

MINUTES OF THE 264th MEETING OF THE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE FOR PROJECTS RELATED TO COASTAL REGULATION ZONE HELD ON 22nd JUNE, 2021

The 264th meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee for projects related to Coastal Regulation Zone was held on 22/06/2021 through Video Conferencing due to prevalent pandemic situation. The members present are:

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| 1. | Dr. Deepak Arun Apte | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Dr. Manoranjan Hota | - | Member |
| 3. | Shri Manmohan Singh Negi | - | Member |
| 4. | Shri S. Jeyakrishnan | - | Member |
| 5. | Shri Sham Wagh | - | Member |
| 6. | Prof. Ashok Kumar Pachauri | - | Member |
| 7. | Dr. M.V. Ramana Murthy | - | Member |
| 8. | Prof. Mukesh Khare | - | Member |
| 9. | Dr. V.K. Jain | - | Member |
| 10. | Dr. R.P.S. Verma | - | Member |
| 11. | Dr. Niraj Sharma | - | Member |
| 12. | Dr. H. Kharkwal | - | Member Secretary |

Ms Bindhu Manghat was absent.

In attendance: Dr. Saranya. P, Joint Director and Dr. Bhawana Kapkoti Negi, Technical Officer, MoEF&CC. 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 Minutes of the 263rd meeting are in order, confirmed the same with suggestions that in case any typographical / grammatical errors are noticed in due course, the same may be corrected suitably.

3.0 CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

RECONSIDERATION:

3.1 Proposal for widening and improvement of existing two lane NH66 into 6 laning from Ramanattukara to Edapally (from Des.Ch.258+818 to Des.Ch.423) in 5 packages by M/s National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Cochin, Kerala - CRZ Clearance [IA/KL/CRZ/214566/2021] [F.No.11/16/2021-IA.III]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected

and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The proposed proposal of M/s National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Cochin is for widening and improvement of existing two lane NH-66 into 6 laning from Ramanattukara to Edapally (from Des.Ch.258+818 to Des.Ch.423) was placed in earlier CRZ meeting held on 28/05/2021. During the presentation, the Committee observed that there were discrepancies in the project details submitted to the Ministry and presentation delivered before the EAC(CRZ). *The Committee took a serious note on the variation in the project details that are being presented and those were circulated to the EAC members and desired that the proposal may be returned in the present form and submit a revised proposal for further consideration after rectification in the erroneous information.*

2. The proponent rectified the information and also forwarded the revised KCZMA recommendation *vide* its letter No. 405/A1/2021/KCZMA, dated 17/06/2021. The project proponent made a presentation and provided the following information:

- (i) The Project Road starts near Ramanattukara junction and ends at Edapally. The road passes through Kozhikode (0.562 km), Malappuram (76.400 km), Thrissur (63.070 km) and Ernakulam (24.150 km) Districts. Thus the total proposed road length is about 164.82 km.
- (ii) The details of the existing and proposed project are as given as follows:

S. No.	Features	Existing Details	Proposed Details
1.	Project Length	169.260 Km	164.182 Km
2.	Lane Configuration	2 lane with Paved Shoulder with Paved Shoulder	6 Lane Divided Carriageway with Service Road
3.	ROW	7-45 m	45 m
4.	ROBs	2	2
5.	Culverts	243 (Pipe,Slab,Box)	601 (Pipe, Slab, Box)
6.	Major Bridges at CRZ area	6	12 + RHS construction at Km 329+290 + 1 Viaduct
7.	Minor Bridges at CRZ area	4	8 + LHS construction at Km 329+290
8.	Major Bridges	9	16
9.	Minor Bridges	14	20
10.	Grade Separators	Flyover & Metro: 1, VUP: 1, PUP: 2	Viaducts: 4, Flyover Cum Viaducts: 4, Flyovers: 11, VUPs: 45, LVUPs:18, SVUPs: 8, PUP: 1, VOPs:15, FOBs: 3 & Flyover and Metro: 1
11.	Project Facilities	146 Bus Shelters	223 Bus Shelters 4 rest area, 9 Truck lay-byes

- (iii) A total of 267 piers will be laid in the CRZ areas.

- (iv) The proposed route has been superimposed on approved CZMP as per CRZ notification 2011 on the scale of 1:4000 by NCESS, Thiruvananthapuram.
- (v) The proposed road is passing through CRZ area has been classified as CRZ IA, CRZ IB, CRZ-II, CRZ III and CRZ IVB (NDZ & Non NDZ). Thus total 38.122 ha. area is under CRZ.
- (vi) As per the NCESS report, a total of 0.1117 ha. (1116.89 Sq. m.) area is under CRZ-IA category.
- (vii) About 4530 nos. of trees (Malappura-2542, Thrisuur-1209 and Ernakulam-779) are likely to be felled due to proposed development and for the same compensatory plantation is proposed in 1:10 as per Local Law.
- (viii) Tree Felling Permission is received from Malappuram Social Forestry Department and the permission from Thrissur and Ernakulam permission is yet to be received.
- (ix) Mangrove Conservation Plan is prepared by KFRI, Thrissur. As per KFRI Field Surveys Report, an extent of 1.9126 ha. area is falling under mangrove habitats and associates. While additional efforts also shall be made to reduce the cutting of mangroves during the construction period.
- (x) As per CRZ Notification, 2011, three times of total (1.9126 ha area) mangrove area i.e. 5.7378 ha. of mangrove habitats will be conserved / afforested as a part of compensatory afforestation as per rules.
- (xi) Afforestation activities shall be undertaken by Forest Department, Government of Kerala in consultation with KFRI. Species recommended for Compensatory Afforestation by KFRI shall be planted.
- (xii) The approximate budget earmarked for compensatory mangrove afforestation is around ₹3.56 crores.
- (xiii) A total of 1200 persons will be employed during this project work.
- (xiv) The total cost of the project is ₹6647.93 Crores.
- (xv) Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority has recommended the project *vide* its letter No. 405/A1/2021/KCZMA, dated 29th April, 2021 and 17th June, 2021.

2. The Committee noted that the instant proposal of widening and improvement of existing two lanes into 6 laning from Ramanattukara to Edapally along NH-66 (earlier NH-17) has proposed only a 45 ROW which is very compact and desirable. It was also noted that about 0.1117 ha. area is under CRZ 1A category and extent of 1.9126 ha. area is falling under mangrove habitats and associates.

3. The project proponent also informed the Committee that the instant proposal is under sub-judice in Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in OA No. 241 of 2020 regarding the applicability of EIA Notification, 2006 and whether prior environmental clearance is required or not. The Committee noted the information provided and observed that in so far as applicability of environmental clearance under EIA Notification, 2006 is concerned, the final outcome of the matter before the Hon'ble Tribunal would be a law in itself and binding on the project proponent. That however, in so far as impact on environment is concerned, due environmental due diligence need to be observed and this Committee is mindful of its mandate.

4. The Committee observed that the project proponent shall make all efforts to reduce mangrove cuttings and shall ensure 3 times mangroves plantation in consultation with the concerned agency in the State. Based on the deliberations held and submissions made, the Committee recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance subject to following conditions:

- (i) As committed by the project proponent 5.7378 ha. area (three times of 1.9126 ha. area is felling) of mangrove habitats should be conserved / afforested as a part of compensatory afforestation. The mangrove afforestation shall be undertaken in consultation with the State Forest Department.
- (ii) The clearance is subject to order of the Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in the matter of OA No. 241 of 2020.
- (iii) Flow of natural tidal water to mangroves should remain un-affected and thus adequate measures to be provided to maintain un-interrupted tidal water to mangroves.
- (iv) No groundwater shall be extracted to meet with the water requirements during the construction phase of the project, within CRZ area.
- (v) All necessary clearance from the concerned authority, as may be applicable should be obtained prior to commencement of project or activity.

FRESH PROPOSALS:

3.2 Proposal for replacement of existing disposal line and extension of pipeline at Waghavali Creek, Taloja Industrial Area, District Raigad by M/s Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) - CRZ Clearance [IA/MH/CRZ/209367/2021] [F. No. 11/18/2021-IA.III]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The proposal of M/s Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) is for replacement of existing disposal line at Waghavali Creek, Taloja Industrial Area, District Raigad, in Maharashtra. The project proponent made a presentation and provided the following information:

- (i) The proposed project is for replacement of the pipeline for Carrying Treated Effluent from Taloja industrial area to Waghavali Creek.
- (ii) The total length of existing pipeline is 7.72 km.
- (iii) It is replacement of existing disposal line in mangroves in to non-mangrove area of 5.60 km and extension of disposal line by 3.30 km in Waghavali Creek” thus the total length of pipeline will be about 8.90 km.
- (iv) MIDC has developed Taloja Industrial Area on 907 ha. of land near Panvel in District Raigad. Taloja Industrial Area is fully developed & MIDC has provided all basic infrastructure facilities like concrete / asphalt roads with street lights, water supply system, effluent collection and disposal system along with sump and pump house in Phase-I and Phase-II. MIDC has also facilitated CETP, Hazardous Waste Management facility in Taloja Industrial area.

- (v) Marine Disposal of Treated Effluent location of intake (Taloja CETP) and outfall- (Waghavali Creek bed up to through the disposal point) as given by NIO. The Geo-coordinates are at 19°00'14.5" N and 73°02'13.5"E.
- (vi) Out of 8.90 km, the total length traversing CRZ area is 7.2 km.
- (vii) The depth of outfall point will be 2.5m below of the bed and depth of outfall point from surface of water will be more than 5 m.
- (viii) The pipeline will be replaced by the existing diameter pipeline i.e. 630 m Dia. The existing disposal point of the pipeline was ch. 6320, now the disposal point at ch. 7720 in Waghavali Creek will be carried out by MIDC.
- (ix) To minimize the pollution level and as suggested by MPCB to extend the disposal location, the portion of this disposal line from Road Pali junction i.e. ch. 3130 m to ch.6320 m. will be laid along the edge of the creek.
- (x) National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) had carried out the study for the existing release location and based on that suggested a new disposal location has been decided considering the discharge.
- (xi) The diffuser will have 4 ports and each port will be separated with 0.197 m dia. The diffuser will be perpendicular to the estuarine bank. The ports will be aligned towards downstream and an indicator buoy will be placed at the diffuser location for navigational safeguards.
- (xii) The proposed pipeline falls in CRZ IA, IB, II & IVB area, as per approved CZMP.
- (xiii) The CRZ map of 1: 4000 scale was prepared by IRS, Anna University Chennai.
- (xiv) The pipeline passing through 50 m buffer zone of Mangroves, however, No Mangroves to be cut or destroyed due to the project. There are no mangroves in the proposed alignment of the pipeline.
- (xv) During the proposed project approx. 20 to 25 indirect employment will be generated.
- (xvi) The total cost of the project will be ₹105 crores.
- (xvii) The Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority has recommended the proposal for clearance *vide* its letter No. CRZ/2020/CR155/TC4 dated 2nd March, 2021.

2. The Committee was informed that the existing pipeline carrying effluent was laid down in the year 1987-88 and M/s MIDC has submitted the same *vide* its letter No. IFMS/EEAbg/C73962/2021, dated 22/06/2021. The Committee was further informed that the existing pipeline of 7.72 km is being replaced with different alignment and further extended to about 3.30 km in compliance with the OA No. 125 of 2018 before Hon'ble NGT(WZ), pertaining to remedial action against pollution caused by the discharge of industrial effluents in Taloja industrial area on the outskirts of Mumbai.

3. The Committee was informed by the project proponent that the treated effluent disposal system from CETP to Waghavli Creek is 7.72 Km. away by pumping main at disposal point approved by MPCB.

4. Based on the deliberations held and submissions made, the Committee recommended the proposal for CRZ clearance subject to following conditions:

- i) The location of new discharge effluent shall be strictly as per suggestion of NIO stated as 19°00'14.5" N and 73°02'13.5"E.
- ii) As per the recommendation by NIO, monitoring for water quality, sediment quality and biological characteristics should be monitored in annually and appropriate remedial

- measures undertaken if required. Reports of the same to be submitted to the regional office of the Ministry.
- iii) No groundwater shall be extracted to meet with the water requirements during the construction and /or operation phase of the project, within CRZ area.
 - iv) The treated effluent discharged into the creek shall strictly conform to the standards prescribed by CPCB / SPCB from time to time.
 - v) Prior approval of the High Court of Mumbai shall be obtained in view of the direction issued in connection with felling of Mangrove, if any, as project is situated in 50 m mangrove buffer zone area.

AMENDMENT IN CRZ CLEARANCE

3.3 Proposal for amendment of CRZ Clearance for laying of 14” POL & liquid Chemicals pipeline in lieu of 10” dia POL and extension of CRZ Clearance along with associated facilities for existing terminal at Port Exim Park area, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh- by M/s East India Petroleum Pvt. Ltd. (EIPL)-Amendment in CRZ Clearance [IA/AP/CRZ/213336/2021] [F.No. 11-17/2013-IA.III]

“The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data / information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.”

The Ministry had earlier accorded CRZ clearance to M/s East India Petroleum Pvt. Ltd. (EIPL) for laying of 14” POL & liquid Chemicals pipeline in lieu of 10” dia POL along with associated facilities for existing terminal at Port Exim Park area, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh *vide* its letter dated 17th October, 2013.

2. M/s EIPL has now requested for amendment in the size of the pipeline from 10” to 14” diameter POL to cater the needs of higher flow rates as mandated by Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) and also extension of validity of existing CRZ Clearance up to 16/10/2021.

3. The Committee was informed that, as a part of the project of “Improving the capacity utilization of OR-I & OR-II berths of VPT”, VPT has mandated norms for Vessel discharge for higher flow rates for the ships berthed at Oil wharf with 1104 cum/hour, *vide* VPT circular No.679, dated 23/09/2020 to reduce the ship turnaround time and to improve the cargo throughputs. Therefore, they proposed to increase the size of the pipeline from 10” to 14” diameter to cater the needs of higher flow rates as mandated by VPT.

4. The Committee was further informed that Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) has given revised ROW permission to lay bigger size/diameter of pipeline 14” *vide* VPT ROW permission dated 29/06/2020 and APCZMA has recommended the proposed amendment *vide* its letter No. 244/CRZ/IND/2020/684, dated 22/03/2021.

5. In line of the above requisition, the PP also submitted technical information as below:
- The entire pipeline corridors from OR-1 and OR-2 to Terminal and from LPG Jetty to terminal pass through the land owned by the Visakhapatnam Port Trust which permitted to M/s EIPL.
 - The route of the pipeline is classified as CRZ-III as per the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of the area. However, the port areas being developed spaces are considered as CRZ-II
 - Length of the pipeline is about 5.315 km with 14” dia and wall thickness will be 7.92 mm.
 - The pipeline will be buried underground at a depth of 2.0 m for the entire length.
 - Pipeline will be used for petroleum products and protected with 3 LPE coating will be done as a protection from soil corrosion and also Cathodic Protection will be implemented to control the corrosion.
 - Code of fabrication: ASMEB 31.4 (latest) & OISD 141
 - Material of construction: API 5L Grade B, sch-20, 14” NPS, Seamless

6. The Committee noted that for laying a pipeline 14” dia and 8.334 km length to transport LPG from the existing LPG jetty located in the outer harbor of the Visakhapatnam port to the existing EIPL terminal has been commenced in May, 2018 and significantly quantum of the 80% work till date has been done. The work has been delayed due to ROW issues at site and Port has given clear ROW permission in the month of January, 2018 though VPT has given in-principle approval in the year 2013.

7. In view of the above information and deliberations held, the Committee noted that the construction work has started and about 80% has been completed, and hence does not require extension of validity of CRZ clearance as per extant norms of the CRZ Notification, 2011. Further, the Committee agreed that the request of M/s EIPL for amendment in the increase in the size of the pipeline from 10” to 14” diameter of POL pipeline may be carried out. The Committee therefore recommended that the Ministry may carry out the necessary amendment.

4.0 Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

4.1 Standardization of General Conditions in CRZ

The matter related to standardisation of general conditions stipulated in CRZ clearance was discussed. The conditions were circulated to the EAC members. The Committee suggested that the comments / inputs of all members shall be forwarded to the Ministry before the next EAC meeting.

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