



0191-2474553/0194-2490602

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 63<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the JK Expert Appraisal Committee held on 09<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 through video Conferencing issued vide No.EAC/JK/20/9703-715 dated 09-10-2021, the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2021 at 1100 Hrs. through video conferencing.

The following attended the meeting:-

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 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 Karanveer Singh, S/o Shri Surinder Singh, R/o Lane No. 3, Shaheed Udham Singh Nagar, Pathankot- for MINOR MINERAL (River Bed Material) Project at Block No. 5/7, (Area- 9.98ha.) Downstream Old Chenab Bridge, Akhnoor Village - Malpur, Tehsil - Bhalwal, District- Jammu JK UT (Transfer case) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/60673/2019.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for MINOR MINERAL (River Bed Material) Project at Block No. 5/7, (Area- 9.98ha.) LOI has been issued on 05-08-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 30-01-2018. The Terms of Reference were granted on 29-11-2019 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 08-02-2020. The case was processed in pursuance to G.O. 76 JK-FST of 2020 dated 29-07-2020.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not 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 issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project. However, the NOC of Revenue Department & Flood Control Department is still awaited.

#### **Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The case had earlier been listed in 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22.04.2021 but was deferred due to non-availability of consultant.
- b) The approved mining plan prescribes mining depth of 0.5m while as the project proponent has proposed mining depth of 1m in the EIA document.

- c) Illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of June, 2021 which demand report from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell to fix responsibility for the same.
- d) Most of the mining block area falls under active water channel as observed on Google Image.
- e) A complaint dated 21/09/2021 has been received from the Public Representatives headed by Shri Kashmir Singh, Sarpanch of the nearby village Gharkal by email where under it has been stated that if mining activity is allowed in the mining block, it will cause damage to life and property of the nearby villages due to change of course of the river following mining activity. However, the consultant presented a communication from the same Sarpanch with no objection for mining activity and the consultant was asked to email same.
- f) Single Window based NOC has not been submitted. However, NOCs from Irrigation, Fisheries, Forest and Jalshakti departments have been submitted individually. The NOC from Flood Control Dept. & Revenue Dept. has also not been submitted.
- g) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of baseline data missing in EIA report.
- h) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised prior to grant of EC.
- i) EMP budget proposed is not adequate.

**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 rejection of Environmental Clearance in view of the fact that most of the area of the mining block falls under active water channel and mining activity if allowed, can change the river course and eventually threaten the adjacent villages located in the flood prone area.

**Decision of JKEIAA:**

The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to reject the case for grant of Environment clearance in view of the fact that most of the area of the mining block falls under active water channel and mining activity if allowed, can change the river course and eventually threaten the adjacent villages located in the flood prone area.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.02.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Karanveer Singh, S/o Shri Surinder Singh, R/o Lane No. 3, Shaheed Udham Singh Nagar, Pathankot for Riverbed Material Mining of Tawi River Downstream Railway Bridge, Kishanpur Manwal at Block No. 5 (1/5), Village Bathuna (Jammu Block), Tehsil & District Jammu, JK UT, Area 9.86ha. (Transfer case) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/56264/2019.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Material Mining of Tawi River Downstream Railway Bridge, Kishanpur Manwal at Block No. 5 (1/5), Village Bathuna (Jammu Block), Tehsil & District Jammu, JK UT, Area

9.86ha. (Transfer case) LOI has been issued on 27-04-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 12-04-2018. The Terms of Reference were granted on 26-12-2019 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 13-03-2020. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 07-10-2020 & 15-05-2021. The case was processed in pursuance to G.O. 76 JK-FST of 2020 dated 29-07-2020. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not 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 issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project. However, the NOCs of Flood Control Department, Wild Life Protection Department & Pollution Control Board are still awaited.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 16th meeting held on 07.10.2020 during which the Committee observed a linear rectangular field bund plantation running across boundary pillar C & D and therefore had recommended that the project proponent should obtain clarification from Dy. Commissioner Jammu with respect to ownership of the land bearing linear plantation in the mining block besides NOC from the stake holders.
- b) The Committee observed that the limits of the mining block as per KML file submitted at the time of appraisal for grant of TORs is different from the limits depicted by KML file submitted now for grant of EC. The two conflicting boundaries were verified for geo-coordinates w.r.t coordinates mentioned in the Letter of Intent issued by the Geology & Mining Dept. It was observed that the KML file submitted earlier at the time of appraisal for ToRs had been erroneous that led to seeking clarification on the title of the land under the mining block.
- c) The Tehsildar concerned however, has issued title verification of the mining block vide letter No. TD/OQ/2021-22/36-39 dated 19/04/2021.
- d) Illegal mining activity was detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of Jan, 2021 which needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell prior to grant of formal EC.
- e) Considerable active water channel was observed in the block on Google image which needs to be excluded prior to grant of Formal EC.
- f) The NOC from the Flood Control Dept. needs to be obtained prior to grant of Formal EC.
- g) The photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report which needs to be included in the documentation.
- h) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised prior to grant of formal EC.
- i) EMP/ needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP table above.
- 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) As per approved mining plan, the mining depth of 0.75 m has been recommended. However, the EIA report proposes mining depth of 1m.

### **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 grant of EC subject to following conditions:-

- a) Compliance with Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of the JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Exclusion of the active water channel from the mining block prior to grant of formal EC.
- c) Explicit report from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell to the effect that the PP is not involved in illegal mining /mining activity, prior to grant of EC. In case the project proponent is found to be involved, the EC so granted be withdrawn.
- d) The NOC from the Flood Dept. needs to be obtained prior to grant of formal EC.
- e) 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.
- f) Revision of EMP budget as suggested in the remark's column of table above.
- g) Mining depth of max.0.75m in aggregate in view of mining plan prescription and non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- h) Submission of photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report which needs to be complied in letter and spirit prior to grant of EC.
- 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) Maximum targeted mineral production of 88740 MT.
- l) Condition the geographical coordinates as per Lol issued by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- m) Valid period of only two years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA, JKPCB in accordance with Minutes of Meeting of JKEIAA issued vide No. JKEIAA/2016/02/II/631-33 dated 08/08/2020 during which time fresh Public Hearing shall have to be got conducted by the PP.

### **Decision of JKEIAA:**

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

- a) Revalidation of Lol by the Geology and Mining Department.
- b) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- c) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner submits 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.

- d) The NOC from the Flood Control Dept. needs to be obtained prior to grant of formal EC.
- e) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment data and its approval by the competent authority within three months of grant of EC.
- f) Revision of EMP budget as suggested/recommended by the JKEAC.
- g) Mining depth of max. 0.75m in aggregate with maximum targeted mineral production of 88740 MT by excluding active water channel, in view of mining plan prescription and non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- h) 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.
- 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) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- k) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- l) Valid period of only two years from the date of commencement of the mining operations duly certified by the District Mineral Officer concerned with intimation to the JKEIAA, JKPC in accordance with Minutes of Meeting of JKEIAA issued vide No. JKEIAA/2016/02/II/631-33 dated 08/08/2020 during which time fresh Public Hearing shall have to be got conducted by the PP.

### **Agenda Item No.03.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Shiva Minerals Near Focal Point Peer Baba Chowk, Malikpur, Pathankot, Punjab for Block No. 33 (5/8), (Area- 9.98ha), Khatharwalli Khad Downstream Manoh Khathar Bridge Village - Kathar, Tehsil- Akhnoor, District- Jammu. (Transfer case). under proposal No. SIA/JK/MIN/57475/2019.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Block No. 33 (5/8), (Area- 9.98ha), LOI has been issued on 18-08-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 12-04-2018. The Terms of Reference were granted on 29-11--2019 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 11-02-2020. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 24-04-2021. The case was processed in pursuance to G.O. 76 JK-FST of 2020 dated 29-07-2020.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not 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 issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project. However, the NOCs of Flood Control Department, Wild Life Protection Department, Pollution Control Committee & Revenue Department are still awaited.

### **Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been listed for 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22.04.2021 during which the committee deferred the case due to non-availability of the consultant.
- b) Illegal mining activity detected in the vicinity of mining block as per features on Google image of Jan, 2021 which needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell.
- c) Considerable active water channel detected while observing KML file which needs to be excluded.
- d) Photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report are missing.
- e) The NOC from the Flood Control Dept. needs to be obtained.
- f) It was observed that the NOC of the Irrigation dept. has mentioned Kathar Canal in the vicinity. The Consultant was asked to identify same on the Google Image which he could not. The JD, G&M Dept. facilitated joining of the concerned Xen Irrigation & Flood Control Dept. for clarification. However, the Xen could not communicate due to connectivity problem at his end. Therefore, the Committee desired that the Xen concerned shall have to give a categorical NOC stating that the mining activity shall not affect the availability of water in the Kathar Canal network.
- g) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised.
- h) EMP needs to be revised with appropriate budget.
- i) 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.
- j) Mining depth recommended in the approved mine plan is 0.5m. However, the project proponent has proposed mining depth of 1m in the EIA document.

### **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 rejection in the present form. However, the project proponent, if he so desires, can again approach the JKEIAA for grant of EC after addressing the issues/clarifying the position vis-à-vis the observations made by the Committee herein above under deliberations.

### **Decision 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 along with revalidation of Lol.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO.04.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Umesh Kumar Sharma S/O Shiv Narayan Sharma R/o B-33/568 Near Gurudwara Saroop Nagar, Central Post Office Ludhiana, Punjab for River Bed Material in Block No.11, Ramnagar Wali Khad Downstream Gulang Bridge, Village-Dalsar, Tehsil- Ramnagar, District - Udhampur JK UT proposed resized Area 3.80ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/224968/2021 & SIA/JK/MIN/57955/2020.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B2 category for River Bed Material in Block No.11, Ramnagar Wali Khad Downstream Gulang Bridge, Village-Dalsar, Tehsil- Ramnagar, District - Udhampur JK UT proposed resized Area 3.80 ha. LOI has been issued on 27-04-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 15-10-2020. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 26-11-2020 & the area of the block was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 02-06-2021. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not 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 issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project. However, the NOCs of Flood Control Department, Wild Life Protection Department & Pollution Control Board are still awaited.

#### **Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The case had earlier been discussed during 20th meeting held on 26.11.2020 during which the committee observed forest boundary traversing through the mining block. The committee asked the Project Proponent to obtain an NOC from the Forest Dept. verifying therein whether part of mining block was falling inside forest boundary or not. However, the NOC issued by DFO concerned provides geo-coordinates of part of the forest area traversing through mining block. Upon scrutiny of the coordinates provided in the NOC on Google Earth Image platform in conjunction with the digital forest boundary, it was found that the coordinates have been wrongly captured as a result of which area of mining block falling inside the forest boundary has been misquoted as non-Forest land and subsequently included in the mining block. On the other hand, area otherwise, outside forest has been misquoted as Forest and excluded from the mining block while resizing it. As such, the Committee desired that the NOC from Forest Department as well as the limits of resized mining block need to be got rectified.
- b) Illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of June, 2021 which needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell.
- c) Most of the mining block area falls under active water channel as observed on Google Image which needs to be excluded while calculating the targeted mineral production.
- d) Single Window based NOC has not been submitted. However, NOCs from Irrigation, Fisheries, Forest and Jalshakti Departments have been submitted. Therefore, Single Window based NOCs along with individual NOCs of the respective departments indicating conditions therein also need to be submitted.

- e) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised.
- f) EMP needs to be revised with appropriate budget.
- g) 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.
- h) Mining depth of 2.5 not agreed by the committee as mentioned in the mining plan. Mining depth be restricted to maximum 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- i) Bulk density of 2.25 mentioned in mining plan not agreed by the Committee. A nominal bulk density of 2 to be used in absence of actual measurements in field.

#### **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 rejection in its present form. However, the project proponent needs to get the mining block resized afresh after excluding the forest area on the basis of rectified / revised NOC from Forest Dept. as discussed herein above.

#### **Decision 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 along with revalidation of Lol.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO.05.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Arvind Kumar Gupta S/O Shri Ram Chander Gupta R/o Rajguru Nagar Ludhiana, Punjab. for proposed "River Bed Mining" (Minor Mineral) Block No.-37/C, Chewa Bridge U/Stream, Nallah Romshi, proposed resized area 4.85 ha, Village- Chewa, Taluka- Chewa, District Pulwama, JK UT under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/230961/2021//SIA/JK/MIN/55177/2020.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B2 category for for proposed "River Bed Mining" (Minor Mineral) Block No.-37/C, Chewa Bridge U/Stream, Nallah Romshi, proposed resized area 4.85 ha. LOI has been issued on 05-03-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 08-06-2020. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 29-09-2020& the area of the block was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 05-07-2021.

As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that Dy. Commissioner, Pulwama vide reference No. DCP-Estt-SM-NOC-603-15 dated 03-05-2021 has conveyed NOCs of stakeholder departments.

#### **Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 15<sup>th</sup> meeting held on to 26-09-202, during the Committee recommended the mining block to be relocated / reduced to keep a safe distance of 500 mts. from the bridge. The committee also observed that



- the extraction route be re-planned to cause minimum damage to orchards and habitations in immediate vicinity. However, the PP has resized the mining block to maintain a safe distance from the bridge and now the project falls under B2 category.
- b) Illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of Jun., 2021 needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MLDTF) Cell prior to grant of formal EC. In case it is reported that the PP has been involved in illegal mining activity in the designated mining block, the EC so granted be withdrawn.
  - c) The NOC from Fisheries department indicate that there is a blanket ban on the activities of extraction sand, Bajri, Boulders etc. from the course of water from the period ensuing from 15 March to 15 of July each year in view of the breeding season of the *schizothrox*, carp and local fish species which use sand, Bajri as breeding and spawning grounds.
  - d) The NOC of Irrigation Department indicate that the area of 200mts upstream and downstream of the offtake points of various kulhs/canals should be declared as prohibited zone and no extraction be allowed within this area.
  - e) The conditions of NOC of stakeholder departments need to be adhered to in letter and spirit.
- Mining depth be restricted to 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 following conditions:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Explicit report from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MLDTF) Cell that the PP is not involved in illegal mining /mining activity, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Revision of the mining plan and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC or as decided by JKEIAA.
- d) Revision of EMP Budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP table above.
- e) Mining depth of max. 1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- f) Maximum targeted mineral production of 58200 MT.
- g) Condition the revised geographical coordinates as per revised area conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- h) 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.
- i) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- 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 in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

### **Decision of JKEIAA:**

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

- a) Revalidation of Lol by the Geology and Mining Department.
- b) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- c) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner submits 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.
- d) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its approval by the competent authority within three months of Grant of EC.
- e) Revision of EIA and EMP budget as recommended by JKEAC.
- f) Mining depth of max.1m in aggregate with maximum targeted mineral production of 58200 MT, in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- 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) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- 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 JKPC in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

### **AGENDA ITEM NO.06**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Sanjay Mehta Address- S/O Shri Ram Mehta R/O House No. 04, Opp Jain Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu, JK UT for Minor Mineral Block 3/7, in Nowshera Tawi River, Downstream Nowshera Jabba Bridge, Village Lamberi, District Rajouri, JK UT, proposed resized area 5.84ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/62637/2021**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for for Minor Mineral Block 3/7, in Nowshera Tawi River, Downstream Nowshera Jabba Bridge, Village Lamberi, District Rajouri, JK UT, proposed resized area 5.84ha. LOI has been issued on 25-11-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 08-04-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 31-05-2021 & public hearing was conducted on 09-08-2021. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 20-08-2021 & the area of the block was reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 06-10-2021. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that Dy. Commissioner

Rajouri vide reference No.DCR/2021-22 dated 06-05-2021 has conveyed NOCs of stakeholder departments.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 41<sup>st</sup> meeting held on to 20/05/2021 during the Committee examined the mining block on Google Earth platform and it was observed that the neighbouring land from pillar coordinate F to G shows features indicative of an upland with land erosion problem due to scouring activity of the Nallah. Therefore, the Committee had desired that the EIA report should dedicate a full-fledged chapter on this aspect of the mining block and suggest mitigative measures to combat soil erosion due to scouring activity of the nallah and committee had unanimously recommended the case for grant of Terms of Reference. However, the EIA report has neither provided any details on this aspect nor has any mitigative measure been proposed. Therefore, in view the observations, the Committee considered only approx. 3.50 ha from within pillar ABCDGH excluding active water channel for extraction of minor mineral out of the proposed area of the mining block.
- b) Illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of May., 2021 needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MLDTF) Cell. It has been observed that the illegal mining has created many deep depressions in the riverbed. So a categorical replenishment certificate must be obtained from the concerned authorities before allowing mining activity in the area. This is in reference to the points raised by Xen concerned in the NOC issued.
- c) The compliance to specific TOR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report.
- d) 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 and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee recommended the case for rejection of Environmental Clearance in the present form. The PP however, if he so desires, may resubmit the case for grant of EC after addressing the issues raised / clarifying the observations made by the Committee herein above under deliberations.

**Decision 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 along with revalidation of Lol.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.07.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Nazir Ahmad Lone S/O Shri Abdul Rahim Lone R/o Lelhar District Pulwama. JK UT for Minor Mineral Block No.19, Govt. M/S Dumwani Downstream, Rambiarra Nallah Village Dumwani Tehsil Keegam District Shopian JK U.T., Area 9.68ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59408/2020.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Minor Mineral Block No.19, Govt. M/S Dumwani Downstream, Rambiarā Nallah Village Dumwani Tehsil Keegam District Shopian JK U.T., Area 9.68ha. LOI has been issued on 18-07-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and is valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 03-10-2020. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 19-04-2021 & public hearing was conducted on 29-06-2021. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 01-04-2021. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc.,

Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that stakeholder department had issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project. However, the NOC of Irrigation Department is ambiguous. Block No. has not been mentioned in the NOC issued by the Irrigation Dept. vide letter 23-03-2021. Though NOCs have been issued by the JKPDCL and TMLD-7 of PDD, yet it is suggested that at least 50m may be left as no mining zone all around the electric transmission tower.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on to 01/04/2021 during which signs of illegal mining were detected for which it was desired that responsibility be for the same. Therefore, the project proponent has submitted NOC from Multi Departmental District Level Task Force Cell (MDDLTF) on illegal mining vide letter no DMS/PA/21/1648-49 dated 01/07/2021 wherein it has been reported that though illegal mining has occurred in and around Mineral Block No. 19 but the project proponent is not involved in it. Therefore, the project was considered under non-violation category.
- b) Besides, in the previous meeting, the members had also observed one Electric Transmission Tower within the mining block. The NOCs from Executive Engineer, Trans, Line Maintt. Division -7 JKPTCL Bemina Srinagar – 190010 issued vide letter no TLMD-7/TS/2061-63 dated 08.09.2021 reports that the spot is about 90 mts. horizontally away from the existing 132 KV D/C Lassipora- Shopian power transmission line and has no objection if the work is carried out in the mining block. Similarly, Assistant Ex. Engineer, PDCL Sub-Div Shopian has stated that 132 KV double circuit transmission line is passing along the banks of Rambiarā Nallah towards Domwani and that the dept. has no objection to the mining activity. However, as again observed on the Google image, it was found that the Transmission tower does exist within the mining block and there is no mention of the same in the NOCs issued by the concerned authorities. The issue raised in the ToR has not been addressed as none of the depts. viz. JKPTCL and PDCL have owned the asset while its actual existence indicates otherwise.
- c) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised.
- d) EMP needs to be revised with appropriate budget.
- e) The compliance to specific TOR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report.
- f) The NOC issued by the Irrigation Dept. does not mention the mining block number.

- g) 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 Department Bulk density of 2.1 mentioned in the mining plan was not agreed. In absence of actual measurements, a nominal Bulk density of 2.0 be adopted.

**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 rejection in the present form and desired that the PP may, if he so desires, may approach JKEIAA for grant of EC after addressing the issues raised by the Committee herein above under deliberations.

**Decision 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 along with revalidation of Lol.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.08.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Khurshid Ahmad Mir S/O Shri Ghulam Mohammad R/O Dougham, Kakapora, Pulwama, JK UT for Minor Mineral Block No- 19, S-Kulgam Bridge Downstream Vishu Nallah, Kulgam, Area 9.52ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/57250/2020.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Minor Mineral Block No- 19, S-Kulgam Bridge Downstream Vishu Nallah, Kulgam, Area 9.52ha. LOI has been issued on 16-07-2020, which was later extended on 15-04-2021 and was valid up to 31-08-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 31-08-2020. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 27-12-2020 & public hearing was conducted on 08-05-2021. The case was earlier discussed by JKEAC on 27-11-2020. As per summary of appraisal report, District Survey Report was not formulated as per guidelines and needs to be revised for including replenishment data etc., Status of NOCs in appraisal report shows that all the stakeholder departments have issued conditional NOCs in favour of the project.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 19th meeting held on to 17-11-2020 during which the JKEAC observed that the block qualifies for grant of ToRs.
- b) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, Env. Clearance processing fee/ PCCs Consent fee etc. and therefore needs to be revised.
- c) EMP needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested/recommended by the JKEAC.
- d) The compliance to specific TOR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report.
- e) The conditions of NOC of stakeholder department need to be adhered to in letter and spirit.
- 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 Department.

- g) Bulk density of 2.3 in mining plan not agreed by the Committee and therefore, in absence of actual measurements, a nominal Bulk density of 2.0 be adopted.
- h) Since the dry shoals are across the water channel so the Committee desired that crossing of channel be minimal and wherever required under compelling reasons, the PP should lay Hume Pipes of appropriate specifications for transportation of mineral across the channel.

#### **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 grant of Environmental Clearance subject to: -

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Revision of the mining plan and its approval by the competent authority.
- c) Revision of EMP Budget as suggested/recommended by the JKEAC.
- d) Compliance of specific TOR condition relating to photographs of display screen displaying the date of collection of data missing in EIA report prior to grant of EC.
- e) Mining depth of max.1m in aggregate in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- f) Maximum targeted mineral production of 114200 MT.
- g) Minimal crossing and avoiding disturbance to the channel course. The PP should lay Hume Pipes for transportation of mineral across the channel wherever required under compelling reasons.
- h) 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.
- i) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- 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 in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

#### **Decision of JKEIAA:**

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

- a) Revalidation of Lol by the Geology and Mining Department.
- b) Full compliance of Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- c) The MDLTF Cell headed by the concerned Dy. Commissioner submits 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.
- d) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its approval by the competent authority within three months of Grant of EC.

- e) Revision of EIA and EMP budget as recommended by JKEAC.
- a) Mining depth of max.1m in aggregate with maximum targeted mineral production of 114200 MT, in view of non-availability of replenishment data in the DSRs formulated by the G&M Dept.
- b) 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.
- f) 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.
- g) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- h) Minimal crossing and avoiding disturbance to the channel course. The PP should lay Hume Pipes for transportation of mineral across the channel wherever required under compelling reasons.
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- 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 JKPC 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/VI/2768-72

Dated:18/10/2021

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