

Kunhing people's statement on the Upper Salween (Mong Ton) Dam project

April 30, 2015

1. As our "thousand island" Kunhing township, is one of the 16 townships which will be flooded by the Mong Ton hydropower project, under a flood zone of 262 square miles, it will be greatly hazardous to our community. So, we strongly reject the project.
2. The Ho Leung pagoda (established in 666, Myanmar calendar), and other historical sites in Tar Kaw, Hsai Mong, and Keng Kham, including the Keng Lom palace and Hsai Khao palace, traditional customs, rich natural resources, and our thousand islands - all of these sacred sites and important things would be destroyed. This will be greatly damaging to the lives of the people who have lived in this area for generations.
3. Kunhing people understand that the dam will not benefit the local people. Instead, local people would face all kinds of negative impacts and dangers.
4. Any projects on the Salween river must be stopped, as there is no stable ceasefire agreement and no political guarantee at this time.
5. Therefore, Kunhing people will strongly oppose any action to promote implementation of the Mong Ton hydropower project by the government, Ministries, investing companies and organizations, including holding public meetings and campaigning, paying money or bribing, either directly or indirectly.

People of Kunhing township

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