



ZAMBEZI RIVER AUTHORITY

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KDRP PLUNGE POOL WORKS PROGRESSING STEADILY

Access to the plunge pool for heavy equipment like the large 130 tonne crane which is now in use downstream of the plunge pool, was made possible, with effect from the end of March 2019, by the completion of the permanent access road section and joining it to the temporary access road which goes down to the plunge pool water level (see left photo below). Underwater blasting excavation at the lift-platform foundation area is ongoing with the crane being used to scoop loose excavated rocks from the foundation area (see right photo below). A smaller crane positioned on a floating barge is also assigned to this task. The preparation of the lift-platform foundations for installation of the lift is part of the preparations for the coffer dam construction process.

Divers working underwater in full scuba gear will soon commence the underwater works for the foundations of the coffer dam piers. The piers will be constructed on the lift-platform closer to the north-bank edge of the plunge pool, before being floated to their respective locations where divers will guide their precise positioning on the prepared concrete foundations underwater. When secured in position, each pier will be filled with concrete. When the construction of the piers is complete, prefabricated steel stop-logs will be positioned between each pair of piers to form a water-tight barrier called a coffer dam. The plunge pool will then be progressively emptied, creating a dry work area where the blasting excavation will then be carried out to reshape the walls of the plunge pool.



Procurement of the spillway refurbishment contractor is also nearing the finishing line. The unsuccessful bidders have been notified and the Zambezi River Authority has invited the preferred bidder for a contract clarifications meeting to be held in Lusaka; the final step before contract signing.



The implementation of the KDRP is a notable example of partnership between the Zambezi River Authority on behalf of the governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe and the European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank and Swedish government.



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