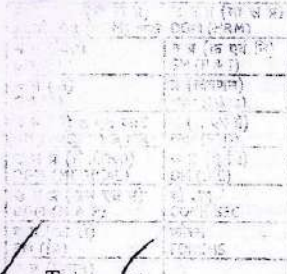


No.11-36/2008-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(IA-III Division)

Room No.744,
Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated, the 29th September, 2008



To, ✓
Chief General Manager,
M/s Indian Rare Earths Limited,
Chavara-691583.



Sub: Beach sand mining in 180 ha lease hold area by M/s Indian Rare Earths Limited – regarding.

Sir,
This has reference to your letter No.CH/INMIN/07/01, dated 9.9.2008 regarding the subject mentioned above.

2. The proposal is for beach sand mining (180 ha.) for rare minerals at Alappad, Panmana and Ayanivelikulangara village in Kollam District, Kerala. The total cost of the project will be Rs.10 Crores. The total area 180 ha of will include 132 ha of private agriculture and homestead and 48 ha. Government land including canal and lake. The leasehold is close to sea. The production from the mine will be 237,150 tonnes/year. The dredger will be working in a pond of water and no effluents are generated during its operations. No liquid effluent is generated. Fugitive dust due to material handling and transportation will be controlled by water spraying. Reject material generated in MRP will be used to refill the mined out area in the back side of the pond. Monazite, a radio active mineral is mined out making the area radiation free which will be stored in earthen trenches for ensuring safety from radiation. The trenches are covered using 1 m. thick sand cover. The total power requirement will be met from KSEB 11 KV line. No other fuels will be required for the energy.

3. The Expert Appraisal Committee for environmental appraisal of Infrastructure Development and Miscellaneous Projects reconsidered the project during its meeting held on 18th and 19th September, 2008. Based on the consideration of the documents submitted and the presentation made by the project proponent, the Committee prescribed the following additional Terms of Reference for preparing Environment Impact Assessment report for the above mentioned project:-

- (i) Recommendations of the Kerala Coastal Zone Management Authority, required to be obtained.
- (ii) Details of the canal that will be affected due to dredging.
- (iii) Details of 50 mt all along the canal to earmarked as buffer.
- (iv) Details of sand dunes in the area.
- (v) Detail of a comprehensive rehabilitation plan as per the Government norms.
- (vi) Details of the religious, places and historical places in the area and the in the mining.
- (vii) Details of the project layout to be superimposed on the Coastal Regulation Zone map and the location of the mining site alongwith the survey numbers and the location of the factory including the transport network, labour colony, green belt development, Sewage Treatment plant etc., and a composite map.
- (viii) Details of the water requirement for the project and the source. No groundwater in the Coastal Regulation Zone area shall be tapped for the project. Detail of the study indicating the salinity ingress.
- (ix) Details of the power requirement for the project.
- (x) Details of rate of replenishment for the extracted minerals shall be provided.
- (xi) Details of the mining plan indicating the year-wise mining and the phase-wise back filling shall be provided.

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- (xii) Details of the green belt development in the mined area alongwith the budget earmarked for the green belt development.
- (xiii) Details of the road network and the connectivity proposed from the mining blocks to the processing unit, and finally to the exporting area.
- (xiv) The details of amenities such as street lamps, dispensaries, drinking water and school to the local community may be provided alongwith budget to such amenities.
- (xv) Impact of the project on groundwater quality needs to be studied and report submitted alongwith safeguards measures.
- (xvi) Details of the land use plan indicating the ecologically sensitive areas such as mangroves, wildlife, forest area etc.
- (xvii) Details of shoreline changes indicating erosion/accretion shall be studied and the impact of the project on such shoreline change shall be incorporated.

4. The draft Environment Impact Assessment report may be prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned TORs.

5. The draft Environmental Impact Assessment report should be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board for Public hearing as stipulated in the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

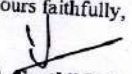
6. Public hearing should be conducted for the project as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and the issues raised by the public shall be addressed in the Environmental Management Plan.

7. After compilation of Public hearing the final Environmental Impact Assessment report which should address all the material environmental expressed concerns during the process and appropriate changes should be made in the Environmental Impact Assessment and EMP and submitted to the Ministry for environmental appraisal.

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

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. A. Senthil Vel)
Additional Director

Copy to:-

1. Member Secretary, Kerala State Coastal Zone Management Authority, Director, Government of Kerala, Science, Technology & Environment Department, Sasthra Bhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram-4.
2. Member Secretary, Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Plamoodu Junction, Pattom Palace, Trivandrum 695004. Kerala


(Dr. A. Senthil Vel)
Additional Director