By Speed Post

No. J-13012/144/2007-IA.II(T)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Telefax.: 2436 2434

Dated the 5th October, 2007

To,

M/s U.P. Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.
14, Ashok Marg, Shakti Bhawan,
Lucknow – 226 001.

Sub: 2x500 MW Coal based Extension Units at Obra Thermal Power Station, District Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh by M/s UPRVUNL - Prescribing of TOR - Regarding.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your communication no. nil dated 25.5.2007 regarding the subject mentioned above.

2. The proposal is for setting up of 2x500 MW coal based power project at Obra, District Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh. The proposed units will be located adjacent to the existing power plant. The land is already available with the company. Water will be obtained from Obra dam on Rihand river. Coal will be obtained from nearby mines. The land requirement is 500 acres for the power plant and no land would be acquired for ash pond. The bottom ash will be disposed in existing ash pond.

3. The Expert Appraisal Committee for environmental appraisal of Thermal Power and Coal Mine projects considered the project during its meeting held on September 10-11, 2007. Based on the consideration of the documents submitted and the presentation made by the project proponent, the Committee prescribed the following Terms of Reference (TORs) for preparing draft EIA report for the above mentioned project:

(i) Renovation plan for existing units with time frame.
(ii) Coordinates of the plant site as well as ash pond with toposheet.
(iii) The study area should cover an area of 10 km radius around the proposed site.
(iv) Land use of the study area as well as the project area shall be given.
(v) Location of any National Park, Sanctuary, Elephant / Tiger Reserve (existing as well as proposed), migratory routes, if any, within 10 km of the project site shall be specified and marked on the map duly authenticated by the Chief Wildlife Warden.
(vi) Land requirement for the project to be optimized. Item wise break up of land requirement and its availability to be furnished.
(vii) Topography of the area should be given clearly indicating whether the site requires any filling. If so, details of filling, quantity of fill material required, its source, transportation etc. should be given.
(viii) Impact on drainage of the area and the surroundings.
(ix) Information regarding surface hydrology and water regime.
(x) One season site-specific meteorological data shall be provided.
(xi) One season AAQ data (except monsoon) to be given. The monitoring stations should take into account the pre-dominant wind direction, population zone and sensitive receptors including reserved forests.
(xii) Impact of the project on the AAQ of the area. Details of the model used and the input data used for modelling should also be provided. The air quality contours may be plotted on a location map showing the location of project site, habitation nearby, sensitive receptors, if any. The wind roses should also be shown on this map.
(xiii) Fuel analysis to be provided.
(xiv) Quantity of fuel required, its source and transportation.
(xv) Source of water and its availability. Commitment regarding availability of requisite quantity of water from the competent authority.
(xvi) Details of rainwater harvesting and how it will be used in the plant.
(xvii) Examine the feasibility of zero discharge. In case of any proposed discharge, its quantity, quality and point of discharge, users downstream etc. should be provided.
(xviii) Optimization of COC for water conservation. Other water conservation measures proposed in the project should also be given.
(xix) Details of water balance taking into account reuse and re-circulation of effluents.
(xx) Details of greenbelt i.e. land with not less than 1500 trees per ha giving details of species, width of plantation, planning schedule etc.
(xxi) Detailed plan of ash utilization / management.
(xxii) Details of evacuation of ash.
(xxiii) Details regarding ash pond impermeability and whether it would be lined, if so details of the lining etc.
(xxiv) Detailed R&R plan shall be prepared taking into account the socio economic status of the area, homestead oustees, land oustees, landless labourers.
(xxv) Details of flora and fauna duly authenticated should be provided. In case of any scheduled fauna, conservation plan should be provided.
(xxvi) Details regarding infrastructure facilities such as sanitation, fuel, restroom etc. to be provided to the labour force during construction as well as to the casual workers including truck drivers during operation phase.
(xxvii) Public hearing points raised and commitment of the project proponent on the same.
(xxviii) Measures of socio economic influence to the local community proposed to be provided by project proponent. As far as possible, quantitative dimension to be given.

(xxix) Impact of the project on local infrastructure of the area such as road network and whether any additional infrastructure would need to be constructed and the agency responsible for the same with time frame.

(xxx) EMP to mitigate the adverse impacts due to the project along with item wise cost of its implementation.

(xxii) Risk assessment to be undertaken. Based on the same, proposed safeguard measures should be provided.

(xxii) Any litigation pending against the project and /or any direction /order passed by any Court of Law against the project, if so, details thereof.

4. Besides the above, the following general points will be followed:-

a) All documents to be properly referenced with index, page numbers and continuous page numbering.

b) Where data are presented in the report especially in table, the period in which the data were collected and the source should invariably be indicated.

c) Where the documents provided are in a language other than English, an English translation should be provided.

d) The Questionnaire for environmental appraisal of thermal power projects as devised earlier by the Ministry shall also be filled and submitted.

In addition to the above, information on the following may also be incorporated in the EIA report.

1. Is the project intended to have CDM-intent?

(i) If not, then why?

(ii) If yes, then

(a) Has PIN (Project Idea Note) {or. PCN (Project Concept Note)} submitted to the 'NCA' (National CDM Authority) in the MoEF?

(b) If not, then by when is that expected?

(c) Has PDD (Project Design Document) been prepared?

(d) What is the "Carbon intensity" from your electricity generation projected (i.e. CO2 Tons/MWH or Kg/KWH)?

(e) Amount of CO2 in Tons/year expected to be reduced from the baseline data available on the CEA's web-site (www.cea.nic.in)

2. Notwithstanding 1(i) above, data on (d) & (e) above to be worked out and reported.
5. After preparing the draft EIA covering the above mentioned issues, the proponent will get the public hearing conducted and take further necessary action for obtaining environmental clearance in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the EIA Notification, 2006.

Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Environment), Forests and Environment Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh, Room No. 13, New Buildings Vidhan Bhawan, Lucknow- 226 001

2. The Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board, 'PICUP Bhawan' 3rd Floor, B- Block, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow – 226 020.


(Dr. S.K. Aggarwal)  
Director