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No. J-11015/11/96 - IA II (M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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Dated the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2001

To

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Shri L. N. Chawla  
Dy. General Manager,  
M/s Jayaswals Neco Ltd.,  
F - 8, MIDC Industrial Area, Hingna Road,  
Nagpur - 440 016

Subject: Opencast iron ore mine project of M/s Jayaswals Neco Ltd., at Village Metabodeli, Tehsil Pakhanpur, District Kankar, Chhatisgarh - environmental clearance reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter no. nil dated 22.06.1996 and subsequent communications dated 23.03.2001, 9.5.2001, 5.9.2001, 3.10.2001, and 12.10.2001 on the above subject. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has carefully examined the application. It has been noted that the entire mining lease area of 25 ha. is forest land. Forestry clearance has been granted for a period of 5 years for 6.60 ha. only. Targeted annual production is 0.05 million tonnes. Displacement of people is not involved. Water requirement of 78 m<sup>3</sup>/day will be met from ground water source. Approvals from the State Pollution Control Board and IBM have been obtained. The total capital cost is Rs. 1.00 crores.

2. The Ministry of Environment & Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above opencast iron ore mining project to produce 0.05 million tonnes / annum of iron ore under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 04.05.94 and 10.04.97 subject to strict compliance of the following specific and general terms and conditions:

**A. Specific conditions**

- (i) Top soil should be properly stacked at earmarked dump site(s) with adequate measures and should be used for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out areas.

- (ii) Check dams and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from soil and mineral dumps. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains should be regularly desilted and maintained.

Garland drain (size, gradient & length) and sump capacity should be designed keeping 50 % safety margin over and above the peak sudden rainfall and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity should also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material.

- (iii) A greenbelt of adequate width by planting the native plant species all around the ML area, roads, OB dump sites etc. should be raised in consultation with local DFO/ Agriculture Department. At least 2500 plant species / ha. should be planted.
- (iv) Blasting operations should be carried out only during the day time. Controlled blasting should be practiced. The mitigative measures for control of ground vibrations and to arrest fly rocks and boulders should be implemented.
- (v) Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored.
- (vi) A detailed mine decommissioning plan should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance for approval.
- (vii) Only wet drilling should be carried out as proposed.
- (viii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality should be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers. Monitoring should be done four times a year – pre-monsoon April / May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January). Data thus collected should be sent at regular intervals to MoEF & the Central Ground Water Authority.
- (ix) Before Initiating any mining related activity in an area beyond 6.60 ha. (for which forestry clearance has already been obtained), prior approval under the Forestry (Conservation) Act, 1980 should be obtained from MoEF.
- (x) Project authorities should ensure compliance with the undertaking given by them to MoEF regarding restoration of disturbed land and socio-economic measures including plantation.

**A. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of limestone, waste/ OB dumps should be made.
- (iii) Ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as buffer zone for SPM, RPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO monitoring. Location of the ambient air quality stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (iv) Data on ambient air quality should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office at Bhopal and the State pollution control Board/ Central pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (v) Adequate measures for control of fugitive emissions should be taken during drilling and blasting operations, loading and transportation of minerals etc.
- (vi) Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dbA in the work environment.
- (vii) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects

Occupational health surveillance programme of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.

- (viii) The funds earmarked for Environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and not diverted for other purpose. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ix) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal shall monitor compliance of the stipulated environmental safeguards. The project authorities should send one set of EIA/EMP report and mining plan to them and extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.

The project authority should inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore as well as to the Ministry of Environmental & Forests regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.

- (x) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xi) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned within seven days of the issue 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 may also be seen at web site of the Ministry of Environment & Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>. and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office of this Ministry at Bangalore.

3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

4. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance.

5. The above conditions will be enforced, *inter alia*, under the provisions of water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.

  
(K.K. Jain)  
Director