

J-11015/519/2008 - IA. II (M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Tel no. 24363973

E mail: plahujarai@yahoo.com

Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O. Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Dated February 9, 2010

To

The Director (Planning & Projects)
M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited.
P.O Kothagudem District Khammam- 507101

E mail: dpp@scclmines.com, env_crp@scclmines.com

Sub: Sand mining (in Godavari riverbed) project at Village and Mandal
Chennur in District Adilabad in Andhra Pradesh of M/s The Singareni
Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) (ML area 216.0 ha with production
capacity of 3.00 L.Cu.m/year) Reg –Environmental clearance

Sir,

This has reference to your letter no. CRP/ENV/A/526/746 dated 12.12.2009
along with copies of /EMP and public hearing reports, on the above mentioned
subject seeking environmental clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification,
2006.

2. The Ministry of Environment and forests has examined your application. It has
been noted that the proposal is for sand mining from the Godavari River bed at
capacity of 3.00 L.m3/annum by M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited. The
mine lease area is 216.0 ha. The sand will be used for stowing due to voids created
by extraction of coal from the under ground mines. The mining will be carried by
Back hoe & Tippers. The mineable reserves are 97.2 lakh Cu.m. The life of the mine
is 30 years. The relief of the project site is 109 m to 103 m above MSL. The flow
level of river during lean season is 99 m to 98 m above MSL. The river width is 1100
m to 1500 m. The sand bed thickness is 2.2 m -12.5m. The lease area will be divided
into seven blocks and mining operation will be restricted to one block in a year. The
sand mining will be carried in meander part of the river bed. A small part about less
than 1.5 km² of the Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary overlaps with the buffer zone of the
mine at its south eastern periphery. Cost of the project is Rs.52 lakhs.

3. The project activity falls in A Category of 1(a) of Schedule of Environmental
Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

4 The proposal has been considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee -2
(Mining) in its 5th meeting held during 21-22nd February,2010. The Committee
recommended the proposal for environmental clearance. Public hearing was held on
24.11.2009.



5. Based on the information submitted by the project proponent, the Ministry of Environment & Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the said project under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 subject to implementation of the following terms and conditions:-

A. Specific Conditions:-

- i. Operations of the mine shall be confined in such a way that distance of the Pranhita Wildlife sanctuary is beyond 10km of the mine lease area.
- ii. Measures shall be undertaken for dust suppression during loading of sand and by water sprinkling on the internal roads. The trucks carrying material shall be covered with tarpaulin.
- iii. Two monitoring stations i.e. one in the up stream and one in the down stream in the mining lease area shall be set up for monitoring the surface water quality.
- iv. Measures for prevention and control of soil erosion and management of silt shall be undertaken.
- v. Fugitive dust generation shall be controlled. Fugitive dust emission shall be regularly monitored at locations of nearest human habitation (including schools and other public amenities located nearest to sources of dust generation as applicable) and records submitted to the Ministry.
- vi. Monitoring of ground and surface water quality shall be regularly conducted and records maintained and data submitted to the Ministry regularly. Further, monitoring points shall be located between the mine and drainage in the direction of flow of ground water and records maintained.
- vii. Data on ambient air quality (PM10, SO₂, NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months. The critical parameters such as PM10, NO_x in the ambient air within the impact zone, shall be monitored and displayed on a display board at the project site at a suitable location near the main gate of the company in public domain. The circular no.J-20012/1/2006-IA.II(M) dated 2.5.2009 issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is available on the website of the Ministry www.envfor.nic.in shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- viii. Land-use pattern of the nearby villages shall be studied, including common property resources available for conversion into productive land. Action plan for abatement and compensation for damage to agricultural land / common property land (if any) in the nearby villages, due to mining activity shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.



- ix. Need based assessment for the nearby villages shall be conducted to study economic measures with action plan which can help in upliftment of poor section of society. Income generating projects consistent with the traditional skills of the people besides development of fodder farm, fruit bearing orchards, vocational training etc. can form a part of such programme. Company shall provide separate budget for community development activities and income generating programmes. This will be in addition to vocational training for individuals imparted to take up self employment and jobs.
- x. Rain water harvesting shall be undertaken to recharge the ground water source.
- xi. Personnel exposure monitoring for respirable mineral dust shall be carried out for the workers and records maintained including health records of the workers. Awareness programme for workers on impact of mining on their health and precautionary measures like use of personal protective equipments etc. shall be carried out periodically. The workers shall not be allowed to work without dust masks and shall not be allowed to smoke as the combined impact of silica dust and cigarette smoking will have adverse impact on their health.
- xii. Occupational health and safety measures for the workers including identification of work related health hazards, training on malaria eradication, HIV, and health effects on exposure to mineral dust etc. shall be carried out. The company shall engage a full time qualified doctor who is trained in occupational health. Review of impact of various health measures undertaken (at interval of five years or less) shall be conducted followed by remedial action wherever required.
- xiii. Occupational Health Cell shall be created at the company level under the charge of an officer of adequate seniority who is a qualified person in occupational health.
- xiv. Green belt development and selection of plant species shall be as per CPCB guidelines. Herbs and shrubs shall also form a part of afforestation programme besides tree plantation. Details of year wise afforestation programme including rehabilitation of mined out area shall be submitted to the Ministry within six months.
- xv. Provision shall be made for the housing the laborers within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.

B. General conditions

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral and waste shall be made.
- (iii) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.
- (iv) Ambient air quality-monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for PM₁₀, SO₂, NO_x monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (v) Data on ambient air quality (PM₁₀, SO₂, NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months. The monitored data of criteria pollutants mentioned above shall be regularly uploaded on the company's website and also displayed at project site.
- (v) Measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. shall be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- (vi) Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May, 1993 and 31st December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- (vii) Personnel working in dusty areas shall be provided with protective respiratory devices and they shall also be imparted adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (viii) A separate Environmental Management Cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (ix) The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (x) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and shall not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.

- (xi) The Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities shall extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- (xii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office, Bangalore, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environment of the environmental clearance conditions on their website and update the same periodically and simultaneously send the same by e-mail to the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bangalore.
- (xiii) The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality, / office of Municipal Corporation/Gram Panchayat concerned and on the company's web site within seven days from the date of this clearance letter, informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and copies of clearance letter are available with the State Pollution Control Board/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.
- (xiv) A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the company.
- (xv) State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industries Centre and Collector's office / Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xvi) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions. The same shall also be sent to the Regional Office of Ministry by e-mail.

6. The Ministry of Environment and Forests reserves the right to revoke the clearance if conditions stipulated are not implemented to the satisfaction of the Ministry. MOEF may impose additional environmental conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary.

7. In case of any deviation or alteration in the project proposed from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference should be made to the Ministry to assess the adequacy of the condition(s) imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.

8. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

9. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Environment Appellate Authority, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 11 of the National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.

10. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made thereunder and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Court of Andhra Pradesh and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. P.L.Ahujarai)
Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
3. Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
4. Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
5. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (SZ), Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor E&F, Wings 17th Main Road, 1 Block, Koranmangala, Bangalore-560 034.
6. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
7. Chairman, Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhawan, A-3 Industrial Estate, Sanath Nagar, Hyderabad ? 500 018
8. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W- 3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
9. Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001.
10. District Collector, Adilabad District, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
11. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
12. Monitoring File/Guard File/ Record File.

(Dr. P.L.Ahujarai)
Director