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Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change



J&K ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY **(at) DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND REMOTE SENSING**

S.D.A. Colony, Bemina, Srinagar-190018 (May-Oct)/ Paryavaran Bhawan, Transport Nagar, Gladni, Jammu-180006 (Nov-Apr),

Email: jkseiaa@gmail.com, website:www.parivesh.nic.in

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

In pursuance to the Minutes of the 68th Meeting of the JK Expert Appraisal Committee held on 30th October, 2021 through video Conferencing issued vide No.EAC/JK/21/10455-10467 dated 01-11-2021, the 63rd Meeting of the JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 6th November, 2021 at 1100 Hrs. through video conferencing.

The following attended the meeting:-

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|---|--------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS(Retd.) | Chairman, JKEIAA |
| 2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Retd. Chief Engineer) | Member, JKEIAA |
| 3. Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS, Pr.CCF/Director,
EE&RS, J&K. | Member-Secretary, JKEIAA |

Following are the deliberations & decisions of the meeting:-

Agenda Item No.01.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Kapil Agarwal S/O Shri Jugesh Agarwal R/O H.No 179 Near Panjpir Mandir Anandpur Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Punjab for Minor Mineral Block No, 08 Batapora Bridge Downstream Rambiara Nallah, District Shopian, JK UT (Resized area 5.80ha). under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59615/2021.

Brief Summary.: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Minor Mineral Block No, 08 Batapora Bridge Downstream Rambiara Nallah, District Shopian, JK UT (Resized area 5.80ha). LOI has been issued on 18-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 03-10-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 19-01-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 12-02-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 26-08-2021. The area of the project was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 11-10-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that stakeholder departments have conveyed NOCs (conditionally) in favour of the project.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 24th meeting held on 19.01.2021 during which the committee recommended TORs to the project subject to resizing of the mining block to maintain a safe distance of 500mts from the bridge. The project proponent has applied afresh after resizing the mining block.
- b) During appraisal process existence of a school and some other
- c) structures were observed in close vicinity of the mining block.
- d) Conducting of mining operations in the vicinity of school had also been resented by the employees of school during the public hearing.
- e) The district authorities need to take the concerns of the school authorities into account and ensure that any fallout of the mining operations does not adversely affect the school environment. Further, in case the District Administration feels that the mining operations should necessarily be carried out, a specific haulage route which minimizes the problem of noise and air pollution, need to be prescribed in consultation with school authorities.
- f) The Committee asked the Consultant about the use, nature and legal status of the structures observed in the close vicinity of the mining block. But the consultant was not able to give any insight into the matter. The Committee also tried to seek feedback from the concerned DMO but he too did not respond. Therefore, in absence of any clarity on the issue, it was desired to seek necessary clarification on the matter.
- g) Preventing/protective measures to minimize the pollution resulting from mining operations need to be proposed and cost thereof provided in the EMP budget.
- h) Even after resizing of the mining block, active water channels are still seen forming part of the mining block. The PP needs to restrict mining in dry shoals only and where crossing of active channels is unavoidable, scientific methods which minimise the disturbance of natural flow need to be proposed/adopted.
- i) Illegal mining activity was also detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of Sep, 2018. However, the present status needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell to the effect the PP is not involved in illegal mining, if it is still continuing there.
- j) The PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area.
- k) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date of collection of data is missing in EIA report which needs to be submitted.
- l) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER etc.
- m) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, area, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

- a) In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee did not approve the project in its present form.
- b) The, project proponent, if he desires, can approach JKEIAA for reconsideration of the case after complying with the requirements / observations as made here-in-above.

Decisions of JKEIAA.

After due deliberations, JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC not to approve EC in the present form. However, PP may resubmit the case again after fulfilling the conditions and submission of revised documents as recommended by JKEAC.

Agenda Item No.02.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Kapil Agarwal S/O Shri Jugesh Agarwal R/O H. No. 179 Near Panjpir Mandir Anandpur Pathankot, Gurdaspur, Punjab for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.28, A2- Mah Village Downstream Vishu Nalla, District-Kulgam, JK UT, Area 8.89ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/60746/2021.

Brief Summary.

This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.28, A2- Mah Village Downstream Vishu Nalla, District-Kulgam, JK UT, Area 8.89ha. LOI has been issued on 05-08-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 04-12-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 13-03-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 30-03-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 28-07-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that stakeholder departments have conveyed NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 29th meeting held on 13.03.2021 during which the committee recommended TORs to the project subject to title verification of the mining block as state land and exclusion of 50% of the block under active water channel.
- b) However, The PP has calculated the minable minerals at 1 m depth while excluding only 20%of active water channel. Therefore, the Committee expressed its dismay at the non-compliance of the condition under which the ToRs had been granted and asked the consultant to strictly follow the observation made by the Committee w.r.t exclusion of the active water channel and to submit the revised EIA/PFR with revised calculations after exclusion of 50% area on account of active water channel.
- c) Heavy illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of May, 2021 in the designated block which needs clarification from the Multi

Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell, prior to grant of formal EC. In case it is reported that the PP has been involved in the mining activity in the designated mining block, the EC so granted shall be liable to be withdrawn.

- d) The Committee further stipulates that in view of poor prospects of availability of the material due to heavy mining in the area, the G&M dept. shall re-inspect the site, re-estimate and quantify the minable reserves keeping in view the restricted mining depth of 1m from the original MSL that can be allowed in the absence of replenishment data in the District Survey Report.
- e) The PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area, prior to grant of EC.
- f) The Committee observed features on Google Image, presumably indicative of an offtake point of irrigation kuhl in the vicinity of the mining block and the Committee desired project proponent to obtain field verification of same by the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. In case, it is found that such irrigation facility is not existing, same needs to be recorded by the concerned hydraulic engineer with consent of local PRI with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhl offtake point, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary stating that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- g) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit in close supervision of stakeholder departments.
- h) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date, include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised, prior to grant of EC.
- i) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised, prior to grant of EC.
- j) EMP/CER budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column above, prior to grant of EC.
- k) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan area, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- l) Mining depth of 2.5 m & bulk density of 2.1 given in the mining plan not agreed by the committee. Therefore, the same need to be revised while calculating the revised targeted mineral production.
- m) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- n) A nominal bulk density of 2.0 in absence of actual measurements.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee recommended the case for the grant of environmental Clearance subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of observations made herein above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the backside of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points with annotations, if any within 200m of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- d) Submission of 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept.as per deliberations herein above.
- e) Clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell as deliberated above, prior to grant of formal EC.
- f) Submission of revised EIA/PFR with revised calculations of the mineral production after excluding 50% as active water channel.
- g) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- h) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- i) Maximum targeted mineral production of 88900 MT.
- j) Condition the geographical coordinates as per Lol issued by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- k) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decision of JKEIAA.

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/ canals off-take points, if any, within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating that no irrigation canal/ khul –takes off in the vicinity of the mining block that would adversely affect the irrigation network in the area.
- d) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.

- e) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 88900 MT and replenishment and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- f) In view of excessive illegal mining having already taken place, to submit a 'fit for mining certificate' from the G&M Dept.
- g) Revision of EIA/PFR by excluding 50% area of active water channel
- h) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- k) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- l) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.03.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Singh Minerals R/o. Near Kali Mata Mandir Kollu Wali Gali, Pathankot, State- Punjab for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral Block No-22, Poonch River Upstream Sher-e-Kashmir Bridge (Bhainch Area), Village-Dalera & Bhaninch, Tehsil & District-Poonch, JK UT Area 8.54ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59983/2021.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral Block No-22, Poonch River Upstream Sher-e-Kashmir Bridge (Bhainch Area), Village-Dalera & Bhaninch, Tehsil & District-Poonch, JK UT Area 8.54ha. LOI has been issued on 09-09-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 15-12-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 13-03-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 30-03-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 31-07-2021. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in the appraisal report shows that Deputy Commissioner, Poonch vide reference No.DCP/PA/1121-31 dated 15-05-2021 has issued NOCs under single window system in favour of the project.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 29th meeting held on 13.03.2021 during which the committee recommended TORs to the project subject to title verification of the mining block by the concerned revenue authority and subject to exclusion of the private

land if any involved due to change of Nalla course and subject to revision of project cost and exclusion of the active water channel.

- b) Heavy illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of May, 2021 in the designated block for which clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell has been obtained by the PP stating that the PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity in the designated mining block.
- c) The Committee further stipulates that in view of poor prospects of availability of the material due to heavy mining in the area, the PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and video-graphic evidence.
- d) The Committee further observed that only 1/4th of the area of the block seems available for mining activity which too is bifurcated by a permanent active water channel into Northern and Southern shoals. The Joint Director, G&M Dept., Jammu opined that in such a situation, the mining plan should prescribe selective mining, which however, was not found in the mining plan prescriptions presented by the consultant. Therefore, the mining plan needs to be revised.
- e) The Committee also observed that the situation demands two separate haulage routes for northern and Southern Shoals with exclusion of active water channel while calculating the targeted mineral production and therefore, the EIA/PFR needs revision.
- f) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform revealed features that are presumably suggestive of irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block. The Committee desired clarification from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. but there was no one present to clarify the doubt as the NOC issued by the concerned Dept. was found to be in a generalized format and not specific to the ground realities.
- g) Therefore, the Committee desired project proponent to obtain field verification report of same from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. In case, it is found that such irrigation facility is not existing, same needs to be recorded by the concerned hydraulic engineer with consent of local PRI with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhl offtake point, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary stating that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area.
- h) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report which needs to be submitted.
- i) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised.
- j) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, area targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

- a) In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee did not approve the case in the present form.
- b) The PP if he so desires, can approach JKEIAA for reconsideration of the case after complying with the requirements / observations as made herein above.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations, JKEIAA upheld recommendations of JKEAC not to approve EC in the present form. However, PP may resubmit the case again after fulfilling the conditions and submission of revised documents as recommended by JKEAC.

Agenda Item No.04.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Umesh Kumar Sharma S/O- Shri Shiv Narayan Sharma R/O -B-33/568 Near Gurudwara Saroop Nagar, District- Ludhiana, Punjab for minor mineral block No 14 Mini Secretariat Shopian Downstream Rambiarra Nallah, District Shopian, JK UT Area 8.65 ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59684/2021.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for minor mineral block No 14 Mini Secretariat Shopian Downstream Rambiarra Nallah, District Shopian, JK UT Area 8.65 ha. LOI has been issued on 18-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 03-10-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 19-01-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 12-02-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 08-09-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOC's in the appraisal report shows that stakeholder departments have conveyed NOC's(conditionally) in favour of the project.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 24th meeting held on 19.01.2021 during which the committee recommended TORs to the project.
- b) Exclusion of active water channel while calculating the targeted mineral production and the revised PFR/EIA be submitted prior to grant of formal EC.
- c) Illegal mining activity reported during the Public Hearing. However, it could not be verified from the Google image as the latest available image was of Sept., 2018. However, the present status needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell to the effect the PP is not involved in illegal mining, if it is still continuing there, prior to grant of formal EC. In case it is reported that the PP has been involved in the mining activity in the designated mining block, the EC so granted shall be liable to be withdrawn.
- d) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit under close supervision of the stakeholder departments.
- e) The NOC issued by the Irrigation Dept. is on a generalized format without specifying the location of the Zawoora Irrigation canal/any other canal. Therefore, the Committee

desired that a categorical NOC from Irrigation dept. to the effect that mining activity shall not adversely affect the existing Irrigation works shall be prerequisite for grant of EC.

- f) The NOC issued by the District Adm. was discussed in the light of PH Report in which it has been reported that part of private land has been eroded in to the river bed during floods of 2014 and demarcation has not been conducted. Therefore, the Committee desired fresh and unambiguous title verification of the land under the mining block.
- g) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date of collection of data is missing in EIA report which needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
- h) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised, prior to grant of EC.
- i) EMP budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column.
- j) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- k) Mining depth of 3 m & a bulk density of 2.1 given in the mining plan not agreed by the committee. Therefore, the same need to be revised while calculating the revised targeted mineral production.
- l) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- m) A nominal bulk density of 2.0 in absence of actual measurements.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee recommended the case for the grant of environmental Clearance subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of observations made herein above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell as per deliberations, prior to grant of formal EC.
- d) Submission of categorical and specific NOC from the Irrigation Dept. as per deliberations.
- e) Subject to unambiguous title verification stating the area under the designated mining block falls under state land only.
- f) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- g) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- h) Maximum targeted mineral production of 103800 MT.
- i) Condition the geographical coordinates as per area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.

- j) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB.
- k) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- l) A nominal bulk density of 2.0 in absence of actual measurements.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Submission of categorical and specific NOC from the Irrigation Dept. as per recommendations of JKEAC.
- d) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.
- e) Unambiguous title verification stating the area under the designated mining block falls under state land only.
- f) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 103800 MT and replenishment and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- g) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- h) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- i) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- j) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- k) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.05.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Sai Mines R/O Logate, Tehsil & District Rajouri, JK UT for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral Block No-24, Poonch River Downstream Kalai Bridge Kalai area 9.11ha. District-Poonch, JK UT under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59984/2021.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral Block No-24, Poonch River Downstream Kalai Bridge Kalai area 9.11ha. LOI has been issued on 31-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 15-12-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 13-03-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 30-03-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 18-08-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOC's in the appraisal report shows that Dy. Commissioner, Poonch vide reference No.DCP/PA/121-31 dated 15-05-2021 has conveyed NOCs of Stakeholder departments.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 29th Meeting held on 13/03/2021 during which the Committee had recommended ToRs to the project subject to Multi-dept. report on illegal mining with feedback from the local panchayat representatives and title verification.
- b) The project proponent has now applied for EC after obtaining title verification from the concerned. However, the PP has failed to submit any report on illegal mining nor has he submitted any feedback from the local panchayat. Heavy illegal mining activity was again observed by the Committee as per features on Google image of May, 2021 for which clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell constituted by the Govt. needs to be obtained by the PP stating that the PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity in the designated mining block, prior to grant of Environmental Clearance (EC). In case, it is found that the project proponent (PP) is involved in illegal mining activity, the EC so granted is liable to be withdrawn.
- c) The Committee further stipulates that in view of poor prospects of availability of the material due to heavy mining in the area, the PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and videographic evidence, prior to grant of EC.
- d) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform revealed features that are presumably suggestive of many irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block. The Committee desired clarification from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. but there was no one present to clarify the doubt as the NOC issued by the concerned Dept. was found to be in a generalized format and not specific to the ground realities.
- e) Therefore, the Committee desired project proponent to obtain field verification report of same from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. In case, it is found that such irrigation facility is not existing, same needs to be recorded by the concerned hydraulic engineer with consent of local PRI with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Khul off-take points, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary stating that there are no irrigation off-take

points in the vicinity of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.

- f) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit in close supervision of stakeholder departments.
- g) As per the Public Hearing Report, the local people including panchayat representatives have expressed reservations against the mining activity in the area and therefore, the Committee desired that the PP should ensure fulfilment of all genuine commitments made during the proceedings.
- h) The Google Image of the mining block shows more than 60% active water channel and therefore the Committee opined to consider only 40% for mining activity and that the haulage of material does not affect the natural flow of water for which adequate number of Hume pipes shall have to be laid at appropriate locations.
- i) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised mining block area, revised surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- j) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP.
- k) The ToR condition relating to submission of photographs of display screen of the air quality monitoring station showing data with dates of collection of the baseline data has not been submitted in the EIA report and the same needs to be submitted, prior to grant of formal EC.
- l) Mining depth of 3m and Bulk density of 2.25 in mining plan not agreed by the Committee.
- m) Mining depth be restricted to max.1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- n) A nominal bulk density of 2 be applied in absence of actual field measurements.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations / observations made by the Committee herein above, the Expert Appraisal Committee recommended the project for grant of EC subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Submission of compliance to the observations made herein above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points with annotations, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating therein that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- d) Production of a 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that sufficient replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed

mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area.

- e) Maximum targeted mineral production of 72800 MT.
- f) Condition the geographical coordinates as per Lol issued by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- g) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stockholder departments which needs to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned department.
- h) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- i) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points, if any, within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating that no irrigation canal/kuhls –takes off in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation network in the area.
- d) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.
- e) In view of excessive illegal mining having already taken place, to submit a 'fit for mining certificate' from the G&M Dept.
- f) Only 40% of area is approved for mining.
- g) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 72800MT and replenishment and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- h) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.

- k) Adequate number of hume pipes shall have to be laid at appropriate locations so that the haulage of material doesn't affect the natural flow of water.
- l) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- m) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.06

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Umesh Kumar Sharma S/O- ShriShiv Narayan Sharma R/O -B-33/568 Near Gurudwara Saroop Nagar, District- Ludhiana, Punjab for Proposed "River Bed Mining" (Minor Mineral) Block No.-36/B, Rahmoo Bridge Downstream Nallah Ramshoo, Village- Rahmoo, Taluka- Rahmoo, District: Pulwama, JK UT (Resized area 6.25 ha). under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/55058/2020.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Proposed "River Bed Mining" (Minor Mineral) Block No.-36/B, Rahmoo Bridge Downstream Nallah Ramshoo, Village- Rahmoo, Taluka- Rahmoo, District: Pulwama, JK UT (Resized area 6.25 ha). LOI has been issued on 05-03-2021, which was later extended on 01-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 08-06-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 26-09-2020. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 20-10-2020 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 15-07-2021. The area of the project was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 05-10-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in the appraisal report shows that Addl. Dy. Commissioner, Pulwama vide reference No. DCP/Estt/SM/Noc/590-602 dated 03-05-2021 has conveyed NOCs of stakeholder departments.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 15th Meeting held on 26/09/2020 during which the Committee recommended ToRs to the project subject to resizing of the mining block to maintain safe distance of 500m to the nearby bridge, besides, deliberating the extraction route of the mining block in Public Hearing so that locals are taken into confidence. Now the PP has resized the area to maintain a safe distance from the bridge but there is no mention of haulage route in the Public Hearing Report.
- b) Heavy illegal mining activity was observed by the Committee as per features on Google image of June, 2021 for which clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell constituted by the Govt. needs to be obtained by the PP stating that the PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity in the designated mining block, prior to grant of Environmental Clearance (EC). In case, it is found that the project proponent (PP) is involved in illegal mining activity, the EC so granted is liable to be withdrawn.

- c) The Committee further stipulates that in view of poor prospects of availability of the material due to heavy mining in the area, the PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and videographic evidence, prior to grant of EC.
- d) The examination of mining block on Multidate Google Earth Images revealed features that are presumably suggestive of irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block which seems to have been devastated by the illegal mining as a result of which most of the agricultural and has recently been converted into horticultural plantations. The Committee desired clarification from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. but there was no one present to clarify the doubt as the NOC issued by the concerned Dept. was found to be in a generalized format and not specific to the ground realities.
- e) Therefore, the Committee desired project proponent to obtain field verification report of same from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. In case, it is found that such irrigation facility is not existing, same needs to be recorded by the concerned hydraulic engineer with consent of local PRI with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Khul off-take points, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary stating that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- f) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit in close supervision of stakeholder departments.
- g) The Committee observed that the proposed haulage route is passing through orchards and therefore desired that the PP should resubmit the plan for haulage which should have least implication on ecological regime of the area and without any adverse effect on the livelihood of the locals, prior to grant of formal EC.
- h) The Google Image of the mining block shows considerable area under active water channel and therefore the Committee desired that the haulage of material should not affect the natural flow of water for which adequate number of Hume pipes shall have to be laid at appropriate locations.
- i) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised mining block area, revised surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- j) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP.
- k) The ToR condition relating to submission of photographs of display screen of the air quality monitoring station showing data with dates of collection of the baseline data has not been submitted in the EIA report and the same needs to be submitted, prior to grant of formal EC.
- l) Mining depth be restricted to max.1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations / observations made by the Committee herein above, the Expert Appraisal Committee recommended the project for grant of EC subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Submission of compliance to the observations made herein above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell constituted by the Govt. needs to be obtained by the PP stating that the PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity in the designated mining block, prior to grant of Environmental Clearance (EC). In case, it is found that the project proponent (PP) is involved in illegal mining activity, the EC so granted is liable to be withdrawn.
- d) 'Fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and videographic evidence, prior to grant of EC.
- e) Submission of revised haulage route away from orchards, cultivated land and habitations, prior to grant of EC.
- f) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points, with annotation if any, within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating therein that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- g) Production of a 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that sufficient replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area.
- h) Maximum targeted mineral production of 75000MT.
- i) Condition the geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stockholder departments which needs to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned department.
- k) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- l) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points, if any, within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating that no irrigation canal/ khul –takes off in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation network in the area.
- d) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.
- e) In view of excessive illegal mining having already taken place, to submit a 'fit for mining certificate' from the G&M Dept.
- f) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 75000MT, replenishment study and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- g) Submission of revised haulage route away from orchards, cultivated land and habitations, prior to grant of EC.
- h) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- k) Adequate number of hume pipes shall have to be laid at appropriate locations so that the haulage of material doesn't affect the natural flow of water.
- l) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- m) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.07.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Karanvir Singh S/O Shri Surinder Singh R/O Lane No 3 Saheed Udhm Singh Nagar District Pathankot, Punjab for minor mineral block No 20, Govt. M/S Dumwani Downstream Rambiarra Nallah, District Shopian. JK UT Area 7.95ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59676/2021.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for minor mineral block No 20, Govt. M/S Dumwani Downstream Rambiarā Nallah, District Shopian. JK UT Area 7.95ha. LOI has been issued on 18-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 03-10-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 19-01-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 12-02-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 08-09-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOCs in the appraisal report shows that Dy. Commissioner, Shopian has conveyed NOCs of Stakeholder departments. The NOC of irrigation department mentions that Supply channel of Saller Khul is on left side of nallah Rambairā.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 15th Meeting held on 19/01/2021 during which the Committee recommended TORs to the project.
- b) 2 HT Electric Transmission towers were observed within the mining block and needs clarification from PDD department. The Committee desired that the PP should obtain the NOC from the Transmission Division of the PDD w.r.t the two Electric Transmission Towers in the mining block on the back side of Google screen shot showing location of the two HT Towers and the mining block boundary with annotations depicting same, before grant of EC.
- c) The NoC from Irrigation department mentions that on the left side of the nallah Rambairā supply channel of Saller Kuhl is flowing. But the NOC has been issued on a generalized format. Therefore, the Committee was of the opinion that the project proponent shall approach the Irrigation & Flood Control Dept. for assessment of vulnerability of the existing structures and the mining activity shall not have any adverse impact on the existing structures and if they deem so they will ensure the safety of structures and regulation of water supply. Further, the project proponent shall have to bear the cost of any such work suggested by the Irrigation and Flood Control Dept. This takes care of the conditions of NOC issued by the Irrigation Dept.
- d) The PP needs to submit Techno-feasibility report powered with photographs depicting the irrigation channel and the HT electric transmission towers proposing mitigation measures with necessary funding in the EMP as suggested in the EMP table, prior to grant of formal EC. In case the stakeholder dept. permits the mining same shall be executed on dry shoals on the South of the water creek only. This is to ensure stability to the two electric towers lying in the block.
- e) Features indicative of illegal mining observed on the latest available Google Earth Image of 9/2018. The Committee desired to obtain a report on the present status of the block through the MDLTF Cell to the effect that illegal mining activity is not reported from the block and if otherwise, the PP is not involved in it.

- f) Further, the Committee desired revised budget under the EMP as recommended in the EMP table herein above, which shall however, be as per assessment and demand of Irrigation & Flood Control Dept.
- g) The mining block needs to be resized by excluding the area North of the main water creek with a minimum safety buffer of 50mts from the HT Towers and 100m from the Irrigation supply channel. This approx. leaves the size of mining block with only 2.90 Ha for mining activity. The block forms cluster with the adjacent mining blocks and therefore, still falling under B1 category.
- h) The EMP budget needs to be revised as suggested in the remark's column, prior to grant of EC.
- i) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit under close supervision of the stakeholder departments.
- j) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date of collection of data is missing in the EIA report and the same needs to be provided, prior to grant of EC.
- k) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, area targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- l) Mining depth needs to be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- m) Bulk density of 2.3 in mining plan not agreed. A nominal bulk density of 2.0 in absence of actual measurements be considered.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee recommended the case for the grant of Environmental clearance subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made herein above under deliberations before grant of formal EC.
- c) Resizing of the mining block from 7.95 Ha to 2.90 Ha to maintain safe distance to the Irrigation works and the HT transmission towers.
- d) Issuance of categorical NOC from concerned Xen, Transmission Division, holding the HT Towers / concerned stake holder dept. with seal and signature on the back side of Google screen shot showing location of HT Towers and the mining block boundary with annotations depicting same, before grant of EC.
- e) The EMP budget needs to be revised as suggested in the remark's column, prior to grant of EC.
- f) Revision of EIA report with compliance of specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of the Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the date of collection of data, before grant of formal EC.

- g) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- h) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- j) Maximum targeted mineral production of 58,000 MT.
- k) Condition the geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- l) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Reducing size of mining block from 7.95 Ha to 2.90 Ha to maintain safe distance to the Irrigation works and the HT transmission towers.
- d) Issuance of categorical NOC from concerned Xen, Transmission Division, holding the HT Towers / concerned stake holder dept. with seal and signature on the back side of Google screen shot showing location of HT Towers and the mining block boundary with annotations depicting same, before grant of EC.
- e) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.
- f) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 58,000MT, replenishment study and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- g) Compliance to the specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data within six months of grant of formal EC.
- h) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- k) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.

- l) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.08.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Karanvir Singh S/O Shri Surinder Singh R/O Lane No 3 Saheed Udham Singh Nagar District Pathankot, Punjab for River Bed Material in Block No - 26, River Chenab downstream Baradari Bridge (Kans Khosan Area) Tehsil & District - Reasi, JK UT (Area resized 5.00ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/55853/2020.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for River Bed Material in Block No - 26, River Chenab downstream Baradari Bridge (Kans Khosan Area) Tehsil & District - Reasi, JK UT (Area resized 5.00ha.) LOI has been issued on 16-06-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 10-08-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 03-10-2020. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 05-11-2020 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 26-06-2021. The area of the project was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 11-07-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOCs in the appraisal report shows that few Stakeholder departments has issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project. The NOC from Flood Control & Revenue Departments are awaited.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier in the 16th Meeting held on 03/10/2020 during which the Committee recommended TORs to the project subject to condition the limits of the mining block are redrawn as per ground reality excluding the active water channel (30%) and getting the mining plan approved de-novo. Now the PP has excluded the active water channel in the PFR and the resultant block area of the only 5.00 ha has been recommended by the G&M Dept. However, the Committee expressed its dismay on non-compliance of the TOR condition relating to the revision of mining plan with revised mining block area of 5ha. despite lapse of nearly one year. Therefore, the Committee recommended:

- a) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised mining block area, revised surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC.
- b) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP.
- c) The ToR condition relating to submission of photographs of display screen of the air quality monitoring station showing data with date of collection of the baseline data has not been submitted in the EIA report and the same needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.

- d) The conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit under close supervision of the stockholder department.
- e) Mining depth of 3m and bulk density of 2.25 in mining plan not agreed by the Committee.
- f) Mining depth be restricted to max.1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- g) A nominal bulk density of 2 be applied in absence of actual field measurements.
- h) The Committee observed that the PP has not obtained NOC from all the stake holder depts. especially revenue and Flood Control Dept. and same need to be submitted prior to grant of formal EC.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations / observations made by the Committee herein above, the Expert Appraisal Committee recommended the project for grant of EC subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Submission of compliance to the observations made here-in-above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Maximum targeted mineral production of 60000 MT.
- d) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the Stack holder departments which needs to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned department.
- e) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- f) Condition the revised geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- g) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 60000MT, replenishment study and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- d) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- e) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.

- f) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- g) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- h) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Agenda Item No.09.

Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Kirti Pal Sharma S/O Shri Yash Pal Sharma R/O H No. 222, ward No. 16 Tehsil & District Poonch, JK UT for Minor Mineral Block 9, in Nallah Betar, Upstream Betar Bridge, District Poonch, (Area resized 8.41ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/60102/2021.

Brief Summary: This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Minor Mineral Block 9, in Nallah Betar, Upstream Betar Bridge, District Poonch, (Area resized 8.41ha.) LOI has been issued on 21-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 15-12-2020. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 16-02-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 22-03-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 03-08-2021. The area of the project was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 24-08-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report has not been formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in the appraisal report shows that Dy. Commissioner, Poonch vide reference No. DCP/PA/1121-32 dated 15-05-2021 has conveyed NOCs of stake holders.

Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 26th Meeting held on 16/02/2021 during the Committee recommended TORs to the project subject to resizing of the mining block to maintain safe distance to the bridge besides Multi-dept. Report on illegal mining in the mining block after recording views of local panchayat representatives. However, the PP has complied with the observations by resizing the block and submitting the report of illegal mining from MDLTF Cell stating that the PP is not involved in illegal mining.
- b) The Committee further stipulates that poor prospect of availability of the material due to heavy mining in the area, the PP shall obtain 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that adequate replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and video-graphic evidence, prior to grant of EC.
- c) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform revealed features that are presumably suggestive of irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block. The Committee desired clarification from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. but there

was no one present to clarify the doubt as the NOC issued by the concerned Dept. was found to be in a generalized format and not specific to the ground realities.

- d) Therefore, the Committee desired project proponent to obtain field verification report of same from the concerned Xen Irrigation Dept. In case, it is found that such irrigation facility not existing, same needs to be recorded by the concerned hydraulic engineer with consent of local PRI with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhl off-take points, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary stating that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.
- e) The JKEAC desired that the conditions of NOC need to be adhered to in letter and spirit in close supervision of stakeholder departments.
- f) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised mining block area, revised surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- g) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP.
- h) The active water channel needs to be excluded from mining activity.
- i) The ToR condition relating to submission of photographs of display screen of the air quality monitoring station showing data with date of collection of the baseline data has not been submitted in the EIA report and the same needs to be complied in letter and spirit.
- j) Mining depth of 2.5m mentioned in PFR and 3m in mining plan not agreed by the Committee. Bulk density of 2.25 mentioned in mining plan also not agreed by the Committee. Therefore, PFR need to be revised before grant of EC.
- k) Mining depth be restricted to max.1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- l) A nominal Bulk density of 2 be adopted in absence of actual measurement in field.

Recommendations of the JKEAC:

In view of the above deliberations / observations made by the Committee herein above, the Expert Appraisal Committee recommended the project for grant of EC subject to: -

- a) Compliance/fulfilment of standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Submission of compliance to the observations made herein above under deliberations prior to grant of EC.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhl/canals off-take points with annotations, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating therein that there are no irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation works in the area, prior to grant of formal EC.

- d) Production of a 'fit for mining certificate' from G&M Dept. to the effect that sufficient replenishment has taken place and there is enough material available in the proposed mining block that can be excavated without endangering ecological and hydrological regime of the area with photographic and videographic evidence, prior to grant of EC.
- e) Maximum targeted mineral production of 100900 MT.
- f) Condition the Revised geographical coordinates as per Lol issued by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- g) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stockholder departments which needs to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned department.
- h) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- i) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

Decisions of JKEIAA:

After due deliberations the authority upheld the recommendations of JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Compliance of all observations made by JKEAC listed herein above.
- c) Submission of consent of local panchayat and field verification report from concerned Xen, Irrigation Dept. on the observations made by the Committee with seal and signature on the back side of Colour Google image of the area depicting the mining block boundary and Kuhls/canals off-take points, if any within 200m of the mining block boundary, stating that no irrigation canal/ khul –takes off in the vicinity of the mining block or otherwise that could adversely affect the irrigation network in the area.
- d) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner shall submit a report to the effect that PP is not involved in the illegal mining activity, within a period of six weeks or before execution of lease of minor mineral block, whichever is earlier, failing which the EC is liable to be revoked.
- e) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, with maximum targeted mineral production of 100900MT, replenishment study and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- f) In view of excessive illegal mining having already taken place, to submit a 'fit for mining certificate' from the G&M Dept.
- g) Compliance to the specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data within six months of grant of formal EC.
- h) Revision of EIA Report and Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.

- j) Strict adherence to the terms and conditions of the NOCs of the stakeholder departments which need to be monitored by the enforcement agencies and concerned dept.
- k) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- l) Validity of only three years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA and JKPCB in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS PCCF/Director,
Member Secretary, JKEIAA, EE&RS

Sd/-
Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer)
Member, JKEIAA

Sd/-
Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.)
Chairman, JKEIAA

No: JKEIAA/2016/02/VII/4086-89

Dated:08/11/2021

Copy by email to:

1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.), Chairman, JKEIAA, for information.
2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer), Member, JKEIAA, for information.
3. Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS PCCF/Director, EE&RS, Member Secretary, JKEIAA, for information.
4. The Secretary, JK Expert Appraisal Committee for information.
5. Website(s)



(Staff Officer)
to PCCF/Member Secretary JKEIAA
Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, J&K