

NoJ-11015/152/2005- IA.II(M)
Government of India.
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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

Dated the February 5, 2007

To

The Managing Partner
M/s Jayaswals Neco Limited
F-B, MIDC Industrial area
Hingna Road, Nagpur-440016

Sub: Environment clearance for Expansion of Chhote Dongar Iron ore mine at village Rajpur in District Bastar in Chhattisgarh by M/s Jayaswal Neco Limited

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No.NECO/ENV/02 dated 21st March, 2005 and subsequent communications dated 24.6.2005, 27.10.2005, 7.1.2006, 8.9.06 and 11.10.06 on the subject mentioned above. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application. It has been noted that the proposal is for environmental clearance of iron ore mining with production capacity of 50,000 TPA. The total mine lease area of the project is 192.25 ha, which is a forest land. Forestry clearance under the forest (Cons.) Act, 1980 has been obtained on 11.8.2004 for diversion of 91.0 ha of forest land in first phase. Out of 91.0 ha of area 62.91 ha has been earmarked for excavation, 8.0 ha for OB dumps, 2.0 ha for infrastructure and 8.09 ha for roads.

2. It is noted that no ecologically sensitive area such as National Park/Sanctuary/Biosphere reserve etc. is located within core and buffer zone of the mine lease. There is no population in the core zone, displacement of population and R&R is not involved. Working of the mine will be opencast and manual method involving wet drilling. Mining will not intersect the ground water table. Water requirement of 30m³/day will be met through tankers. A total of 586m³/m of solid waste will be generated of which 391m³/m will be dumped as external dump and 195m³/m will be subgrade mineral. Public hearing of the project was held on 16.9.1998. IBM has approved the mining plan on 04.04.2001. Forestry clearance for diversion of forest land of 91.0 ha was obtained on 11.8.2004. Site clearance of the project was granted on 10.11.2004. Capital cost of the project is Rs.100.0 lakhs.

M. R. K. S. J. N. S. A.

3. Proposal was received prior to EIA Notification of 14th September, 2006 and was considered for grant of environmental clearance, as per procedure in EIA Notification, 1994 in terms of provisions of Para 12 of EIA Notification, 2006 dated 14.9.2006 read with Para 2.0 (2.1 (2.1.1) of Circular dated 13.10.2006.

4. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance for the above project under the provisions of EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006 subject to implementation of the following conditions/ safeguards:

A. Specific conditions

(i) Top soil shall be stacked properly with proper slope with adequate safeguards and shall be backfilled for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out area.

(ii) Over burden shall be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only and shall not be kept active for long period. The maximum height of the dump shall not exceed 30 m, each stage shall preferably be of 10 m and over all slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. The mine pit area shall be reclaimed by back filling the OB in a phased manner. The OB dumps shall be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests on six monthly basis.

(iii) Garland drains shall be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from soil, and mineral dumps. The water so collected shall be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly.

Garland drain (size, gradient and length) shall be constructed for both mine pit and for waste dump and sump capacity shall be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity shall also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. Sedimentation pits shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains and desilted at regular intervals.

(iv) Drilling and blasting shall be by using dust extractors/wet drilling.

(v) Plantation shall be raised in an area of 28.0 ha including a green belt of adequate width by planting the native species around the ML area, roads, OB dump sites etc. In consultation with the local BFO / Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2000 plants per ha.

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- (vi) The project authority shall implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (vii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The monitoring shall be carried out four times in a year - pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to MOEF, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director Central Ground Water Board.
- (viii) Prior permission from the competent authority shall be obtained for drawl of ground water, if any.
- (ix) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Measures shall be taken for maintenance of vehicles used in mining operations and in transportation of mineral. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be overloaded.
- (x) A Final Mine Closure Plan, along with details of Corpus Fund, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

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 iron ore and waste shall be made.
- iii. Conservation measures for protection of flora and fauna in the core & buffer zone shall be drawn up in consultation with the local forest and wildlife department.
- iv. Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RPM, SPM, 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.

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- v. Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM, SO₂, NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bhopal and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- vi. 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.
- vii. 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.
- viii. 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.
- ix. Personnel working in dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- x. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers shall be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- xi. 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.
- xii. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bhopal regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- xiii. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bhopal.

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- xiv. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bhopal regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- xv. The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- xvi. 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.
- xvii. State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- xviii. The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in> and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located Bhopal.
5. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
6. 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.
7. 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.

Yours faithfully,

P. L. Ahuja
(Dr. P.L. Ahuja)
Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Principal Secretary, Environment, R. No. 153 Dau, Kalyan Singh Bhawan, Secretariat, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur-492001
3. Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
4. Chairman Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, 14/3, Park Street, Chaubey Colony, Raipur (CG).
5. Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
6. Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
7. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
8. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, E - 3 / 240 Arera Colony, Bhopal - 462 016.
9. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
10. Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
11. District Collector, Bastar district, Chhattisgarh.
12. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, EI Division, New Delhi.
13. Monitoring File.
14. Guard File.
15. Record File.

(Dr. P. L. Ahujara)
Director