



STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)

:: MEGHALAYA ::

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SEIAA, MEGHALAYA

HELD ON 22nd MARCH 2023 AT 2:00 P.M

VENUE: OFFICE CHAMBER OF THE CHAIRMAN

Members present in the Meeting:

1. Shri T.T.C. Marak, IFS (Retd.).....Chairman, SEIAA
2. Dr. H.J. Syiemlieh, Professor, Dept. of Geography, NEHUMember, SEIAA
3. Shri. W.S. Manner, IFS, CCF, SF & EMember Secy. SEIAA

Proceedings:

The Meeting was chaired by Shri. T.T.C. Marak, Chairman, SEIAA. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members and then invited the Member Secretary to present the Agenda points for discussion.

Agenda 1: Action taken Report- The Member Secretary informed about the action of the decisions taken in the last SEIAA's meeting held on 21st February 2023 and circulated the Minutes of the said meeting. The meeting approved the actions taken and confirmed the proceedings.

Agenda 2: Grant of Environmental Clearance (EC)

2.1 Proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/287948/2022 submitted by Shri. Dainipaia Suting (M/s) La Haleng Limestone Mine)

Deliberation:

The Project Proponent, Shri. Dainipaia Suting submitted online application for Environmental Clearance vide proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/287948/2022 for La Haleng Limestone Mine for mining of Lime stone for an area of 1.99 hectare. The proposal is for mining of lime stone to be used in kilns for manufacturing of lime used as building materials. The project falls under Schedule 1(a) of category B2 of EIA Notification 2006. The mining lease area is located at La Haleng, Mynkre Village, East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya and Survey of India toposheet No.83 C/8 within the following GPS Coordinates:

Pillar No	GPS Coordinates	
	Latitude	Longitude
1	25°13'15.7"N	92°23'33.5" E
2	25°13'14.9"N	92°23'32.9" E
3	25°13'14.4"N	92°23'33.6" E
4	25°13'14.4"N	92°23'34.3" E
5	25°13'13.3"N	92°23'35.1" E
6	25°13'12.9"N	92°23'36.0" E
7	25°13'11.0"N	92°23'39.5" E
8	25°13'10.5"N	92°23'41.1" E
9	25°13'11.1"N	92°23'42.1" E
10	25°13'11.9"N	92°23'43.0" E
11	25°13'12.3"N	92°23'42.9" E
12	25°13'12.9"N	92°23'41.8" E
13	25°13'13.0"N	92°23'39.7" E
14	25°13'13.4"N	92°23'39.5" E
15	25°13'14.2"N	92°23'38.3" E
16	25°13'15.5"N	92°23'37.6" E
17	25°13'15.8"N	92°23'36.4" E
18	25°13'16.2"N	92°23'34.5" E

The proposed mining area is on lease for a period of 20 years vide Lease Agreement made on the 7th day of January 2022 at Chiehruphi certified by the Public Notary, East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.

The applied area is a Non Forest Land which was confirmed by the Divisional Forest Officer, Jaintia Hills Territorial Division vide letter No.JH/NFL/EJH/2022-23/B/2062, dated Jowai, the 26th March 2022 and Letter of Intent vide letter No.JH/D.S/L.S/M.L/2022-23/B/23 dated Jowai, the 7th April 2022 respectively.

The project proponent obtained a cluster certificate from the Divisional Mining Officer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Jowai vide letter No.DMO-J/72/MM/Mining Plan/2022-23/14 dated Jowai, the 13th June 2022 where it is mentioned that there no approved mining plan located within 500 metres. Hence, the Environment Management Plan is not required.

The project proponent submitted the Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by the Divisional Mining Officer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Jowai vide letter No.DMO-J/72/MM/Mining plan/2022-23/13 dated Jowai the 8th June 2022. The Mining Plan has been prepared to extract lime stone at the rate of 256900TPA with a project cost of Rs.21.50 lakhs and the operations will be open cast, semi-mechanized method of mining.

The mineable reserve of limestone is of the order of 657180 MT. The production in the period of this mining plan will be around 657175 MT in 4 years. Balance reserves will be $657180 - 657175 = 5$ MT. If the yearly production target is 256900MT, then the balance reserves will sufficient for $5/256900 = 0.000019$ years. Thus, the total life of the mine is $4 + 0.000019 = 4.000019$ or say 4 years.

Recommendation:

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Meghalaya, in the meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 noted and accepted the recommendation of the SEAC and unanimously resolved to grant Environment Clearance to this project.

Accordingly, on recommendation of the SEAC and as per the EIA Notification- 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the SEIAA in the meeting unanimously grant Environment Clearance to this project, with the Terms and conditions as stipulated in " Standard EC Conditions for Non-Coal mining sector" issued vide Ministry' OM No.22-24/2018-IA-III dtd. 08.01.2019 and additional conditions as given below;

1. LOI ought to be renewed as the validity has expired.
2. A settling Tank is to be constructed, at a suitable site within the mining area for collection of debris, sediment, silt, fragmented stones etc carried by surface water channelized through the Curtain drain. The deposited debris, spoils etc are to be removed/cleared, both from the tank and drain as and when required. Overflowing water that flows downhill shall be dispersed but precautions to be taken that spoils etc. generated from mining are not carried along.
3. Garland drains is to be constructed along the periphery of the mining lease boundary to capture the storm water run-off from the mining area, all drains will link to a settling tank with compartments to check and arrest siltation in the mine water prior to discharge.
4. Curtain Drain is to be constructed properly to intercept the surface water from flowing into the mining area and water flowing out of the mine channelized to the Settling tank.
5. If any debris etc. overflows to adjoining land/agricultural field etc. during the mining operation, Monitoring Agency is to take necessary action as per relevant section(s) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
6. In annual EMP budget under GREEN BELT, creation of plantations including nursery cost, fencing etc the notified norms of Forest and Environment Department, Govt of Meghalaya is to be followed strictly, including financial cost. Budget under said head stands revised accordingly.
7. To increase the allocation for plantation and maintenance to a minimum of Rs. 1 lakh per annum and double the number of plants to be planted.

8. CER should be included in the capital cost and it should be increased to a minimum of Rs 1 lakh annually.
9. Boundary pillars with the height not less than 2.5 feet above the ground level and 1.5 feet below ground and minimum 8 inches on all face of pillar should be erected.
10. GPS coordinates of each pillar should be carved/painted clearly on the pillars with Red colour.
11. A board highlighting the name of project and project proponent, location name, total area of the mine, date of issue of EC by SEIAA and CTO & CTE by MSPCB should be installed at the entrance to the mining site and clearly visible.
12. Fencing of the boundary of site with minimum two strands of barbed wire or ordinary split bamboo fencing is to be erected all around the periphery of the approved mining area.
13. Storing and collection of water through rainwater harvesting for dust sprinkling and recharging of the aquifers.
14. The Green Belt shall be created within the 7.5 meter Safety Zone area during the first year of the project and if there are any sorts of vegetation in the said area, they shall be preserved and not damaged.

Member Secretary shall prepare the draft Environmental Clearance for this project and circulate the same to all Members of the Authority for views/comments/corrections, if any, and then after approval of the Chairman, the Member Secretary shall issue the final Environment Clearance.

2.2 Proposal No.SIA/MIL/MIN/407261/2022 submitted by Shri. Richanmitre Challam (M/s Mynkoi Limestone Mine).

Deliberation:

The Project Proponent, Shri. Richanmitre submitted an online application for Environmental Clearance vide proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/407261/2022 for Mynkoi Limestone Mine for an area of 1.80 hectare. The proposal is for mining of lime stone to be used in kilns for manufacturing of lime used as building materials. The project falls under Schedule 1(a) of category B2 of EIA Notification 2006. The mining lease area is located at Mynkoi, Wahiajer Village, Elaka Narpuh, East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya and Survey of India toposheet No.G4608 within the following GPS Coordinates:

Pillar No	GPS Coordinates	
	Latitude	Longitude
1	25°12'56.96"N	92°24'46.68" E
2	25°12'56.77"N	92°24'44.80" E
3	25°12'57.82"N	92°24'42.77" E
4	25°13'01.08"N	92°24'42.51" E
5	25°13'01.74"N	92°24'43.06" E
6	25°13'02.15"N	92°24'45.04" E
7	25°13'01.85"N	92°24'46.76" E
8	25°12'58.83"N	92°24'47.21" E

The proposed mining area is on lease for a period of 15 years vide Lease Agreement made on the 21st day of March 2022 certified by the Public Notary, East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.

The applied area is a Non Forest Land which was confirmed by the Divisional Forest Officer, Jaintia Hills Territorial Division vide letter No.JH/NFL/EJH/2022-23/B/317, dated Jowai, the 19th May 2022 and Letter of Intent vide letter No.JH/R.C/M.L/LS/2022-23/B/43 dated Jowai, the 9th June 2022 respectively.

The project proponent obtained a cluster certificate from the Divisional Mining Officer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Jowai vide letter No.DMO-J/73/MM/Mining Plan/2022-23/16 dated Jowai, the 29th June 2022 where it is mentioned that there is no approved mining plan located within 500 metres. Hence, the Environment Management Plan is not required.

The project proponent submitted the Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by the Divisional Mining Officer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Jowai vide letter No.DMO-I/73/MM/Mining plan/2022-23/15 dated Jowai the 29th June 2022. The Mining Plan has been prepared to extract lime stone at the rate of 189125 TPA with a project cost of Rs.21.50 lakhs and the operations will be open cast, semi-mechanized method of mining.

The mineable reserve of limestone is of the order of 945700 MT. The production in the period of this mining plan will be around 945675 MT in 5 years. Balance reserves will be $945700 - 945675 = 5$ ton. If the yearly production target is 189125ton, then the balance reserves will sufficient for $5/189125 = 0.000026$ years. Thus, the total life of the mine is $5 + 0.000026 = 5.000026$ or say 5 years.

Recommendation:

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Meghalaya, in the meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 noted and accepted the recommendation of the SEAC and unanimously resolved to grant Environment Clearance to this project.

Accordingly, on recommendation of the SEAC and as per the EIA Notification- 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the SEIAA in the meeting unanimously grant Environment Clearance to this project, with the Terms and conditions as stipulated in " Standard EC Conditions for Non-Coal mining sector" issued vide Ministry' OM No.22-24/2018-IA-III dtd. 08.01.2019 and additional conditions as given below;

1. LOI ought to be renewed as the validity has expired
2. A settling Tank is to be constructed, at a suitable site within the mining area for collection of debris, sediment, silt, fragmented stones etc carried by surface water channelized through the Curtain drain. The deposited debris, spoils etc are to be removed/cleared, both from the tank and drain as and when required. Overflowing water that flows downhill shall be dispersed but precautions to be taken that spoils etc. generated from mining are not carried along.
3. Garland drains is to be constructed along the periphery of the mining lease boundary to capture the storm water run-off from the mining area, all drains will link to a settling tank with compartments to check and arrest siltation in the mine water prior to discharge.
4. Curtain Drain is to be constructed properly to intercept the surface water from flowing into the mining area and water flowing out of the mine channelized to the Settling tank.
5. If any debris etc. overflows to adjoining land/agricultural field etc. during the mining operation, Monitoring Agency is to take necessary action as per relevant section(s) of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.
6. In annual EMP budget under GREEN BELT, creation of plantations including nursery cost, fencing etc the notified norms of Forest and Environment Department, Govt. of Meghalaya is to be followed strictly, including financial cost. Budget under said head stands revised accordingly.
7. To increase the allocation for plantation and maintenance to a minimum of Rs. 1 lakh per annum and double the number of plants to be planted.
8. CER should be included in the capital cost and it should be increased to a minimum of Rs 1 lakh annually.
9. Boundary pillars with the height not less than 2.5 feet above the ground level and 1.5 feet below ground and minimum 8 inches on all face of pillar should be erected.
10. GPS coordinates of each pillar should be carved/painted clearly on the pillars with Red colour.
11. A board highlighting the name of project and project proponent, location name, total area of the mine, date of issue of EC by SEIAA and CTO & CTE by MSPCB should be installed at the entrance to the mining site and clearly visible.
12. Fencing of the boundary of site with minimum two strands of barbed wire or ordinary split bamboo fencing is to be erected all around the periphery of the approved mining area.
13. Storing and collection of water through rainwater harvesting for dust sprinkling and recharging of the aquifers.

14. The Green Belt shall be created within the 7.5 meter Safety Zone area during the first year of the project and if there are any sorts of vegetation in the said area, they shall be preserved and not damaged.

Member Secretary shall prepare the draft Environmental Clearance for this project and circulate the same to all Members of the Authority for views/comments/corrections, if any, and then after approval of the Chairman, the Member Secretary shall issue the final Environment Clearance.

Agenda 3: Grant of Term of Reference (ToR)

3.1 Proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/68515/2021 submitted by Shri. Stanshon Nongrum

Deliberation:

The Project Proponent, Shri. Stanshon Nongrum submitted online application for Term of Reference vide proposal No. SIA/ML/MIN/68515/2021 for Term of Reference for Umswiah Limestone Mine for mining of Lime stone for an area of 1.08 hectares. The proposal is for mining of lime stone to be used in kilns for manufacturing of lime used as building materials. The project falls under Schedule 1(a) of category B2 of EIA Notification 2006. The mining lease area is located at Umswiah (Parmawshun), Mawlong Sirdarship, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya and toposheet Survey of India No.780/12 within the following GPS Coordinates:

Pillar No	GPS Coordinates	
	Latitude	Longitude
1	25° 10' 46.569"N	91° 40' 38.545" E
2	25° 10' 46.564"N	91° 40' 37.694"E
3	25° 11' 1.260"N	91° 40' 35.250"E
4	25° 11' 1.272"N	91° 40' 36.098"E

The proposed mining area is on lease for 30 years vide Deed of Lease Agreement made on the 26th day of October 2021, certified by Notary, Govt of Meghalaya, East Khasi Hills District.

The applied area is a Non Forest Land which was confirmed by the Divisional Forest Officer, East Khasi Hills & RiBhoi Territorial Division, Shillong, vide letter NO.KH/8/NOC/Limestone/41/Pt.IV/284, dated Shillong, the 14th April 2021 and Letter of Intent vide letter No.KH/8/ML/Limestone/68/293, dated Shillong, the 14th April, 2021 respectively.

The project proponent obtained a cluster certificate from the Mining Engineer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Shillong vide letter No.DMR/MM/121/2021/10 dated Shillong, the 29th September 2021 which states that there are three (3) approved mining plan lying within 500 metres from the applied mining lease area. Hence the applied mining area falls under cluster category since the total area of four mines is summed up to 12.81 hectares.

The project proponent submitted the Mining Plan with Progressive Mine Closure Plan approved by the Mining Engineer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Shillong vide letter No.DMR/MM/127/2021/5 dated Shillong, the 8th September 2021. The Mining Plan has been prepared to extract lime stone at the rate of 12,417 TPA with a project cost of Rs.7.00 lakhs and the operations will be open cast, semi-mechanized method of mining.

The mineable reserve would be 62024 Tonnes with an average annual production of 12405(62024/5 = 12405) Tonnes. The average annual production of limestone may be different from annual production of five years plan period. Thus 61999 Tonnes of the total mineable reserve i.e. (62024 - 61999) = 25 Tonnes would be mining loss. Therefore, the life of the mine will be 5 years (Five years in plan period).

Recommendation:

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Meghalaya, in the meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 noted and accepted the recommendation of the SEAC and unanimously resolved to grant Term of Reference to this project.

Accordingly, on recommendation of the SEAC and as per the EIA Notification- 2006 and its subsequent amendments, the SEIAA in the meeting unanimously grant Terms of Reference to this project, with the terms and conditions as stipulated in "Standard TOR Conditions for Non-Coal mining sector" issued vide Ministry' OM No.22-24/2018-IA-III dtd. 08.01.2019 and with the following conditions:

1. LOI ought to be renewed as the validity has expired.
2. Site photographs together with photographs and other related details of site visits by resource persons of NABET accredited consultant of project proponent, with their names and profession/designation, together with date(s) of visit, date(s) of data collection including names of instrument/machine actually used in the field, during preparation of EIA report, is to be clearly highlighted in the EIA/EMP report.
3. Boundary pillars with the height not less than 2.5 feet above the ground level and 1.5 feet below ground and minimum 8 inches on all face of pillar should be erected.
4. GPS coordinates of each pillar should be carved/painted clearly on the pillars with Red colour.
5. Plagiarism check certificate for EIA/EMP report has to be furnished.
6. Source of data taken from external sources is to be mentioned clearly.

Agenda 4: Rejection of Proposal

4.1 Proposal No.SIA/ML/MIN/57336/2020 submitted by Shri. Adorstar Thangkhiew (M/s Ador Stone Quarry)

Deliberation:

The Project Proponent, Shri. Adorstar Thangkhiew submitted online application vide proposal No. SIA/ML/MIN/57336/2020 for Environmental Clearance for Ador Stone Quarry for an area of 0.731 hectare. The proposal is for mining of boulderstone use for construction purposes, hence the project fall under Schedule 1(a) of category B2 of EIA Notification 2006. The area is located at Rani Jirang, RiBhoi District, Meghalaya and toposheet Survey of India No.78N/12 within the following GPS Coordinates:

Pillar No	GPS Coordinates	
	Latitude	Longitude
1	26° 01' 50.170"N	91° 34' 42.393"E
2	26° 01' 46.544"N	91° 34' 37.779"E
3	26° 01' 45.569"N	91° 34' 38.888"E
4	26° 01' 49.195"N	91° 34' 43.501"E

The proposed land for mining belongs to the project proponent vide Deed of Declaration made on 14thSeptember 2009 certified by Sub-Registrar, Nongpoh, RiBhoi, Meghalaya.

The applied area is a Non Forest Land which was confirmed by the Divisional Forest Officer, Khasi Hills (T) Division, Shillong, vide letter No KH/NOC/9/Stone/41/Pt.IV/134 dated Shillong, the 11thApril 2018 and Letter of Intent vide letter No.KH/8/ML/Stone/69/2311 dated Shillong, the 25thAugust 2020.

The project proponent has obtained a cluster certificate from the Mining Engineer, Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya, Shillong, Government of Meghalaya, , vide letter No.DMR/MM/198/2018/17dated Shillong, the 10thSeptember 2020, where it is mentioned that there are 2 (two)

approved mining plan located within 500 metres. Hence the applied mining area falls under cluster category since the total area of twelve mines is summed up to 5.201 hectares.

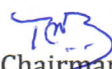
The project proponent submitted approved Mining Plan and Progressive Mine Closure Plan from Directorate of Mineral Resources, Meghalaya vide letter No.DMR/MM/198/2018/2087, dated Shillong, the 13th March 2019. The Mining plan has been prepared to extract boulderstone at an annual rate of 20000 tonnes per annum with a project cost of Rs. 14 lakhs and the operations will be open cast, semi-mechanized method of mining.

As per the mining plan, the mine has a total mineral reserve of 300033 MT. The mine is targeted to produce 20000 MT of stone per annum taking the production as 66-67 TPD, taking 300 as the average working days per annum. On this basis, the anticipated life of the mine will be 15 years. But after leaving residual benches to prevent a vertical face around the mined out area, the reserves of boulder stone that will be blocked in the residual benches will be 166873 tonnes. The mineable reserve therefore comes to only 133160 tonnes. Accordingly, the actual anticipated life of the mine will be 6.65 years say 7 years.

Recommendation:

The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Meghalaya, in the meeting held on 22nd March, 2023 noted and accepted the recommendation of the SEAC and unanimously resolved to Reject this project as the applied mining area falls under cluster category since the total area of twelve mines is summed up to 5.201 hectares as per the Notification S.O. 141(E) dated 15.01.2016 of Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change also the location of this proposed area falls under the '**No-Go-Areas**' as per the Govt. of Meghalaya Notification No. FOR.50/2021/1667 dated Shillong the 13th January, 2023 para **2.1 No new Mining Lease or Quarry Permit** for stone/boulder shall be granted in the Inviolable areas or 'no-go-areas' in Ri-Bhoi district :- **2.1.1 Inviolable areas as per Comprehensive Carrying Capacity Report** - All areas north of the latitude at 25°47'55.17" N in DMS(Degree Minutes Seconds) format or 25.7986583° N in DD (Decimal Degrees) format.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chairman.



Chairman
SEIAA,
Meghalaya, Shillong.

Memo. No. ML/SEIAA/Meeting/ Vol.IV/53/2021

Dated Shillong, the March, 2023

Copy to :

- 1) Member, SEIAA, Meghalaya, Shillong for information.
- 2) File concern for record


Member Secretary
SEIAA,
Meghalaya, Shillong.