



J-13012/32/2008-IA.II (T)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

BY SPEED POST

Ph: 011-2436 3973
Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodi Road
New Delhi-110 003
Dated: July 30, 2012.

To

M/s Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.
Central Technical Office
Block-I, Neyvelli – 607 801.

Sub: Expansion by addition of 1x250 MW Lignite Based Barsingsar Thermal Power Plant at village Barsingsar, in Kolayat Taluk, in Bikaner Distt., in Rajasthan -reg. Environmental Clearance.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letters dated 12.12.2011 and 02.04.2012 on the subject mentioned above. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has examined the application.

2. It has been noted that the proposal is for expansion by addition of 1x250 MW Lignite Based Thermal Power Plant at village Barsingsar, in Kolayat Taluk, in Bikaner Distt., in Rajasthan. The existing lignite based pit head TPP comprises of 2x125 MW capacity, environmental clearance for which was obtained in 2002. Land requirement for the expansion will be 98.8 acres, which is available within the existing plant premises. The co-ordinates of the site are located in between Latitude 27°50'28" N to 27°51'06" N and Longitude 73°11'40.6" E to 73°12'30"E. Lignite requirement will be 1.99 MTPA, which will be obtained from Hadla and Palana Mines. About 1.9 MT lignite will be obtained from Hadla mine and 0.6 MT lignite from Palana mine respectively. Ash and Sulphur contents in the lignite will be 4.0 to 58.2% and 0.59% to 2.2% respectively. Area requirement for ash pond dyke will be 44.5 acres, which is already available for total plant capacity. About 0.488 MTPA Fly ash and 0.209 MTPA Bottom ash will be generated. Fly ash will be supplied to cement and brick manufactures. Stack height will be 220m. Water requirement will be 1060 m³/hr and will be sourced from the Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana canal through a pipeline over a distance of about 56.0 km to the project site. Water agreement was signed on 08.10.2004. Induced draft cooling system will be installed. There are no National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries, Heritage Sites, Tiger/Biosphere reserves etc. within 10 km of the site. Public Hearing was held on 28.01.2011. Cost of the project will be Rs 1691.65 Crores.

3. The project has been considered in accordance with the provisions of the EIA notification issued by the Ministry of Environment & Forests vide S.O. 1533 (E), dated September 14, 2006.

4. Based on the information submitted by you, as at Para 2 above and others and presentation made before the Expert Appraisal Committee (Thermal Power) in its **40th Meeting** held during **January 9-10, 2012**, by you and your consultant **M/s Kirloskar Consultant Ltd., Pune** the Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above project under the provisions of EIA notification dated September 14, 2006, subject to the compliance of the following Specific and General conditions:

A. Specific Conditions:

- (i) Scheme for harnessing solar power within the premises of the plant (particularly at available roof tops) shall be critically examined and status of implementation shall be submitted.
- (ii) Stack of 220 m height shall be installed and provided with continuous online monitoring equipments for SO_x, NO_x and PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀. Exit velocity of flue gases shall not be less than 22 m/sec. Mercury emissions from stack may also monitored on periodic basis.
- (iii) High Efficiency Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) shall be installed to ensure that particulate emission does not exceed 50 mg/Nm³.
- (iv) Lignite transportation shall be undertaken by closed conveyor belt system.
- (v) Water requirement shall be strictly as per CEA norms issued from time to time. The project proponent shall ensure that the water for proposed power project does not entail diversion of allocation of water for drinking and agriculture purpose from the source.
- (vi) Regular monitoring of ground water level shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers. Monitoring around the ash pond area shall be carried out particularly for heavy metals (Hg,Cr,As,Pb) and records maintained and submitted to **the Regional Office of this Ministry**. The data so obtained should be compared with the baseline data so as to ensure that the ground water quality is not adversely affected due to the project. No ground water shall be extracted for use in operation of the power plant even in lean season.
- (vii) Hydrogeology of the area shall be reviewed annually from an institute/ organization of repute to assess impact of surface water and ground regime (especially around ash dyke). In case and deterioration is observed specific mitigation measures shall be undertaken and reports/ data of water quality monitored regularly

and maintained shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry.

- (viii) A well designed rainwater harvesting shall be put in place before commissioning of the plant. Central Groundwater Authority/ Board shall be consulted for finalization of appropriate rainwater harvesting technology/design and details shall be furnished. The design of rain water harvesting shall comprise of rain water collection from the built up and open area in the plant premises. Action plan and road map for implementation shall be submitted to the Ministry **within six months**.
- (ix) Waste water generated from the plant shall be treated before discharge to comply limits prescribed by the SPCB.
- (x) COC of 5.0 shall be adopted.
- (xi) Fly ash shall not be used for agricultural purpose. No mine void filling will be undertaken as an option for ash utilization without adequate lining of mine with suitable media such that no leachate shall take place at any point of time. In case, the option of mine void filling is to be adopted, prior detailed study of soil characteristics of the mine area shall be undertaken from an institute of repute and adequate clay lining shall be ascertained by the State Pollution Control Board and implementation done in close co-ordination with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (xii) A detailed study on chemical composition of coal used particularly heavy metal and radio activity contents shall be carried out through a reputed institute and report shall be submitted to Regional Office of the Ministry. Only after ascertaining its radioactive level shall fly ash be utilized for brick manufacturing or supplied to brick manufacturers.
- (xiii) A long term study of radio activity and heavy metals contents on coal to be used shall be carried out through a reputed institute. Thereafter mechanism for an in-built continuous monitoring for radio activity and heavy metals in coal and fly ash (including bottom ash) shall be put in place.
- (xiv) Utilisation of 100% Fly Ash generated shall be made from **4th** year of operation. Status of implementation shall be reported to the Regional Office of the Ministry from time to time.
- (xv) Fly ash shall be collected in dry form and storage facility (silos) shall be provided. Unutilized fly ash shall be disposed off in the ash pond in the form of slurry form. Mercury and other heavy metals (As,Hg, Cr, Pb etc.) will be monitored in the bottom ash as also in the effluents emanating from the existing ash pond. No ash shall be disposed off in low lying area.

- (xvi) Ash pond water shall be re-circulated and utilized. Ash pond shall be lined with HDPE/LDPE lining or any other suitable impermeable media such that no leachate takes place at any point of time. Adequate safety measures shall also be implemented to protect the ash dyke from getting breached.
- (xvii) Green Belt consisting of 3 tiers of plantations of native species around the plant of atleast 50 m width shall be raised (except in areas not feasible). The density of trees shall not be less than 2500 per Ha and rate of survival atleast 80%.
- (xviii) The project proponent shall in consultation with the State Forests Dept. identify blocks of degenerated forests in the region and shall take up massive afforestation. The status of implementation of the same shall be submitted to the Ministry from time to time.
- (xix) The project proponent shall also adequately contribute in the development of the neighbouring villages. Special package with implementation schedule for [providing potable drinking](#) water supply in the nearby villages and schools shall be undertaken in a time bound manner.
- (xx) [CSR scheme should address Public Hearing issues and shall be undertaken based on need based assessment in and around the villages within 5.0 km of the site and in constant consultation with the village Panchayat and the District Administration. As part of CSR prior identification of local employable youth and eventual employment in the project after imparting relevant training shall be also undertaken.](#)
- (xxi) It shall be ensured that an in-built monitoring mechanism for the CSR schemes identified is in place and annual social audit shall be got done from the nearest government institute of repute in the region. The project proponent shall also submit the status of implementation of the scheme from time to time. The achievements should be put on company's website.
- (xxii) An amount of **Rs 6.77 Crores** shall be earmarked as one time capital cost for CSR programme as committed by the project proponent. Subsequently a recurring expenditure of **Rs 1.40 Crores** per annum shall be earmarked as recurring expenditure for CSR activities. Details of the activities to be undertaken shall be **submitted within six month** along with road map for implementation.
- (xxiii) An Environmental Cell shall be created at the project site itself and shall be headed by qualified officer, who is well versed with the environmental aspects. It shall be ensured that the Head of the Cell shall directly report to the head of the Organization.

B. General Conditions:

- (i) The treated effluents conforming to the prescribed standards only shall be re-circulated and reused within the plant. Arrangements shall be made that effluents and storm water do not get mixed.
- (ii) A sewage treatment plant shall be provided (as applicable) and the treated sewage shall be used for raising greenbelt/plantation.
- (iii) Adequate safety measures shall be provided in the plant area to check/minimize spontaneous fires in coal yard, especially during summer season. Copy of these measures with full details along with location plant layout shall be submitted to the Ministry as well as to the [Regional Office of the Ministry](#).
- (iv) Storage facilities for auxiliary liquid fuel such as LDO/ HFO/LSHS shall be made in the plant area in consultation with Department of Explosives, Nagpur. Sulphur content in the liquid fuel will not exceed 0.5%. Disaster Management Plan shall be prepared to meet any eventuality in case of an accident taking place due to storage of oil.
- (v) First Aid and sanitation arrangements shall be made for the drivers and other contract workers during construction phase.
- (vi) Noise levels emanating from turbines shall be so controlled such that the noise in the work zone shall be limited to 85 dBA from source. For people working in the high noise area, requisite personal protective equipment like earplugs/ear muffs etc. shall be provided. Workers engaged in noisy areas such as turbine area, air compressors etc shall be periodically examined to maintain audiometric record and for treatment for any hearing loss including shifting to non noisy/less noisy areas.
- (vii) Regular monitoring of ambient air ground level concentration of SO₂, NO_x, PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀ and Hg shall be carried out in the impact zone and records maintained. If at any stage these levels are found to exceed the prescribed limits, necessary control measures shall be provided immediately. The location of the monitoring stations and frequency of monitoring shall be decided in consultation with SPCB. Periodic reports shall be submitted to the [Regional Office of this Ministry](#). The data shall also be put on the website of the company.
- (viii) Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour (as applicable) 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.

- (ix) 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 concerned 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>.
- (x) 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, received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the Company by the proponent.
- (xi) An Environmental Cell comprising of atleast one expert in environmental science / engineering, occupational health and social scientist, shall be created at the project site itself and shall be headed by an officer of appropriate superiority and qualification. It shall be ensured that the Head of the Cell shall directly report to the head of the organization and he shall be held responsible for implementation of environmental regulations and social impact improvement/mitigation measures.
- (xii) The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated 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 MOEF, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The criteria pollutant levels namely; SPM, RSPM (PM_{2.5} & PM₁₀), SO₂, NO_x (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) shall be displayed at a convenient location near the main gate of the company in the public domain.
- (xiii) The environment 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 respective Regional Offices of the Ministry by e-mail.
- (xiv) **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, 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.

- (xv) Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment & Forests will monitor the implementation of the stipulated conditions. A complete set of documents including Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Environment Management Plan along with the additional information submitted from time to time shall be forwarded to the Regional Office for their use during monitoring. Project proponent will up-load the compliance status in their website and up-date the same from time to time at least six monthly basis. **Criteria pollutants levels including NO_x (from stack & ambient air) shall be displayed at the main gate of the power plant.**
 - (xvi) Separate funds shall be allocated for implementation of environmental protection measures along with item-wise break-up. These cost shall be included as part of the project cost. The funds earmarked for the environment protection measures shall not be diverted for other purposes and year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry.
 - (xvii) The project authorities shall inform [the Regional Office](#) as well as the Ministry regarding the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the dates of start of land development work and commissioning of plant.
 - (xviii) Full cooperation shall be extended to the Scientists/Officers from the Ministry / Regional Office of the Ministry at Bangalore / CPCB/ SPCB who would be monitoring the compliance of environmental status.
5. 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. The Ministry may also impose additional environmental conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary.
6. The environmental clearance accorded **shall be valid for a period of 5 years** to start operations by the power plant.
7. 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.
8. In case of any deviation or alteration in the project proposed including coal transportation system 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.

9. The above stipulations would be enforced among others under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and rules there under, Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling & Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 and its amendments, the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 and its amendments.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. P.L. Ahujarai)
Scientist 'F'

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi 110001.
2. The Secretary, Department of Forests & Environment, Government of Rajasthan, Secretariat, Jaipur.
3. The Chairman, Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.
4. The Chairman, Rajasthan Pollution Control Board, 4, Institutional Area, Jhalana Doongri, Jaipur
5. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi- 110032.
6. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (WZ), E-5, Kendriya Bhandar, 5th Floor, Sector-H, Aliganj, Lucknow – 226 020.
7. The District Collector, Bikaner District, Rajasthan.
8. The Director (EI), MOEF.
9. Guard file.
10. Monitoring File.

(Dr. P.L. Ahujarai)
Scientist 'F'