F. No. J-11011/229/2012- IA II (I)
**Government of India**
**Ministry of Environment and Forests**
**(I.A. Division)**

**Paryavaran Bhawan**
**CGO Complex, Lodhi Road**
**New Delhi – 110 003**

**E-mail : vp.upadhyay@nic.in**
**Telefax : 011: 2436 2875**
Dated: 11th September, 2013

To,

Shri S. K. Jain (Basin Manager)
M/s Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
Luit Bhawan, ONGC, Cinnamara Complex,
Cinnamara, Jorhat- 785704

**E-mail: jain_sk@ongc.co.in ; Fax No. : 0376-2360012**

**Subject: Drilling of Exploratory Wells (26 Nos.) in PEL & PML blocks of Cachar Forward Base, in Assam by M/s ONGC Ltd. - regarding TORs.**

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter no. nil alongwith project documents including Form-I, Pre-feasibility Report and draft 'Terms of Reference' as per the EIA Notification, 2006. It is noted that proposal is for drilling of Exploratory Wells (26 Nos.) in PEL & PML blocks of Cachar Forward Base, in Assam by M/s ONGC Ltd.

2.0 Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) have been discussed and finalized during the 7th Reconstituted Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry) held during 4th April, 2013-5th April, 2013 f**o**r preparation of EIA/EMP report. Following are the 'TORs':

1. A certified report of the status of compliance of the conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance and Consent to Operate for the ongoing */* existing operation of the project by the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and SPCB.
2. Executive summary of a project
3. Project description, project objectives and project benefits.
4. Site details within 1 km of the each proposed well, any habitation, any other installation/activity, flora and fauna, approachability to site, other activities including agriculture/land, satellite imagery for 10 km area.
5. Details of forest land involved in the proposed project. A copy of forest clearance letter, if applicable.
6. Permission from the State Forest Department regarding the impact of the proposed plant on the surrounding National Park/Wild life Sanctuary /Reserve Forest/Eco sensitive area, if any. Approval obtained from the State/Central Government under Forest (Conservation Act, 1980 for the forestland should be submitted.
7. Distance from nearby critically/severely polluted area as per Notification dated 13th January, 2010, if applicable.
8. Does proposal involves rehabilitation and resettlement? If yes, details thereof.

9. Details of project cost.

10. Details of all the facilities including CGS, GGS, OCS, produced water treatment etc to be installed. If existing facilities, give details.

11. Environmental considerations in the selection of the drilling locations for which environmental clearance is being sought. Present any analysis suggested for minimizing the foot print giving details of drilling and development options considered.

12. Baseline data collection for air, water and soil for one season leaving the monsoon season in an area of 10 km radius with centre of Oil Field as its centre covering the area of all proposed drilling wells.

    (i) Topography of the project site.
    (ii) Ambient Air Quality monitoring at 8 locations for $PM_{10}$, $SO_2$, NOx, VOCs, Methane and non-methane HC.
    (iii) Soil sample analysis (physical and chemical properties) at the areas located at 5 locations.
    (iv) Ground and surface water quality in the vicinity of the proposed wells site.
    (v) Climatology and Meteorology including wind speed, wind direction, temperature rainfall relative humidity etc.
    (vi) Measurement of Noise levels within 1 km radius of the proposed wells.
    (vii) Vegetation and land use; Animal resources

13. Incremental GLC as a result of DG set operation.

14. Potential environmental impact envisages during various stages of project activities such as site activation, development, operation/ maintenance and decommissioning.

15. Actual source of water and 'Permission' for the drawl of water from the Competent Authority. Detailed water balance, waster water generation and discharge.

16. Noise abatement measures and measures to minimize disturbance due to light and visual intrusions in case coastally located.

17. Treatment and disposal of waste water.

18. Treatment and disposal of solid waste generation.

19. Disposal of spent oil and loose materials.

20. Storage of chemicals and diesel at site.

21. Commitment for the use of WBM only

22. Mud make up and mud and cutting disposal – all options considered should be listed with selective option.

23. Hazardous material usage, storage accounting and disposal.

24. Disposal of packaging waste from site.

25. Oil spill emergency plans in respect of recovery/ reclamation.

26. $H_2S$ emissions control.

27. Produced oil handling and storage.

28. Details of scheme for oil collection system alongwith process flow diagram and its capacity.

29. Details of control of air, water and noise pollution in oil collection system.

30. Disposal of produced/formation water.

31. Whether any burn pits being utilized for well test operations.

32. Restoration and decommissioning plans which should include mud pits and wastage restoration also and documentation and monitoring of site recovery.

33. Measures to protect ground water and shallow aquifers from contamination.

34. Risk assessment and disaster management plan for independent reviews of well designed construction etc. for prevention of blow out.

35. Environmental management plan.

36. Documentary proof of membership of common disposal facilities, if any.

37. Details of environmental and safety related documentation within the company including documentation and proposed occupational health and safety Surveillance Safety Programme for all personnel at site. This should also include monitoring programme for the environmental.

38. Total capital and recurring cost for environmental control measures.

39. A copy of Corporate Environment Policy of the ONGC as per the Ministry's O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 26th April, 2011 available on the Ministry's website.

40. Public hearing to be conducted and issues raised and commitments made by the project proponent on the same should be included in EIA/EMP Report in the form of tabular chart with financial budget for complying with the commitments made.

41. Any litigation pending against the project and or any direction/order passed by any court of law against the project. If so details thereof.

42. A tabular chart with index for point-wise compliance of above TORs.

The following general points should be noted:

(i) All documents should be properly indexed, page numbered.
(ii) Period/date of data collection should be clearly indicated.
(iii) Authenticated English translation of all material provided in Regional languages.
(iv) The letter/application for EC should quote the MOEF file No. and also attach a copy of the letter.

(v) A copy of the letter received from the Ministry should be also attached as an annexure to the final EIA-EMP Report.
(vi) The final EIA-EMP report submitted to the Ministry must incorporate the issues in this letter. The index of the final EIA-EMP report must indicate the specific chapter and page no. of the EIA-EMP Report where the above issues have been incorporated.
(vii) Certificate of Accreditation' issued by the QCI to the environmental consultant should be included.

3.0 These 'TORs' should be considered for the preparation of EIA / EMP report for drilling of Exploratory Wells (26 Nos.) in PEL & PML blocks of Cachar Forward Base, in Assam in addition to all the relevant information as per the 'General Structure of EIA' given in Appendix III and IIIA in the EIA Notification, 2006. The EIA/EMP as per TORs should be submitted to the **Chairman, Assam Pollution Control Board, (APCB)** for public consultation. The **APCB** shall conduct the public hearing/public consultation as per the provisions of EIA notification, 2006.

4.0 You are requested to kindly submit the final EIA/EMP prepared as per TORs and incorporating all the issues raised during Public Hearing / Public Consultation to the Ministry for considering the proposal for environmental clearance ***within 2 years as per the MoEF O.M. No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II (I) dated 22nd March, 2010***.

5.0 The consultants involved in the preparation of EIA/EMP report after accreditation with Quality Council of India / National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (QCI/NABET) would need to include a certificate in this regard in the EIA/EMP reports prepared by them and data provided by other Organization(s)/Laboratories including their status of approvals etc.

**(V. P. Upadhyay)**
**Director**

**Copy to : The Chairman, Assam Pollution Control Board, Bahunimatram, Guwahati, Assam. (**E-mail: membeersecretary@pcbassam.org **)**

**(V. P. Upadhyay)**
**Director**