

By Speed Post

No. J-11015/395/2010-IA.II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(IA.II (M) Division)

751, Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110 003
Dated the 12th April 2013

To

M/s Bharat Stone Crusher & Screening Unit
V.& P.O. Mawa Sindhian
Tehsil Amb
District Una,
Himachal Pradesh

Subject: Collection of minor minerals (Sand. Gravel. Boulders) by M/s Bharat Stone Crusher & Screening Unit located in Khasra No. 2358 and 2359 measuring 7.2463 ha in Soan Nadi in Mauza and Mohal Mawa Sindhian in Tehsil Amb. District Una. Himachal Pradesh - environmental clearance - regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to letter No. NIL dated 06-02-12 on the subject mentioned above. The project was earlier prescribed Terms of Reference (TORs) by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 28.3.2011 for undertaking detailed EIA study for the purpose of obtaining environmental clearance. The proposal is for collection of 37,800 tonnes per annum (TPA) of minor minerals (sand, stone and bajri) from the bed of river Soan, a seasonal rivulet.

2. The total mine lease area of the project is 7.2463 ha and falls in the Soan river which is a tributary of the Satluj river. It has been considered as category 'A' because of its location within 10 km of the inter-state boundary with Punjab. Approval from Dept. of Industries, Govt. of H.P. has been obtained for grant of lease vide letter dated 21-04-2007 and as amended on 03-02-2009 for 5 years. Working cum Environment Management Plan (EMP) is approved by Govt. of H.P. vide letter dated 31-08-2012. No objection from village Panchayat is also obtained.

3. The area is lies between Longitude: 76° 06' 36"E and 76° 06' 45"E / Latitude: 31° 37' 48"N and 31° 37' 42"N. The total area of the Soan river catchment is 1215 Sq Km. The highest point of the leased out area is 414 m

above MSL and lowest point of the leased out area is 409 m above MSL. In the lease area the widest point is 288 m and the narrowest point is 248 m. The mining will be manual and up to 3 feet only. Mining will be done as per the policy guidelines issued by the State Government for Mining of River /Khad bed and no mining will be done, viz., (i) within 75 m from the periphery of soil conservation works, nursery plantation, check dams, etc., (ii) within 1/5th of its span or 5m from the bank, (iii) within 500m u/s and d/s of water supply scheme, (iv) within 300m u/s and d/s of bridges or as suggested by the Joint Inspection Committee.

4. No National park / Wildlife sanctuary / Biosphere reserve / Tiger reserve / Elephant reserve, etc., are reported to be located in the core and buffer zone of within 10 km of the periphery of the project site.

5. A total of 32,400 metric ton of waste shall be generated in five years that is silt and clay. The pits from where the material will be picked will be replenished during monsoon. The silt / sand clay mixture will be used to backfill the pits.

6. The public hearing was held on 21.10.2011. The capital cost of the project is Rs. 5,000/- and the annual recurring cost for the environment protection measures is proposed as Rs. 10lakhs.

7. It has been noted that the mine has continued to operate without obtaining requisite prior environmental clearance till October 2011.

8. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application in accordance with the EIA Notification, 2006 and hereby accords environmental clearance under the provisions thereof to the above mentioned Minor Mineral Mining Project of M/s Bharat Stone Crusher & Screening Unit located in Khasra No. 2358 and 2359 in Soan Nadi in Mauza and Mohal Mawa Sindhian in Tehsil Amb, District Una, Himachal Pradesh for an annual collection of 37,800 tonnes per annum (TPA) of minor minerals (sand, stone and bajri) from the bed of river Soan by the open cast manual method involving total mining lease area of 7.2463 ha, subject to implementation of the following conditions and environmental safeguards.

A. Specific conditions

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from the Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (ii) Environmental clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of

India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 460 of 2004, as may be applicable to this project.

- (iii) Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the competent authority, as may be applicable to this project.
- (iv) The project proponent shall prepare the plan of mining in conformity with the mine lease conditions and the Rules prescribed in this regard clearly showing the no work zone in the mine lease i.e. the distance from the bank of river to be left unworked, distance from the bridges etc. It shall be ensured that no mining shall be carried out during the monsoon season.
- (v) A Wildlife Management Plan shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Wildlife Department.
- (vi) The material transportation shall be only through covered trucks.
- (vii) Effective safeguard measures shall be taken to control particulate level so as to ensure that these are within permissible limit.
- (viii) Regular monitoring of ambient air quality shall be carried out and records maintained. The results of monitoring shall be submitted to MoEF and its Regional Office and CPCB, SPCB regularly.
- (ix) The project proponent shall identify the degraded forest area within the mine lease in consultation with the State Forest Department and undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting the native species.
- (x) Effective safeguard measures, such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of particulate matter such as loading and unloading point and all transfer points. Extensive water sprinkling shall be carried-out on haul roads. It should be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
- (xi) The Company shall submit within 3 months their policy towards Corporate Environment Responsibility which should inter-alia provide for (i) Standard operating process / process to bring into focus any infringement / deviation / violation of the environmental or forest norms / conditions, (ii) Hierarchical system or Administrative order of the company to deal with the environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the EC conditions and (iii) System of reporting of non

compliances / violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the company and / or shareholders or stakeholders.

- (xii) The project proponent shall undertake adequate safeguard measures during extraction of river bed material and ensure that due to this activity the hydro-geological regime of the surrounding area shall not be affected. Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out around the mine lease area by establishing a network of existing wells and installing new piezometers during the mining operation. The periodic monitoring [(at least four times in a year- pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January); once in each season)] shall be carried out in consultation with the State Ground Water Board/Central Ground Water Authority and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office Chandigarh, the Central Ground Water Authority and the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board. If at any stage, it is observed that the groundwater table is getting depleted due to the mining activity, necessary corrective measures shall be carried out.
- (xiii) The project proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of water (surface water and groundwater), if any, required for the project.
- (xiv) Appropriate mitigative measures shall be taken to prevent pollution of the river in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. It shall be ensured that there is no leakage of oil and grease in the river from the vehicles used for transportation.
- (xv) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through the covered trucks only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded.
- (xvi) No drilling and blasting operation shall be carried out.
- (xvii) Mineral handling area shall be provided with the adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- (xviii) Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.

- (xix) Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, creche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.
- (xx) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered fauna namely elephant etc. found in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna shall be prepared in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. All the safeguard measures brought out in the Wildlife Conservation Plan so prepared specific to this project site shall be effectively implemented. Necessary allocation of funds for implementation of the conservation plan shall be made and the funds so allocated shall be included in the project cost. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh.

B. General conditions

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral Sand, Gravel, Boulders (minor mineral) and waste should be made.
- (iii) Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM₁₀) and 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.
- (iv) Data on ambient air quality RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM₁₀) & NO_x should be regularly submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests including its Regional office located at Chandigarh and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (v) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.

- (vi) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (vii) Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- (viii) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (ix) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office located at Chandigarh.
- (x) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Chandigarh regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xi) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Chandigarh 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.
- (xii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office Chandigarh, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board the State Pollution Control Board. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environmental clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board.
- (xiii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parisad / Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/

representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the Company by the proponent.

- (xiv) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and the Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
 - (xv) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh by e-mail.
 - (xvi) 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 should be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Chandigarh.
9. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
 10. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
 11. 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 Himachal Pradesh and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

12. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

(Dr. Saroj)
Director

Copy to:

- (i) The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (ii) The Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Secretariat, Shimla-171 002.
- (iii) The Commissioner and Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh Secretariat, Shimla-171 002.
- (iv) The Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (NZ), Bays No. 24-25, Sector 31-A, Dakshin Marg, Chandigarh-160 030.
- (v) The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Mist Chamber, 1st Floor, Khalini, Shimla - 171 002.
- (vi) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-1100032.
- (vii) The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A-2, W3, Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
- (viii) The Chairman, Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Paryavaran Bhavan, Phase-III, New Shimla - 171 009.
- (ix) The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
- (x) The District Collector, Una District, Himachal Pradesh.
- (xi) Guard File.

(Dr. Saroj)
Director