The Secretary (Irrigation)
I&CAD Department
A.P. Secretariat
Hyderabad.
Andhra Pradesh

Subject – Polavaram multipurpose project in West Godavari district, A.P. – Site clearance for investigation & survey regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No.CE(Hydrology)/EE-IV/DEE-II/AEE/1866/Vol-I, dated 30.7.2004 and subsequent letter dated 23.03.2005, and 11.08.2005 on the subject. It has been noted that the proposed Polavaram project is conceived as a multipurpose project conferring irrigation benefits to an extent of 7.20 lakh acres in the upland area of west Godavari, Krishna, East Godavari and Visakhapatnam districts, 21 cusecs drinking water supply, 1.8x10^6 cum/day industrial water supply and generation of Hydel power with an installed capacity of 960 MW. The project site is located at 42 Km upstream of Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage near Polavaram Village of the river Godavari. The proposed dam involves displacement of nearly 1,17,034 people of different ethnic groups in 276 villages and submergence of 38,186 ha. in Nine Mandals of West Godavari, East Godavari and Khammam Districts in Andhra Pradesh. 13 Nos. of villages in Chattisgarh and 10 Nos. in Orissa are also likely to be submerged. About 3222.35 ha. forest land is coming under submergence.

The above proposal has been examined taking into consideration the submitted project documents and site visit report. The Ministry accords site clearance for investigation & survey as per the provisions of EIA notification, 1994 subject to the strict compliance of the below mentioned terms and conditions –

i) Comprehensive EIA report (One year data) comprising the detailed report on ecological study, Command area development, water logging, cropping systems, rehabilitation & resettlement of PAPs, seismicity, disaster management plan, minerals
loss, the impact on wild animal during the construction phase and thereafter, impact due to construction of infrastructure required for the construction of projects such as roads, opening up of new quarries etc. should be undertaken and submitted to the Ministry within 18 months of issue of this letter.

ii) Suggestions given during the Public Hearing should be incorporated in the EIA report.

iii) Clearance is only for undertaking investigations at the above-mentioned site and for collection of environmental data for preparation of comprehensive EIA report and management plans. This should not in any way be construed as commitment for environmental clearance of any hydroelectric project at the site.

iv) No civil work of permanent in nature on the project shall be initiated in anticipation of the final approval of the Ministry. The Project Authority would have to apply for environmental clearance by submitting environmental data and plans.

v) Forest clearance should be obtained for acquisition of forest land.

viii) The fund requirements for environmental aspects should be included in the budget of the project for evaluation of economic feasibility of the project.

ix) Ministry reserves the right to suggest additional measures for environmental protection during the investigation stage, if found necessary.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director

Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhavan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.
2. Adviser (I&CAD), Planning Commission, Yojana Bhavan, New Delhi.
4. Regional Office, MOEF, Bangalore.
5. EI Division, MOEF, New Delhi.

(Original)

(Jh/26.9-02)

(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director