

## TEXTO

### **Huge Brazil dam moves step closer**

Brazil's government has granted an environmental licence for the construction of a controversial hydro-electric dam in the Amazon rainforest.

Environmental groups say the Belo Monte dam will cause devastation in a large area of the rainforest and threaten the survival of indigenous groups.

However, the government says whoever is awarded the project will have to pay \$800m to protect the environment.

The initial approval was a key step before investors could submit bids.

### **Resignations**

The proposal to build a hydro-electric dam on the Xingu river, a tributary of the Amazon in the northern state of Para, has long been a source of controversy.

The initial project was abandoned in the 1990s amid widespread protests both in Brazil and around the world.

The government says the scheme has been modified to take account of fears that it would threaten the way of life of the indigenous peoples who live in the area.

Brazilian Environment Minister Carlos Minc revealed that those who win the bidding process to build and operate Belo Monte will have to pay millions of dollars to protect the environment and meet 40 other conditions.

However, critics say diverting the flow of the Xingu river will still lead to devastation in a large area of the rainforest and damage fish stocks.

They say the lives of up to 40,000 people could be affected as 500 sq km of land would be flooded.

When it is completed, Belo Monte would be third largest hydro-electric dam in the world, after the Three Gorges in China and Itaipu, which is jointly run by Brazil and Paraguay. It is expected to provide electricity to 23 million Brazilian homes.

With Brazil's economy continuing to show signs of growth, ministers say hydro-electric plants are a vital way to ensure power supplies over the next decade - and at least 70 dams are said to be planned for the Amazon region.

Critics say the Belo Monte plant will be hugely inefficient, generating less than 10% of its capacity during the three to four months of the low-water season.

The project has even caused division and resignations within the government's own environment agency Ibama, which, after much delay, has now given its initial approval.

Having passed this critical test the dam is now much closer to becoming a reality, but the controversy surrounding it is also unlikely to go away.

Story from BBC NEWS:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/americas/8492577.stm>

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## Tradução Livre No. 581

### Huge Brazil dam moves step closer

Brazil's government has granted an environmental licence for the construction of a controversial hydro-electric dam in the Amazon rainforest.

O governo do Brasil concedeu<sup>(has granted)</sup> uma licença ambiental para a construção de um controvertida represa hidroelétrica na floresta Amazônica.

Environmental groups say the Belo Monte dam will cause devastation in a large area of the rainforest and threaten the survival of indigenous groups.

Grupos de ambientalistas dizem que a represa Belo Monte causará devastação numa larga área de floresta e ameaçará a sobrevivência<sup>(survival)</sup> de grupos indígenas.

However, the government says whoever<sup>(=qualquer um)</sup> is awarded the project will have to pay \$800m to protect the environment.

Contudo, o governo diz qualquer um que for premiado com o projeto terá de pagar 800 milhões de dólares para proteger o meio ambiente.

The initial approval was a key step before investors could submit bids.

A aprovação inicial foi o passe chave antes dos investidores poderem entregar propostas.

### Resignations

The proposal to build a hydro-electric dam on the Xingu river, a tributary of the Amazon in the northern state of Para, has long been a source of controversy.

A proposta para construir a represa hidroelétrica sobre o Rio Xingu, um afluente<sup>(tributary)</sup> do Amazonas no norte do Estado do Pará, tem sido uma fonte<sup>(source)</sup> de controvérsia.

The initial project was abandoned in the 1990s amid widespread protests both in Brazil and around the world.

O projeto inicial foi abandonado nos anos 90 entre grandes protestos no Brasil e em todo o mundo.

The government says the scheme has been modified to take account of fears that it would threaten the way of life of the indigenous peoples who live in the area.

O governo diz que o esquema foi modificado para levar em conta medos de que isso poderia ameaçar o caminho da vida de indígenas que vivem na área.

Brazilian Environment Minister Carlos Minc revealed that those who win the bidding process to build and operate Belo Monte will have to pay millions of dollars to protect the environment and meet 40 other conditions.

O Ministro do Meio Ambiente do Brasil, Carlos Minc, revelou que aqueles que ganharem o processo de propostas para construir e operar Belo Monte terão que pagar milhões de dólares para proteger o meio ambiente e satisfazer 40 outras condições.

However, critics say diverting the flow of the Xingu river will still lead to devastation in a large area of the rainforest and damage fish stocks.

Contudo, críticos dizem que mudando o fluxo do Rio Xingu levaria a devastação para uma larga área de floresta e prejuízos para os estoques de peixe.

They say the lives of up to 40,000 people could be affected as 500 sq km of land would be flooded.

Eles dizem que as vidas de 40.000 pessoas poderiam ser afetadas enquanto que quinhentos quilômetros de terra poderiam ser inundados.

When it is completed, Belo Monte would be third largest hydro-electric dam in the world, after the Three Gorges in China and Itaipu, which is jointly run by Brazil and Paraguay. It is expected to provide electricity to 23 million Brazilian homes.

Quando isso for completado, Belo Monte poderia ser a terceira maior represa hidroelétrica no mundo, depois de Três Gargantas na China e Itaipu, a qual é um consórcio entre Brasil e Paraguai. Isso é esperado para melhorar a eletricidade para 23 milhões de lares no Brasil.

With Brazil's economy continuing to show signs of growth, ministers say hydro-electric plants are a vital way to ensure power supplies over the next decade - and at least 70 dams are said to be planned for the Amazon region.

Com a economia do Brasil continuando a mostrar sinais de crescimento, os ministros dizem que hidroelétricas são um caminho vital para assegurar o poder de suprir a próxima década – e pelo menos setenta represas estão sendo planejadas para região Amazônica.

Critics say the Belo Monte plant will be hugely inefficient, generating less than 10% of its capacity during the three to four months of the low-water season.

Críticos dizem que Belo Monte será grandemente ineficiente, gerando menos do que 10% de sua capacidade durante três ou quatro meses na baixa estação das águas.

The project has even caused division and resignations within the government's own environment agency Ibama, which, after much delay, has now given its initial approval.

O projeto tem causado divisão e resignação dentro da própria agência do governo de meio ambiente, o Ibama, o qual, após muito postergar, deu sua aprovação inicial.

Having passed this critical test the dam is now much closer to becoming a reality, but the controversy surrounding it is also unlikely to go away.

Tendo passado nesse teste crítico a represa está agora muito perto para tornar-se uma realidade, mas a controvérsia em torno dela é também improvável para seguir adiante.