

No.J-11015/139/2003-IA.II(M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Paryavaran Bahwan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> August 2004

To  
Shri U.R.Rao,  
Chief General Manager (Works),  
M/s Penna Cement Industries Ltd.,  
Plot No. 703,  
Sriniketan Colony,  
Road No. 3, Banjara Hills,  
HYDERABAD.

**Sub: Expansion of Urichintala Limestone Mine (0.66MTPA) of M/s Penna Cement Industries Ltd., Urichintala village, Tadipatri Tehsil, Anantpur Dt., Andhra Pradesh- Application for Environmental Clearance -reg.**

Sir,

This has reference to Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Andhra Pradesh letter No. 3907/R4-3/93 dated 28.08.2002, and your letters dated 11.08.2003, 16.01.2004, 03.04.2004, and 23.06.2004 in regard to the above-mentioned subject. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application. It has been noted that the application is for grant of environmental clearance for expansion in production of limestone mine from 0.001 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 0.66 MTPA. The total mine lease area is **178.32 ha** which is a wasteland. Mining will be confined to 36.50 ha only. No forestland is involved. Dhodiyam Reserve Forest and Dobuddapalle Reserve Forest are situated at a distance of 5.0 km and 2.0 km respectively in the buffer zone. There are no ecologically sensitive areas within 10km of the minesite. **Annual rated capacity of the mine is 0.66 MTPA.** Entire mineral transportation of 2000 TPD is by road to the linked cement plant. Mining is by opencast mechanised method and involves drilling and blasting. It is not proposed to modify the natural drainage of the area. Ultimate working depth is 32 metres below ground level (bgl). Water table is 72-75 m bgl in the core zone and 58-60m bgl in the buffer zone. Water requirement of 92 m<sup>3</sup>/day of which 90.0 m<sup>3</sup>/d is to be met from rainwater stored in mine pit. Drinking water will be met from Cement plant. Approval of IBM for Modifications to approved Mining Plan has been obtained on 31.07.2002. Consent to Establish of the Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board has been obtained on 13.08.2001. Public Hearing was held on 29.04.2001. No wastes will be generated over life of mine and hence no backfilling is proposed. Reclamation of mined out area will be done by converting the void of 4.65 ha into a water reservoir for storing rainwater. Life of the mine at the rated capacity of 0.66 MTPA is 16.5 years. Date of expiry of lease is 18.12.2014. Capital cost of the Project is **Rs.125 lakhs.**

2200 TPD

The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to Urichintala Limestone Mine of **M/s Penna Cement Industries Ltd.** to produce of limestone at a rated capacity of **0.660 Million TPA** involving lease area of **178.32 ha** under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 04.05.1997 and 10.04.1997 subject to terms and conditions mentioned below:

**A. Specific Conditions**

- (i) The combined production capacity of limestone from the 4 limestone mines, namely - Talaricheruvu, Urichintala, Korumanipalle (49.64 ha) and Korumanipalle (202.125 ha) shall not exceed 1.35 MTPA (3900 TPD).
- (ii) Mining operations shall not intersect groundwater.
- (iii) Top soil shall be arranged from outside sources for the greenbelt development.
- (iv) Catch drains, and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from the mining operations. The drains should be regularly desilted and maintained properly.  
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. Sedimentation pits should be constructed at the corners of the garland drains.
- (v) The excavated void/mine pit shall be converted into a water reservoir of 0.093 million cubic metre capacity for storing rainwater. The higher benches of the void shall be terraced and plantation done to stabilise the slopes. Peripheral fencing shall be done along the excavated area.
- (vi) Drills should be wet operated or with dust extractors.
- (vii) Controlled blasting should be practiced and only during daytime. The mitigative measures for control of ground vibrations to arrest the fly rocks and boulders should be implemented.
- (viii) Crusher should be operated with high efficiency bag filters, water sprinkling system should be provided to check fugitive emissions from crushing operations, haulage roads, transfer points, etc.
- (ix) Plantation shall be done which includes a green belt of adequate width around the ML area and also along the roads, covering a total area of 22.50 ha by greenbelt development/afforestation by planting suitable native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of trees should be around 2500 plants per hectare.
- (x) A detailed mine decommissioning plan should be submitted to MOEF five years in advance of approval.
- (xi) A Consent to Operate for a rated capacity of 0.66 MTPA for Urichintala Limestone Mine and a combined production capacity not exceeding 1.35 MTPA for the 4 MLs shall be obtained from the SPCB.

**B. General Conditions**

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of limestone, waste dumps should be made.
- (iii) Four ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring RPM, SPM, NOX and SO<sub>2</sub>. Location of the ambient air quality stations should be decided based on meteorological data,



- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of limestone, waste dumps should be made.
- (iii) Four ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring RPM, SPM, NOX and SO<sub>2</sub>. Location of the ambient air quality stations should be decided based on meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and the frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (iv) Data on environmental quality should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office at Bangalore 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 & blasting operations, loading and transportation of mineral, etc. Fugitive dust emissions should be regularly monitored and data recorded properly. Water spraying arrangements on haul roads, loading and unloading points, and transportation of minerals, etc. should be provided and properly maintained.
- (vi) Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operations of HEMM, etc., should be provided with ear plugs/muffs.
- (vii) Industrial waste water (workshop and wastewater from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1993 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed in the mine for treatment before discharge of effluents from the Workshop. Mine seepage water shall be tested and treated to conform to prescribed standards before discharge.
- (viii) 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 and corrective measures taken, if required.
- (ix) The data on environmental quality should be collected and analysed either through an in-house environmental laboratory established with adequate number and type of pollution monitoring and analysis equipment or got analysed through an approved laboratory under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (x) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set up under the control of a senior executive who will report directly to the head of the organisation.
- (xi) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and not diverted for any other purpose. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

- (xii) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
  - (xiii) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated environmental 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) A copy of the clearance letter should be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been received while processing the proposal.
  - (xv) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and the collector's/Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
  - (xvi) 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 7 days of issuance 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 and forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.
3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further additional 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 the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control) of Pollution Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 alongwith their amendments and rules.



(Dr.T.Chandini)  
Additional Director