

DAMS AND DEVELOPMENT IN **CHINA**

CONTEMPORARY ASIA IN THE WORLD

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DAVID C. KANG AND VICTOR D. CHA, EDITORS

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DAMS AND
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The Moral Economy
of Water and Power

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The antagonists in such contests . . . know each other's repertoire of practical action and discursive moves. There is, in other words, a kind of larger social contract that gives some order and limits to the conflict. . . . The limits and constraints characterizing conflict are never cut-and-dried to the participants. The antagonists are, all of them, continually prospecting new terrain—trying out new stratagems and wrinkles that threaten to change, and often do change, the shape of the “game” itself.

—James C. Scott, *The Art of Not Being Governed*

Displacement is possible only because the hydropower development companies aren't forced to look at the results of their actions. The hydropower development companies shouldn't be allowed to keep their distance. They should have to be shut in a room with the villagers that they have displaced. They should have to look those villagers in the eye.

—Dr. Li, Beijing-based sociologist

