

## **Co-Benefits of SHPs Albano Machado and Rio dos Indios**

**Local: Trindade do Sul and Nonoai Cities, Rio Grande do Sul State, Brazil**

**Responsibles: Rio do Lobo Energia Ltda and Casa de Pedra Energia S.A.**

**SHP Albano Machado:**

### **1) SHP Albano Machado Environmental Education Program:**

This program includes the following actions:

- Activities in schools in the municipalities of Trindade do Sul and Nonoai, Rio Grande do Sul State;
- Elaboration and distribution of informative material about the enterprise and themes related to the environment, and;
- SHPALbano Machado environmental blog update.

#### Activities in schools in the municipalities of Nonai and Trindade do Sul

For the development of this activity, contact is made with the schools in the municipalities to see if they are interested in participating to the event. Several schools have already participated in SHP Albano Machado's environmental education activities, such as:

- Maria Dulcina State High School;
- Jair de Moura Calixto Municipal Elementary School;
- Elementary School Zenir Ghizzi;
- Santa Lúcia Elementary School;
- Jesus Maria José Municipal Elementary School, and;
- Cenequista Padre Manoel Gomez Gonzalez school.

The topics covered in the activities are defined jointly with the participating teaching unit, and include the energy generation process, environmental care during the operation of a Small Hydroelectric Power Plant (PCH), environmental programs in development, in addition to debates focused on environmental issues, such as: Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs), solid waste management, the importance of forests and water, environmental crimes, among other topics.

The activities have a variable duration, from 45 to 120 minutes, using notebook, overhead projector, speaker and dynamics with scientific experiments (when possible).

#### Development and distribution of information material

To prepare informative material, data from the environmental programs contained in the reports filed with the environmental agency of the state of Rio Grande do Sul are used, as well as themes related to the environment, such as:

- Permanent Preservation Areas (APPs);
- Riparian forest;
- Crimes against fauna and flora;
- Correct disposal of solid waste;
- Tips for saving water;
- Conscious energy consumption, among others.

The information material is distributed annually to the population residing in the area of influence of SHP Albano Machado and also in schools participating in environmental education activities.

## **2) SHP Albano Machado environmental blog update:**

The SHP Albano Machado blog was created in 2011, aiming to make information about the enterprise more accessible, since then the blog has been updated periodically with information about the hydroelectric power plant, current environmental license, environmental programs in development, data on areas undergoing environmental recovery on the project's premises and themes related to environmental conservation and preservation.

The SHP Albano Machado blog can be accessed at the following address:

Link: <http://pchalbanomachado.blogspot.com>

## **SHP Rio dos Índios:**

### **1) SHP Rio dos Índios Environmental Education Program:**

In the first cycle of actions, it was observed from the first contacts with sought leaders, in this case, union leaders of rural workers and the educational sector of the municipality of Nonoai, that the action of a broader and more to bring basic knowledge to the large social group.

Ahead, we reach the urban communities of Nonoai and Rio dos Índios, the two municipalities involved with the plant's implementation. To work in schools and from schools reach the community with proposals or actions was the method used.

The sequence of works were:

#### **1.1 Environmental education program for workers**

This Program is carried out by CASA DE PEDRA ENERGIA SA together with the environmental consultants hired to manage the Environmental Programs, and its activities in this phase started in February 2013 and should last for the period of operation of the enterprise.

## 1.2 Objectives

The Environmental Education Program for this group aims to first leverage on-the-spot referrals that can be simple in the general context since the beginning of the implementation process, but in practice it has a multiplier effect.

The correct practices in maintenance and operation reflect directly on the general work of the local environment that is undergoing regeneration. With the notions developed here, these workers are interacting directly with environmental programs.

## 1.3 Activities carried out

Meetings were held with employees linked to Casa de Pedra Energia S.A. who effectively perform their work functions at SHP RIO DOS ÍNDIOS. At the time, regulations were presented in relation to solid waste, how to control oils in case of need for handling them and guidelines for controlling hunting and fishing in the surrounding areas.

The collaborators received didactic material about the legislation of the treated themes, leaving for when the fifth meeting is held a general review and evaluation of the period experienced until then.

## 1.4 Activities planned for the next period

The plan to involve these workers is essential for the sequence of activities in this program, since their importance as site managers as operators is a reference for those who visit or work in outsourced work or even have contact with visitors or neighbors of the plant, setting an example and always aware of the good environmental practices necessary for environmental safety, and also in relation to possible impacts on third parties that the plant can represent if it is not well managed operationally.

### **Pictures from the programs above:**





Also the project activity contributes to the sustainable development, because:

- It reduces the fossil fuel (non-renewable source) use. Thus the project contributes to the natural resources better utilization and makes use of clean and efficient technologies;
- It contributes to better working conditions and increases employment opportunities in the area where the project is located (rural areas in small cities);
- It contributes to the better conditions for the local economy, mainly in the rural areas from the cities involved.