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ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT
IMPACT ASSESSMENT
AUTHORITY – TAMIL NADU



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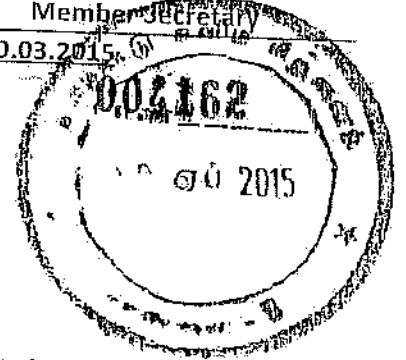
Thiru. V. Thangavelu, I.A.S. (Retd.)
Chairman

Thiru V. Haridass
Member

Dr. H. Malleshappa, I.F.S
Member Secretary

Lr. No. SEIAA-TN/F.No. 845 /EC/1(a)/1970/2014 dated:30.03.2015.

To
M/s. Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd.,
No31, Kamarajar Salai,
TWAD House, Chepauk
Chennai - 600 005



Sir,

Sub: SEIAA-TN –Proposed Black Granite Quarrying at S.F No.58/1 & 135/1, Pothuvai & Pazhavalam Village, Gingee Taluk, Villuppuram District by M/s. Tamil Nadu Minerals Ltd.- Environmental Clearance – Regarding

Ref: 1. Your Application for Environmental Clearance dt: 04.02.2013
2. Minutes of the SEAC meeting held on 02.05.2013 & 20.03.2015 & 21.03.2015
3. Minutes of the SEIAA meeting held on 30.03.2015.

1. **Preamble:-**

This has reference to your application first cited for Environmental Clearance to the SEIAA-TN dated 04.02.2013 and along with subsequent documents and EIA report submitted for the aforesaid project to the SEIAA, TN seeking Environmental Clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006.

It is noted interalia, that the project of the proposal is for obtaining environmental clearance for Black Granite Quarrying of 10.44.0 Ha. at S.F No. 58/1, Pothuvai & 29.69.05 Ha. in S.F.No.135/1 of Pazhavalam Village, Gingee Taluk, Villuppuram District. The proposed mining area is reported as lying in Latitude-12°08'16"N to 12°08'36"N; Longitude-79°15'48"E to 79°16'08"E in Topo Sheet No.57/P-4 & 8.

The mine lease area of this proposal is 40.13.05 Ha. As per the proposals, the following is the land use pattern to be adopted by the proponent.

Description	Area at the end of lease period (Ha.)
Mining area	2.62.00
Storage of top soil overburden	7.33.80
Infrastructure road	0.07.40
Green-belt	0.53.40
Barren Land	29.56.45
Total	40.13.05

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The proponent shall carry one mining operation only in the mining area of 2.62.00 hectare mentioned above.

The project activity is covered under B1 category and item no. 1(a) of the schedule of EIA Notification, 2006. The Terms of Reference for the project was issued after placing the proposal in the 39th SEAC meeting held on 02.05.2013, vide Letter No.SEIAA-TN/F.No. 845/M-XXXIX/TOR-127/2013 dated 17.05.2013. Public Hearing was conducted on 08.10.2014.


The total area of Proposed/Existing/abandoned quarries within 500 m radius of this proposal exceeds 5 ha. Hence General condition is applicable, as per the Notification No. S.O.2601(E) of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change, dated 07.10.2014. Hence, the proponent has furnished the following details in Form-I and Prefeasibility Report:

1. There are no protected areas notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 are located within 10km radius of the proposed project site.
2. There are no critically polluted areas as identified by CPCB constituted under Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, are located within 10km radius of the proposed project site.
3. There are no Eco Sensitive areas as notified, are located within 10km radius of the proposed project site.
4. There are no Interstate boundaries and International boundaries within 5Km radius from the boundary of the proposed site.

The proponent is squarely responsible to the correctness of the above affirmations.

In the above circumstances this proposal is treated as B2 category and public consultation is not required as per O.M. dated 24.12.2013 of MoEF, GoI.

No forest land is involved. Mine working will be open cast semi-mechanised mining and is proposed upto a depth of 30 metres. The production would be 1826.94 cu.m of Black Granite & 55914.61 cu.m of Waste over a period of 5 Years. Water requirement of 1.6 KLD for drinking purposes will be sourced through Village Panchayat and 5.8 KLD required for dust suppression and green belt will be sourced from Village Panchayat. The proponent has submitted the mining plan approved by the Commissioner, Geology & Mining, Chennai vide Rc. 11790/MM5/2007 dated 23.11.2011. The precise area communication has been approved in Letter No. 21835/MME1/2007-7 dated 02.11.2011 of the Principal Secretary to Government, Industries (MME.1) Department, Chennai. The project cost is Rs. 100.00 lakhs. EMP cost is Rs.4.20 lakhs.


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The proponent has furnished sworn affidavits in the Non judicial stamp paper stating the following and he is responsible to its correctness:

1. No quarries are located within 500 meter radius from the periphery of my quarry.
2. No habitations/Villages are located within 500 meters radius from the periphery of my quarry.

The Final EIA report was furnished by Project Proponent dated 28.01.2015 and the minutes of Public hearing received from the State Pollution Control Board dated 03.02.2015.

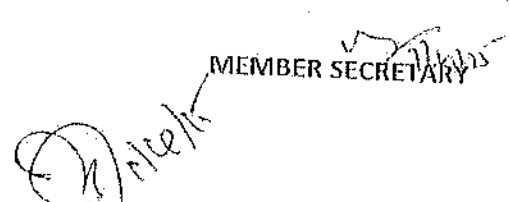
The proposal was appraised by the SEAC based on the project documents furnished and the explanation made before the Committee in its 64th meeting held on 20.03.2015 & 21.03.2015. The SEAC has recommended for the grant of environmental clearance for the said Black Granite quarry project, subject to usual conditions of Environmental Clearance.

The proposal was placed before the SEIAA in its 125th meeting held on 30.03.2015 and decided to grant environmental clearance to the said project. Accordingly, the SEIAA hereby accords environmental clearance to the said project under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions as follows:-

2. Conditions to be Complied before commencing mining operations:-

- i. The project authorities should advertise with basic details at least in two widely circulated local newspapers, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the receipt of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at the web site of the SEIAA, TN at <http://seiaa.tn.gov.in> and a copy of the same is being sent to the Regional Office of Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India located at Chennai.
- ii. Quarry lease area should be demarcated on the ground with wire fencing to show the boundary of the lease area on all sides with red flags on every pillar shall be erected before commencement of quarrying.
- iii. copy of the Environmental Clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to the concerned Panchayat, Town Panchayath/Panchayath union, Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the proponent and also kept at the site, for the general public to see.

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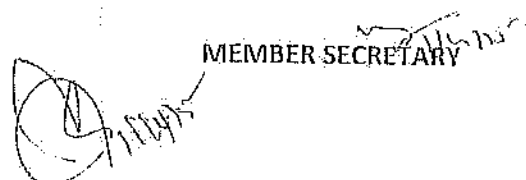


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- iv. Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour nearby the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, toilets, safe drinking water, etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.
- v. The proponent shall ensure that First Aid Box is available at site.
- vi. NOC from the Standing committee of the NBWL shall be obtained, if protected areas are located within 10 Km from the proposed project site.

3. Specific Conditions:


- i. The environmental clearance will be coterminous with the mine lease period, however limited to a maximum period of 5 Years from the date of issue of EC.
- ii. It shall be ensured that quarrying is not carried out within 500m of structures, bridges, dams, weirs, ground water extraction points, water supply head works, extraction points for irrigation and any other cross drainage structures.
- iii. The proponent shall take necessary measures to ensure that there shall not be any adverse impacts due to quarrying operation on the nearby human habitations, by way of pollution to the environment.
- iv. Mineral handling area shall be provided with adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- v. It shall be ensured that quarrying shall not be carried out below ground water table under any circumstances. If ground water table occurs/intervenes within the permitted depth, then also quarrying shall be stopped.
- vi. At the end of mine closure, the Proponent shall immediately remove all the sheds put up in the quarry and all the equipment in the area at the time of closure of the operation of quarry. The mine closure plan as furnished in the proposals shall be strictly followed with back filling and tree plantation.
- vii. At the end of mining operations and wherever the mined out pit has to be left open as water reservoir, the Proponent shall immediately fence the entire area and access to the public is to be restricted. If the water accumulated has to be used by the nearby inhabitants, then the water has to be tested periodically for potability and only when all parameters are within the prescribed limit it could be allowed for public consumption. A sign board indicating the potability of the water is to be erected for public information.


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- viii. The critical parameters such as RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM10) and NOX in the ambient air within the core zone shall be monitored periodically. The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the proponent as well as displayed on a display board at the project site. The Circular No. J-20012/1/2006-IA.II (M) dated 27.05.2009 issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is available on the website of the Ministry www.envfor.nic.in shall also be referred to in this regard for its compliance.
- ix. Necessary allocation of funds for implementation of the conservation plan shall be made and the funds so allocated shall be included in the project cost. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chennai.
- x. Wet drilling method is to be adopted to control dust emissions. Delay detonators and shock tube initiation system for blasting shall be used so as to reduce vibration and dust.
- xi. Drilling and blasting shall be done only either by licensed explosive agent only the proponent after obtaining required approvals from Competent Authorities.
- xii. The explosives shall be stored at site as per the conditions stipulated in the permits issued by the licensing Authority.
- xiii. Blasting shall be carried out after announcing to the public adequate through public address system to avoid any accident.
- xiv. A study has to be conducted to assess the optimum blast parameters and blast design to keep the vibration limits less than prescribed levels and only such design and parameters should be implemented while blasting is done. Periodical monitoring of the vibration at specified location to be conducted and records kept for inspection.
- xv. The Proponent shall take appropriate measures to ensure that the GLC shall comply with the revised NAAQ norms notified by MoEF, GoI on 16.11.2009.
- xvi. The following measures are to be implemented to reduce Air Pollution during transportation of mineral.
- Roads shall be graded to mitigate the dust emission.
 - Water shall be sprinkled at regular interval on the main road and other service roads to suppress dust
- xvii. The following measures are to be implemented to reduce Noise Pollution
- Proper and regular maintenance of vehicles and other equipment
 - Limiting time exposure of workers to excessive noise.
 - The workers employed shall be provided with protection equipment and earmuffs etc.


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- Speed of trucks entering or leaving the mine is to be limited to moderate speed of 25 kmph to prevent undue noise from empty trucks.
- xviii. Measures should be taken to comply with the provisions laid under Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) (Amendment) Rules, 2010, dt: 11.01.2010 issued by the MoE&F, Govt to control noise to the prescribed levels.
- xix. Suitable conservation measures to augment groundwater resources in the area shall be planned and implemented in consultation with Regional Director, CGWB. Suitable measures should be taken for rainwater harvesting.
- xx. Permission from the competent authority should be obtained for drawal of ground water, if any, required for this project.
- xxi. Topsoil, if any, shall be stacked properly with proper slope with adequate measures and should be used for plantation purpose.
- xxii. The following measures are to be adopted to control erosion of dumps:-
 - Retention/ toe walls shall be provided at the foot of the dumps.
 - Worked out slopes are to be stabilized by planting appropriate shrub/ grass species on the slopes.
- xxiii. Waste oils, used oils generated from the EM machines, mining operations, if any, shall be disposed as per the Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling, and trans boundary movement) Rules, 2008 and its amendments thereof to the recyclers authorized by TNPCB.
- xxiv. Concealing the factual data or failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- xxv. Rain water harvesting to collect and utilize the entire water falling in land area should be provided.
- xxvi. Rain water getting accumulated in the quarry floor shall not be discharged directly to the nearby stream or water body. If it is to be let into the nearby water body, it has to be discharged into a silt trap on the surface within the lease area and only the overflow after allowing settling of soil be let into the nearby waterways. The silt trap should be of sufficient dimensions to catch all the silt water being pumped out during one season. The silt trap should be cleaned of all the deposited silt at the end of the season and kept ready for taking care of the silt in the next season.
- xxvii. The lease holder shall undertake adequate safeguard measures during extraction of material and ensure that due to this activity, the hydrogeological regime of the surrounding area shall not be affected. Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out

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around the mine lease area during the mining operation. If at any stage, if it is observed that the groundwater table is getting depleted due to the mining activity; necessary corrective measures shall be carried out. District Collector/mining officer shall ensure this.

- xxviii. No tree-felling shall be done in the leased area, except only with the permission from competent Authority.
- xxix. To take up environmental monitoring of the proposed quarry site before, during and after the mining activities including vibration study data, water, air & flora/fauna environment, slurry water generated/disposed and method of disposal, involving a reputed academic Institution.
- xxx. It shall be ensured that the total extent of nearby quarries located within 500 meter radius from the periphery of this quarry is not exceeding 5 hectares
- xxxi. It shall be ensured that there is no habitation is located within 500 meter radius from the periphery of the quarry site and also ensure that no hindrance will be caused to the people of the habitation located within 500m radius from the periphery of the quarry site
- xxxii. Ground water quality monitoring should be conducted once in 3 Months
- xxxiii. Transportation of the quarried materials shall not cause any hindrance to the Village people/Existing Village road.
- xxxiv. Rainwater shall be pumped out Via Settling Tank only
- xxxv. Earthen bunds and barbed wire fencing around the pits with green belt all along the boundary shall be developed and maintained.

3. General Conditions:

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (ii) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (iii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral should be made.
- (iv) The project proponent shall ensure that the plan of mining is in conformity with the mine lease conditions and the Rules prescribed in this regard, clearly showing the no work zone in the mine lease i.e. the distance from the bridges structures adjacent private land, streams, river lake etc.
- (v) The project proponent shall ensure that wherever deployment of labour attracts the Mines Act, the provision insurance thereof shall be strictly followed.

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[Signature]

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- (vi) The project proponent shall ensure that child labour is not employed in the project as per the sworn affidavit furnished.
- (vii) The project proponent shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting the native species on all side of the lease area and the approach road as per the sworn affidavit furnished.
- (viii) The proponent shall maintain the village road through which transportation of mineral is carried out at his own cost. The roads shall be blacktopped to the extent required.
- (ix) Quarrying should enrich rather than deplete the biodiversity as a corollary to their intervention in the ecology of their area of activity.
- (x) EC is given only on the factual records, documents and the commitment furnished in non judicial stamp paper by the proponent particularly in respect of
- Aerial distance of the nearest village is as mentioned in the proposal from the mining site boundary
 - No structure is located within 500 m from the quarry site boundary.
- (xi) Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly. The workers shall be provided with personnel protective measures such as masks, gloves, boots etc.
- (xii) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office located at Chennai.
- (xiii) The Regional Office of the Ministry located at Chennai shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- (xiv) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office Chennai, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board, SEIAA, TN and the State Pollution Control Board. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environmental clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chennai, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board.

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- (xv) The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chennai by e-mail.
- (xvi) Precise mining area will be jointly demarcated at site by officials of Mining / Revenue department prior to mining operations for all proposals under consideration. Such site plan, duly verified by competent authority shall be submitted to Environment Department.
- (xvii) All necessary statutory clearances shall be obtained before start of mining operations
- (xviii) Mining shall be limited to 7 AM to 5 PM only. The loading shall not be done during night hours.
- (xix) Waste water, if any, shall be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed by MoEF/CPCB.
- (xx) No wildlife habitat will be infringed.
- (xxi) Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the competent authority, if applicable.
- (xxii) Parking of vehicles should not be made on public places
- (xxiii) Transportation of materials shall be done by covering the trucks / tractors with tarpaulin or other suitable mechanism so that no spillage of mineral/dust takes place. No overloading of trucks shall be allowed.
- (xxiv) Any change in mining area, SF numbers, entailing capacity addition with change in process and or mining technology, modernization and scope of working shall again require prior Environmental Clearance as per provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 (as amended from time to time)
- (xxv) The Environmental Clearance does not absolve the applicant/proponent of his obligation/requirement to obtain other statutory and administrative clearances from other statutory and administrative authorities.
- (xxvi) This Environmental Clearance does not imply that the other statutory / administrative clearances shall be granted to the project by the concerned authorities. Such authorities would be considering the project on merits and be taking decisions independently of the Environmental Clearance.
- (xxvii) The SEIAA, TN may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

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- (xxviii) The SEIAA, TN may cancel the environmental clearance granted to this project under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006, if, at any stage of the validity of this environmental clearance, if it is found or if it comes to the knowledge of this SEIAA, TN that the project proponent has deliberately concealed and/or submitted false or misleading information or inadequate data for obtaining the environmental clearance.
- (xxix) Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (xxx) The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, along with their amendments, draft Minor Mineral Conservation & Development Rules, 2010 framed under MMDR Act 1957, National Commission for protection of Child Right Rules, 2006 and rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/Hon'ble High Court of Madras and any other Courts of Law relating to the subject matter.
- (xxxi) Hill area conservation Authority approval where ever necessary shall be obtained before commencing the quarrying operation.
- (xxxii) If the periphery of any other quarry (sand, savudu, rough stone, granite etc.,) is located within 500 mts. from the periphery of this site and if the total extent of both the existing quarry and the quarry now cleared for Environmental Clearance exceeds 25 ha. of mining area, then this Environmental Clearance is not valid, since the activity shall become Category 'B1' project under the EIA Notification, 2006.
- (xxxiii) In the event of the above condition is applicable, then the proponent concerned, is to file a fresh application under EIA Notification, 2006, seeking Environmental Clearance in respect of the cluster. [A cluster of mines is defined wherein more than one mining site is located within 500 mts., from the periphery of another nearby mining site and the total area of these mining sites exceeds 25 ha. Then a EIA study report along with Public Consultation are necessitated].
- (xxxiv) As CSR activity the project proponent shall take care of the needs of a nearby Government school by providing essential amenities.

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(xxxv) Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

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Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Tamilnadu, Tamilnadu.
3. The Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Tamilnadu, Tamilnadu.
4. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (SZ), 34, HEPC Building, 1st & 2nd Floor, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 34.
5. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
6. The Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-32
7. The District Collector, Villuppuram District
8. The Commissioner of Geology and Mines, Guindy, Chennai-32
9. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.
10. Spare.

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