

USG position on the World Bank Group and AfDB investments in the “Private Power Generation (Bujagali) project in Uganda: April 26, 2007

The United States supported the Uganda - Private Power Generation (Bujagali) project at the IDA, IFC, and MIGA and at the AfDB (named the “Bujagali Hydroelectric Power Project”), because the project is expected to confer significant development benefits for the people of Uganda. This expansion of power generation is crucial to help Uganda emerge from its current power crisis and create the growth needed to meet Uganda's development objectives. In addition, the United States supported the project because of the steps being taken by the project sponsor, the World Bank Group, and the Government of Uganda to mitigate adverse social and environmental impacts. For example, the Government of Uganda designated Kalagala Falls as a biodiversity offset, including the preservation of the Mbira forest reserve. In addition, we note the Ugandan authorities' intentions to adhere to the Agreed Curve in the management of the levels of Lake Victoria in the future, and their assurances that any deviation from the agreed release will be done in consultation and agreement with affected countries.