

**MINUTES OF THE 198<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR PROJECTS RELATED TO COASTAL REGULATION ZONE HELD ON 17<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2018 AT INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE, NEW DELHI.**

The 198<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee for projects related to Coastal Regulation Zone was held on 17. 09.2018 at Indus Conference Hall, Jal Wing, Ground Floor, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi. The members present were:

- |    |                        |   |          |
|----|------------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Dr. Deepak Arun Apte   | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Dr. V.K. Jain          | - | Member   |
| 3. | Dr. M.V. Ramana Murthy | - | Member   |
| 4. | Dr. N.K. Verma         | - | Member   |
| 5. | Dr. Manoranjan Hota    | - | Member   |
| 6. | Dr. Anil Kumar Singh   | - | Member   |
| 7. | Dr. Anuradha Shukla    | - | Member   |
| 8. | Shri. N.K. Gupta       | - | Member   |

Shri T.P. Singh, Shri. Prabhakar Singh, Shri. Narendra Surana, Dr. Mohan Singh Panwar, Shri Sanjay Singh and representative from Survey of India were absent.

*Also in attendance:* Shri W. Bharat Singh, Addl. Director, MoEFCC and Dr. Bhawana Kapkoti Negi, Technical Officer, MoEFCC. The deliberations held and the decisions taken are as under:

## **2.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The Committee having noted that the 196<sup>th</sup> meeting were in order confirmed the same.

## **3.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS:**

### **3.1 Proposal for construction of Cable Stayed Bridge in Tapi River joining Adajan and Athwalines area of Surat City, in Gujarat by Surat Municipal Corporation [F.No. 11-23/2018-IA.III]- Post Facto CRZ Clearance reg.**

The proposal of Surat Municipal Corporation is for post facto CRZ clearance for a Cable Stayed Bridge in Tapi River joining Adajan and Athwalines area of Surat City, in Gujarat. The project proponent made a presentation and provided the following information:

- i) The bridge has been constructed in Tapi River.
- ii) The total length of the bridge is 918 m, which includes 300 m of cable stay portion, 412 m RCC portion and 206 m approach areas.
- iii) The width of the bridge varies from 15.3 m to 32.2 m

- iv) The bridge falls in CRZ-IB (232m), CRZ-II (200m) and CRZ –IVB(230 m) as per approved CZMP.
- v) The CRZ map indicating HTL, LTL demarcation in 1:4000 scale with the proposed site superimposed on the map has been prepared by Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Chennai.
- vi) Construction waste was utilised during construction for embankment filling.
- vii) No ground water was extracted for the construction of the bridge.
- viii) During operation phase 20 KVA electricity will be required, which will be obtained from State Electricity Board.
- ix) The total cost of the project is about Rs. 143.65.0 crores.
- x) GCZMA has recommended the project vide its letter No No.ENV-10-2017-69-E, dated 10.08.2018.

2. The Committee deliberated the issue and noted that as per amendment issued S.O 1002(E), dated 06.03.2018 issued by the Ministry, specific recommendation of the concerned Coastal Zone Management Authority regarding regularisation of such proposals and certifying that there has been no violation of the CRZ regulations while making its recommendation is required. The Committee perused the recommendation for regularisation issued by Gujarat Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA), and found to be in order. The Committee however decided that since these are administrative issues, the Ministry may take necessary decision on the matter. The Committee however decided that the Ministry may satisfy itself on the acceptability or otherwise of the recommendation of the GCZMA in the instant matter before proceeding further.

3. The Project proponent informed that they were unaware of the requirement of a CRZ clearance and given to understand that the project does not require environmental clearance and therefore gone ahead with the construction. The Committee observed that the reason cited by the project proponent of not knowing the requirement of a CRZ clearance is not legally tenable but agreed that in view of the recommendation given by the GCZMA as per the extant rule the matter can be considered favourably. The Committee further observed that in so far as CRZ implications are concerned there seem no tangible impact.

4. Based on the deliberations and clarifications made by the project proponent, the Committee agreed that the project is a permissible activity and its location is in consonance with the approved CZMP as indicated in the CRZ map prepared by IRS, Chennai. The Committee also noted that the project will not prejudice the CRZ in the area and with dedicated environmental measures the project can set an example of good environmental jurisprudence. The Committee therefore recommended the proposal for Post Facto CRZ clearance from CRZ perspective subject to the following conditions:

- i) The conditions stipulated by the Gujarat Coastal Zone Management Authority issued vide its letter No.ENV-10-2017-69-E, dated 10.08.2018 shall be implemented as may be admissible.
- ii) As abundant precaution, a modelling exercise for erosion and accretion shall be carried out within six months and specific mitigation measures shall be spelt out in

case erosion is noticed and it shall be ensured that sufficient funds are allocated for implementation of mitigation purposes. The modelling result shall be submitted to the GCZMA and the concerned regional office of the Ministry.

**3.2 Amendment of CRZ Clearance for Laying of Conveying Main along Buckingham Canal and Across Ennore Creek for supply of 45 MLD of RO Permeate to Industries and Discharge of Rejects of 18.5 MLD into Buckingham Canal in CRZ area at Kodungaiyur, Fort-Tondairpet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu by M/s Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chennai [F.No. 11-23/2016-IA.III]- reg.**

The proposal of M/s Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai is for amendment of CRZ Clearance earlier accorded for Laying of Conveying Main along Buckingham Canal and Across Ennore Creek for supply of 45 MLD of RO Permeate to Industries and Discharge of Rejects of 18.5 MLD into Buckingham Canal. The CRZ Clearance was accorded on 05.09.2017. The pipelines were to be laid across Ennore Creek through a pipe carrying bridge. This pipe carrying will be supported on piers without affecting the water and to be constructed downstream of Ennore Creek Flyover. Also a Highway Bridge is aligned across the Ennore Creek with piers erected on the water spread. Subsequently, TANGEDCO has started executing elevated Coal conveyor belt with pier support along the Ennore Creek from NCTPS to ETPS. Hence, if CMWSSB is permitted to lay elevated pipes near the Bridge area, there will be a gross reduction in the water spread area of Ennore creek due to congestion caused by erection of piles, pile caps and ultimately generates turbulence at the time of flood around this zone. Hence, it would not only affect the hydraulic parameters, but also the ecosystem and the livelihood of the surrounding hamlets as well.

2. In view of the above, PWD has objected to the construction of pipe carrying bridge. CMWSSB has therefore decided to lay the conveying mains below Ennore Creek bed without affecting the water flow in Ennore Creek. Approval for laying the said conveying mains is under process of approval by Inland Waterways Authority of India. The laying of pipeline will be carried out by dredging and will have negligible impact on Flora & Fauna, as well as, on the navigation of fishermen. The possible optimum option of dredging and Laying of pipes will be decided upon completion of analysis of soil strata and Bathymetry survey coupled with Side Scan Sonar Mapping & Geo-seismic Analysis. The length of pipeline in CRZ-IV area will be 850 m in the Ennore Creek. CMWSB further informed that the details of the pipelines will be now as follows:

| <b>S.N</b> | <b>Length of pipeline (m)</b> | <b>CRZ category</b> | <b>Location</b>                                    |
|------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1          | 300                           | CRZ-I               | Inter tidal zone                                   |
| 2          | 10945                         | CRZ-II              | In CMDA area                                       |
| 3          | 7000                          | CRZ-III             | Outside CMDA area                                  |
| 4          | 850                           | CRZ-IV              | Water area (beneath the water bed) in Ennore creek |
| 5          | 9405                          | NIL                 | Non CRZ Area                                       |

3. The Committee noted the submission made by CMWSSB and agreed that the request can be considered, since in comparison to the earlier proposal, the instant proposal will have lesser impact on CRZ of the area and the pipeline is a necessity for the project and public at large. The Committee therefore recommended that the Ministry may carry out the necessary amendment.

**3.3 Amendment of CRZ Clearance accorded for Laying of Onshore Treated Waste Water Disposal pipeline upto Landfall Point near Nakti Creek, in Gulf of Kutch, in Gujarat from its 25 MLD Capacity Sewage Treatment Plant by M/s Welspun India Ltd. [F. No. 11-22/2015-IA.III]-reg.**

M/s Welspun India Ltd. was accorded CRZ Clearance on 09.10.2015 for Laying of Onshore Treated Waste Water Disposal pipeline upto Landfall Point near Nakti Creek, in Gulf of Kutch, in Gujarat, from its 25 MLD Capacity Sewage Treatment Plant.

M/s Welspun has now requested for amendment in CRZ clearance as follows:

| <b>Item as per CRZ Clearance</b> | <b>Description mentioned in CRZ Clearance letter</b>   | <b>Amendment Requested</b>  |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Subject Para                     | Laying of Onshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipeline for 25 KLD capacity upto landfall point near Nakti Creek, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s Welspun India Ltd-CRZ Clearance-reg.   | Laying of Onshore and Offshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipeline for 25 MLD capacity from Welspun Premises upto disposal point given by NIO off Nakti Creek in Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s. Welspun India Ltd- CRZ Clearance –reg   |
| Point No. 2                      | The proposal for “Laying of Onshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipeline for 25 KLD capacity upto landfall point near Nakti Creek, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s. Welspun India Ltd. (WIL)”   | Laying of Onshore and Offshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipelines for 25 MLD capacity from Welspun Premises upto disposal point as identified by NIO off Nakti Creek in Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s Welspun India Ltd. (WIL)  |
| Point No. 3 (i)                  | The proposal involves laying of onshore treated wastewater disposal for 25 MTD capacity upto landfill point near Nakti Creek, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s. Welspun India Ltd.   | The proposal involves Laying of Onshore and Offshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipelines for 255 MLD capacity from Welspun Premises upto disposal point as identified by NIO off Nakti Creek in Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s Welspun India Ltd.   |
| Point No. 4                      | The EAC in its 150 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> July, 2015 recommended the project for grant of CRZ clearance. As per recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change hereby accords | The EAC in its 150 <sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> July, 2015 recommended the project for grant of CRZ clearance. As per recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of accords CRZ clearance for the above mentioned project “Laying of Onshore Treated Wastewater Disposal |

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|   | <p>CRZ clearance for the above mentioned project "Laying of Onshore Treated Wastewater Disposal Pipelines for 25 KLD capacity upto landfall point near NaktiCreek, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s Welpsun India Ltd.(WIL)" under the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), Notification 2011 and amendments thereto and Circulars issued thereon and subject to the compliance of the following specific conditions, in addition to the general conditions mentioned below.</p> | <p>Pipelines for 25 KLD capacity upto landfall point near NaktiCreek, Gulf of Kutch (Gujarat) by M/s Welpsun India Ltd.(WIL)" under the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ), Notification 2011 and amendments thereto and Circulars issued thereon and subject to the compliance of the following specific conditions, in addition to the general conditions mentioned below.</p>   |
| <p>A (V)<br/>Specific<br/>Condition</p> | <p>In all the major water bodies, the horizontal directional drilling method will be used.</p>   | <p>There are no water bodies encountered. The point needs to be rephrased as "In the offshore portion, Trenching and Burial methods will be used for pipeline laying activity"</p> <p>The reasons are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In the EIA conducted by KADAM consultants, it was stated that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The proposed project involves excavation and laying of pipelines in 3 segments, one of which is Offshore pipeline with diffuser system from LFP to outfall point (App 8.92 Km)</li> <li>b) The other solid waste generated during construction phase would be sold excavated during trenching. The excavated soil will be used for refiling works.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. GCZMA while recommending Project to MoEF for according its approval for CRZ Clarence, stated the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The sediment excavated while trenching as well as that is backfilled subsequent to the laying of the pipelines, would be re-distributed by tidal circulation which may change the texture of the sediment of nearby areas, particularly of the nearby areas, particularly of the intertidal region. The impact however would be minor.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |

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|                                  |   | <p>b) Excavation of trench for laying of HDPE pipeline onshore and offshore, provisions of landfall chamber etc are the major activities required to be carried out in CRZ area.</p> <p>c) In intertidal zone pipeline would be buried in trench with buoyancy under sea bed in the estuary portion of Nakti Creek. The pipeline would be laid using float and sink method in excavated trench. In subtidal zone, pipeline would be laid on sea bed of Nakti Creek and further inside the shoreline</p> <p>d) Mangroves are present in the pipeline route. The lengths affected by the pipeline laying would be 450 m and 400 m for option 1 and option 2 respectively. Around 2800-3000 mangrove plants are expected to be affected during laying operations.</p> <p>e) The WIL shall ensure that pipeline corridor passing through mangrove areas should not be more than 400 m X 5 m in any case</p> <p>f) The WIL shall carry out mangrove plantation in 100 ha in consultation of Gujarat Ecology Commission/Forests Department, as agreed before the Gujarat Coastal Zone Management Authority</p> |
| A (xii)<br>Specific<br>condition | There Shall be no construction in the mud flat/ mangrove area except laying of pipelines by the way of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)  | There shall be no construction in the mud flat/ mangrove area except laying of pipelines by the way of Trenching and burial method.  |
| A (xv)<br>Specific<br>condition  | Treated outlet of each of the member units should be provided with online TOC, ph and flow meter for continuous monitoring of outlet at guard pond. Further these effluents should be pumped to the common collection sump location | The condition need to be deleted, we are not required to do this compliance as its for a different project. This has no connection with WEMO   |
| A (xvi)<br>Specific              | In case of not meeting norms, the effluent should have recycled   | The condition need to be deleted. We are not required to do this compliance as its   |

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| condition                  | back (alarm of TOC) with Auto Valve system and outlet pump stoppage. This will be ensured on automation basis in each of the member industry and monitored by GPCB as well as WEMO.  | for a different project. This Project has no connection with WEMO.  |
| A(xvii) Specific Condition | A second check should be provided at the pumping station location by establishing a waste water monitoring system at the central Pumping Station location. A second check should be kept at the pumping station location where in the quality of inlets will be checked and can be returned in the case of rare case accidental discharges from member unit not meeting the norms. This should be insured by WEMO at the pumping station location. | The condition need to be deleted. We are not required to do this compliance as it is for a different project. This Project has no connection with WEMO. |
| A(xix)- Specific Condition | Online monitoring system (pH, toc, and Flow Meter) should be installed at each of the individual member unit's outlets along with auto return of effluents not meeting norms. This should be monitored be GPCB as well as WEMO to ensure treated effluents matching the norms are disposed off into the pipeline from point of generation  | The condition need to be deleted. We are not required to do this compliance as it is for a different project. This Project has no connection with WEMO. |

2. The Committee observed that M/s Welspun India Ltd. had laid the pipelines by the way of Trenching and burial method instead of Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) as specified in the CRZ Clearance accorded. In defence of their action, M/s Welspun India Ltd. informed the Committee that the proposal submitted and deliberated by the Committee all through was for laying of pipelines by way of trenching and burial method and has never been for Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD). M/s Welspun India Ltd. further stated that the recommendation for CRZ clearance by GCZMA to the Ministry was for open trench method. In addition, M/s Welspun India Ltd. submitted that a study by IIT, Chennai clearly indicates the project of its kind in the prevalent environmental setting, open trench method of pie laying is best suited and HDD is not advisable.

3. M/s Welspun India Ltd. also stated that the CRZ Clearance at page no.2, issued by the Ministry recognises evacuation of trench and therefore was of the understanding that since representation on the anomaly in the CRZ clearance was submitted no sooner the same was received, they were of the opinion that the same were mere typographical errors and therefore progressed work. M/s Welspun India

Ltd. also presented before the Committee the status of CRZ in the project site, in particular the site where trenches were dugged and pipelines laid. The Committee noted that prima facie the area seems to be well rehabilitated but observed that despite explanations given above, there is no denial that the action by the project proponent is a violation of the CRZ clearance condition and require a detail examination.

4. The Committee therefore agreed that M/s Welspun India Ltd. shall submit for perusal by the Committee, the following documents: (i) GIS map of the site (trench path) before commencement of work; (ii) GIS map of the site (trench path), during/after commencement of work; and (iii) Current GIS map of the site (trench path). The Committee also noted that a representation from an NGO has been received and the project proponent shall give a written reply to the Ministry on the representation received. In addition, the Committee also observed that the details of the matter in the National Green Tribunal shall be clearly spelt out and submitted to the Committee for its perusal. The Committee decided that a site visit shall be first undertaken by Sub-Committee / team comprising of threemembers of the Committee viz. (i) Dr.V.K Jain; (ii) Shri M. Hota; (iii) Shri Anil Kumar Singh; and (iii) Representative of the GCZMA/Forest Department, along with a representative of the Ministry.

5. In view of the above, the Committed decided that matter may be deferred for reconsideration at a later stage once the report of the site visit is submitted by the team. The Committee further decided that the information sought at para no.4 above, shall be provided to the members of the Sub-Committee undertaking the site visit.

### **3.4 Amendment of CRZ Clearance for Shifting of EHVT lines for the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport, Maharashtra by City and Industrial Development corporation of Maharashtra Limited[F. No. 11-38/2016-IA.III]-reg.**

This item was chaired by Shri Anil Kumar Singh, Member as Dr.Apte, reclused himself citing that BNHS renders advice to CIDCO and therefore would be inappropriate for him to chair the item.

CIDCO was accorded CRZ Clearance on 28.08.2017 for Shifting of EHVT lines for the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport, Maharashtra, belonging to Tata Power Ltd. (TPL) and Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Co. Ltd. (MSETCL). These transmission lines were traversing the proposed Navi Mumbai International Airport site located in Panvel Tehsil, in Raigad District. CIDCO has now informed that while undertaking the Detailed Engineering for the project, it has been brought out, that the implementation of original proposal as envisaged by CIDCO on the North Bank of the proposed NMIA site (in Waghivali island and for crossing Gadhi river estuary) will require enormous amount of time and huge capital outlay.

2. CIDCO informed the Committee that the original proposal on North Bank of Gadhi river are as follows:



- i) To construct a bridge (with ROW 25m x 1.7km) for laying the EHVT cables of both companies over Waghivali island having elevation from + 8m near village to + 11.3m near Gadhi river)
- ii) Bridge to have two branches (one for TPL and another for MSETCL) with ROW 10m + 0.9km for Tata Power Ltd and 10m + 1.5km for MSETCL with clear + 10 m height over Gadhi river estuary)
- iii) Roughly the CRZ area affected would be 6.65 Ha and involve cutting of Mangroves of 2.23 Ha
- iv) During detailed engineering it has come out that this proposal will required a piled structure and construction of temporary road in Waghivali island (through CRZ 1A areas) for taking the trucks and drilling machinery upto the location for construction of bridge piles.

3. CIDCO submitted before the Committee that they have decided to do away with the above proposal and have discussed with TPL, MSETCL and AAI and have decided to alter the proposal as follows:

- a) To retain the EHVT lines of both TPL and MSETCL as overhead lines along existing alignment upto Waghivali village
- b) Reducing the height from existing 75 m to 33 m (near airport site) and approximately 45m (near the north bank of Gadhi River estuary) as per airport height requirements
- c) Erect new towers in CRZ area in Waghivali island and Gadhi river since cable height is reduced
- d) Have a switching station near existing Waghivali village to bring down the cables from overhead tower to underground trench to follow the alignment along airport West and East boundary as envisaged earlier

4. CIDCO further informed that AAI has also agreed for the altered proposal in principle. It was further stated that there will be reduced impact on CRZ area as the area affected now reduces from 6.65 ha to 3.35 ha. That the mangroves area affected reduces from 2.23 ha to 1.91 ha.

5. The Committee deliberated the request of CIDCO and agreed that the request has valid grounds and has merit also from CRZ perspective. The Committee therefore decided that the request can be considered and the Ministry may carry out the needful amendment.

There being no other agenda item, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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