

Third Party Evaluator's Opinion on Dalian Water Supply System Rehabilitation Project

Xie Yingxia
Director, Senior Engineer
China Academy of Urban Planning and Design

Relevance

The water shortage has been a serious issue in China since 1980s. More than 140 cities are serious areas of water shortage in China. Dalian is one of the most one. Dalian is only 1/4 of the Chinese average level of water resources. So the water saving is a very important task in Dalian City. Besides the water resources shortage, the reasons of water shortage are poor water quality, aging water supply facilities, and the substantial deficiencies in the water supply capacity. Therefore, improving the water supply system is highly necessary through the upgrading of water supply facilities and the construction of a new water treatment plant. The project objectives were the priority national needs in China, and it is consistent with the national current policy and Dalian's "Tenth five-year" plan and "Eleventh five-year" plan. According to the plans of Dalian, the development stratagem are striving Dalian to regional international shipping center, financial center and important manufacture industrial base. Thereby, the demand of water volume was forecasted that would increase sustainability due to the increasing population and the economic development in the future. These factors make evaluator convinced that the relevance of the project at present time is as strong as that of time of appraisal.

Impact

The effectiveness of the project are 1) increasing the water treatment capacity of 200,000m³ per day; 2) enlarging the areas of water supply from Shahekou Water Treatment plant; 3) heightening the coverage rate of water supply from 97% to 99%; and 4) improving the water quality. Almost 600,000 people were benefited owing to improvements in the hygiene conditions at the resident-level, and it contributed to an improvement in the living environment of the city's residents. In addition, the implementation of the project brought great benefits in term of economic development. The GRDP of Dalian City is showing a stable growth, and was achieved 256.9 billion yuan in the year of 2006, with a growth rate of 16.4%, which is higher than the national average for the same year. The project forms part of the basic infrastructure which can be considered to be contributing to the support of Dalian City's economic development.

Sustainability

There are still some problems in water pressure and water quality in Dalian City water supply system. In order to keep a stable water supply and improve the water hygiene standards, in my opinion, the water quality inspection continues be carried out in both water treatment plants and water supply pipelines, and the upgrading city's water supply pipeline network will be necessary. Dalian's water supply system needs sustainable improvements.