundational values as embodied in Spirit of Wipro and comprises, at the least, the following three principles;

- a. Unyielding integrity in every aspect of business
- b. Treating people everywhere fairly and with respect at the workplace as well as in communities outside and
- c. **"Demonstrating ecological sensitivity in thought and action".**



3 IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The impact assessment process had the following steps: desk review and rating the environmental impacts; high, medium and low. A set of principles from DNV Verisustain protocol; Materiality, Reliability, Completeness and Neutrality was applied as part of the assessment.

3.1 Desk review

Review of information on environmental impact due to procurement of renewable energy shared by Wipro together with input from the “Renewable Energy Initiative” supplier study was undertaken. From energy procurement perspective, the impact was found to be positive. The key reasons being the source of fuel was wind in case of supply from wind power and sun light in case of solar power. Also, operational impacts of renewable energy generation can be insignificant but not that of the upstream supply chain.

At the site level from where the power was procured, there was very little to no displacement of any significant natural resources, because in case of wind power (Sheela clinic, ABT and VB renewables which supply wind power to Wipro through R. S Yarn, a power aggregator and supplier) the towers had been installed in areas which were not part of any designated forest cover by law and also they didn’t hinder pathway of any wild animals.

In case of solar power, Avaada site was bordered to a reserve forest (reported in ESIA report), copy of NOC from forest department was not available for review. Review of the report showed no endangered fauna or flora was there. During interaction with members of the workforce periodic trespassing by monkeys besides snakes was reported at site. As water is needed for solar panel cleaning, the site has its own source of water (borewells). It has also implemented rainwater harvesting. The site has storm water drainage.

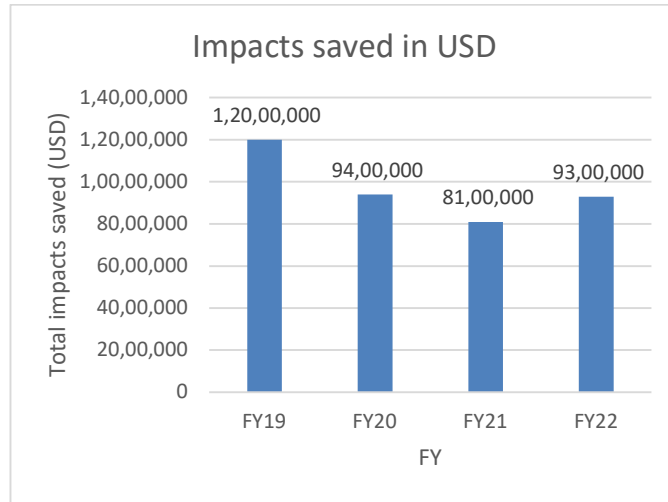
Hero Future Energy has implemented waste management programme covering compliance. The site has storm water drainage and also a natural canal passes through the site, which has been reported in ESIA report. During interaction with

workers and the safety personnel who is also responsible for environmental management at site, no instance of inundation was reported since the plant has been operational. Review of the report showed no endangered fauna or flora was there. There is pond (West North side) of the plant with water owned by the site but outside the boundary wall of site. The site allows nearby villagers to use the pond water for drinking water to cattle on pro bono basis, relevant document in this regard was reviewed.

Quantities savings	2019	2020	2021	2022
GHG Emissions (tonne)	1,18,753	1,01,126	84,734	92,499
Air Pollution- PM	194	165	139	151
Air Pollution- SOx	637	543	455	496
Air Pollution- NOx	504	430	360	393
Water Consumption (m3)	32,44,708	27,61,263	23,12,897	25,26,352
Land Use Change (m2) in negative	3,46,263	3,18,470	2,76,764	2,82,653

Impact savings (USD)	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22
GHG Emissions	1,20,00,000	1,00,00,000	87,00,000	98,00,000
Air Pollution	16,00,000	14,00,000	12,00,000	13,00,000
Water Consumption	10,00,000	8,85,580	7,54,614	8,46,458
Water and Land Pollution	9,500	6,900	5,300	7,100
Land Use Change (In negative)	31,00,000	29,00,000	26,00,000	27,00,000
Total savings	1,20,00,000	94,00,000	81,00,000	93,00,000
Solar unit	8,39,30,000	7,62,60,000	6,59,10,000	6,80,00,000
Wind Units	2,50,70,000	1,67,40,000	1,20,90,000	1,70,00,000
Total units	10,90,00,000	9,30,00,000	7,80,00,000	8,50,00,000
Saving (USD/kWh)	0.110091743	0.101075269	0.103846154	0.109411765

*Negative numbers represents impact rather than saving



All the quantities are converted in terms of dollar values using GIST Impact valuation methodology. Nationalised social cost of carbon is used to keep consistency with EP&L results published by Wipro. For other pollutants, country average LCA models and valuation coefficients are used. Impact due to air pollution and water and land pollution includes the various toxic pollutants (organic / inorganic / heavy metal) released in respective compartments. Land use change impacts are calculated based on the land transformation numbers.

Calculations showcase the total impact saving of USD 9.5 million in FY 2022. Carbon savings of 92,660 tonne is achieved through the renewable energy procurement of 85 million units in the same year. Water consumption savings are of 2.5 million m3 which translates into externality saving of USD 0.84 million. As renewable generation through solar photovoltaic needs more land, the impact due to land use is generating negative externality of USD 2.5 million.

(Source: Wipro Corporate)



Materiality

The process of determining the issues that is most relevant to an organization and its stakeholders.

The information shared for the impact assessment found to meet the materiality requirement principle. Information has been reviewed and validated both at corporate level and at site level.

Reliability

The accuracy and comparability of information presented, as well as the quality of underlying data management systems.

Information collated was found to be accurate and reliable at site level. In case of the information shared from at corporate level based on assumptions, they were found to be reliable.

Completeness

How much of all the information that has been identified as material to the organisation and its stakeholders is reported?

The information collated and shared was found to be material to the organisation and to its stakeholders “Renewable energy suppliers” taking into consideration the applicable financial year FY22.

Neutrality

The extent to which information provides a balanced account of an organization’s performance, delivered in a neutral tone.

The information shared for the applicable financial year FY22 was found to be in a neutral tone in terms of content, while considering the overall macroeconomic and industry environment.

3.2 Impact assessment rating

Based on the impact assessment of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative wrt. Procurement of renewable power from relevant suppliers, the impact on the environment was found to be **“High Positive”**.



4 RECOMMENDATIONS

Positive impact on environment may or may not have a positive impact on the affected local community, as desired by them. It is suggested that as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives like the current one for which the impact assessment study was carried, the organisation may work towards creating high positive impact on the local communities where the renewable energy generation sources / equipment's are located. This would also help the organisation to further create "the Corporate Citizenship" value it has been working for a long time.



DNV

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