SiVEST Environmental Rating System Used to Classify Impacts

The EIA methodology assists in evaluating the overall effect of a proposed activity on the environment. The determination of the effect on an environmental impact on an environmental parameter is determined through a systematic analysis of the various components associated with the potential impact. This is undertaken using information that is available to the EAP though the process of the environmental impact assessment. The impact evaluation of predicted impacts was undertaken through an assessment of the significance of the impacts. Impacts have been consolidated into one rating. In assessing the significance of each issue the following criteria is used

NATURE	
Include a brief description of the impact of environmental parameter being assessed in the context of the project. This criterion includes a brief written statement of the environmental aspect being impacted upon by a particular action or activity.	
EXTENT (GEOGRAPHICAL)	
Site	The impact will only affect the site
Local/ district	Will affect the local area or district
Province/region	Will affect the entire province or region
International and National	Will affect the entire country
DURATION	
Construction period / Short term	Up to 3 years
Medium term	Up to 6 years after construction
Long term	More than 6 years after construction
PROBABILITY	
Definite	Impact will certainly occur (>75% probability of occurring)
Probable	Impact likely to occur (50 – 75% probability of occurring)
Possible	Impact may occur (25 – 50% probability of occurring)
Unlikely	Impact unlikely to occur (0 – 25% probability of occurring)
REVERSIBILITY	
Reversible	Impacts can be reserved though the implementation of mitigation measures
Irreversible	Impacts are permanent and can't be reversed by the implementation of mitigation measures
IRREPLACEABLE LOSS OF RESOURCES	
High	The impact is result in a complete loss of all resources
Medium	The impact will result in significant loss of resources
Low	The impact will result in marginal loss of resources
No Loss	The impact will not result in the loss of any resources
CUMULATIVE EFFECTS	
High	The impact would result in significant cumulative effects
Medium	The impact would result in moderate cumulative effects
Low	The impact would result in minor cumulative effects
SIGNIFICANCE RATINGS	
Significance is determined through a synthesis of impact characteristics. Significance is an indication of importance of the impact in terms of both physical (geographical) extent and time scale (duration), and therefore indicated the level of mitigation required. This describes the significance of the impact on the environmental parameter.	
High	- Province/region and medium / long term - International and National and medium / long term - Local/ District and long term - Site specific and long term
Medium	- Site specific and medium term - Local/ District and medium term - Province/region and short term/construction phase - International and National and short term/construction phase
Low	- Site specific and short term/construction phase - Local/ District and short term/construction phase