

United States Position
Proposed MIGA Guarantees to EVN AG for an investment in Energji Ashta Shpk
January 31, 2012

The United States thanks management for its proposed \$159 million guarantee to support the construction by EVN AG of a run-of-river hydropower project (HPP) on the Drini River in Albania. This HPP will add approximately 53 MW of new generation capacity to Albania's under-supplied national electricity system.

By growing Albania's renewable energy capacity, the project will help reduce the country's peak load shedding and electricity imports that were caused by insufficient investment in electricity generation and maintenance of the system.

The United States is pleased with many of the elements of the proposed guarantee and supports the development of renewable resources in Albania. The United States would like to draw particular attention to the project's environmental mitigation measures, which include a fish ladder and provisions for ecological water releases.

Nevertheless, because the environmental impact assessment for this Category A project was not posted on MIGA's website 120 days prior to board consideration, the United States must abstain for legislatively mandated reasons.