

**MINUTES OF THE 24th MEETING OF STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY HELD ON 20.04.2022 AT 11.00 AM.
IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, DSTE, PUDUCHERRY**

The following were present in the meeting:

1. Prof. G. Srinivasan, Chairman, SEIAA, Puducherry
2. Mrs. Smitha. R, IAS, Member Secretary, SEIAA, Puducherry

Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the 23rd meeting of SEIAA convened on 06.08.2021:

The Authority confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2: Examination of Project proposals under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments for onward appraisal to the SEIAA for further examination to consider issue of Environmental Clearance (EC):

1. Proposal for Terms of Reference (TOR) submitted by M/s. Swathi Organics & Specialities Private Ltd, Puducherry for proposed Polymerization Plant within the existing facility

The Authority noted that the project proponent had submitted the application for TOR in the Parivesh web portal on 03.02.2022 for establishing a polymerization plant within the existing industry. TOR was automatically granted in the portal on 12.02.2022. The case was appraised in the 29th SEAC meeting held on 15 and 16th February 2022 and SEAC had recommended following additional TORs for conducting EIA studies and applying for Environmental Clearance:

- i) The name of the product shall be clearly mentioned as “Acrylic polymers (Emulsion and Solution)”.
- ii) Measures for harnessing solar power within the premises of the plant particularly at available roof tops and other available areas shall be formulated.
- iii) The unit shall provide sewage treatment plant of adequate capacity and the treated water shall be utilized for gardening.
- iv) Details of appropriate instrumentation for process control.



- v) Adequate training to be provided to the workers / employees on process safety, fire fighting measures and handling of hazardous chemicals. Details of training required and PPEs to be provided shall be mentioned in the EIA/EMP.
- vi) Rainwater harvesting structures to be designed and implemented as per standard norms.
- vii) All permissions, authorizations and consents submitted as supporting documents shall have due validity period.
- viii) 1% of the project cost shall be allocated for environment conservation and community welfare measures as per the MoEFCC OM dated 30.09.2020 superseding the OM dated 01.05.2018 regarding the Corporate Environmental Responsibility, Details of activities to be undertaken and timelines shall be mentioned in the EMP.

After due deliberation, Authority accepted the recommendations of SEAC and decided to issue additional TORs recommended by SEAC.

2. Proposal for Terms of Reference (TOR) submitted by Ramachandra Educational Trust, Puducherry for proposed expansion of M/s. Sri Venkateshwara Medical College Hospital and Research Centre (SVMCH&RC) under violation

The Authority noted that the project proponent had submitted the application for TOR in the Parivesh web portal on 31.12.2021 for construction of additional buildings in the existing Medical College premises. TOR was automatically granted in the portal on 11.01.2022. The case was appraised in the 29th SEAC meeting held on 15 and 16th February 2022 and SEAC had observed that this is a violation case of the EIA Notification, 2006. The construction of additional buildings are already being carried out within the existing campus of the project proponent. As this is not a green field project, the environment impacts would be minimal. MOEFCC has published SOP for regularization of violation projects that are otherwise permissible under EIA Notification, vide Office Memorandum dated 07th July 2021. This OM is presently stayed by the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of High Court of Madras vide Order dated 15.07.2021 in W.P. (MD) No. 11757 of 2021 titled Fatima Vs. Union of India. In view of the above, the SEAC decided to keep the application of the project proponent under abeyance until further directions.



After due deliberation, the Authority accepted the recommendations of SEAC to keep the application under abeyance until further orders are passed by Hon'ble Madurai Bench of High Court of Madras in the Writ Petition.

3. Proposal for Environmental Clearance (EC) submitted by M/s. Solara Active Pharma Sciences Limited, Puducherry for proposed change in Product Mix without increase In Total Production Capacity (4812 TPA)

The Authority noted that the project proponent had submitted the application for Environmental Clearance in the Parivesh web portal on 31.12.2021 for change in product mix of API without increase in total production quantity. The case was examined by SEAC in the 29th SEAC meeting held on 15 and 16th February 2022 and SEAC has recommended the case for issue of Environmental Clearance stipulating the specific conditions as stated below, along with standard EC conditions prescribed by MoEFCC for Pharmaceutical / Chemical Industry sector:

- i) This clearance is issued under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2016. All other statutory clearances as applicable to the project shall be obtained by the project proponent from the concerned competent authority including the Consent to Establish and Operate for change in product mix from the Puducherry Pollution Control Committee (PPCC).
- ii) The pollution and control measures with regard to waste water treatment and disposal, air and noise pollution control measures, hazardous waste and solid waste management and all risk mitigation measures shall be strictly implemented as per the Environmental Management Plan submitted by the project proponent and in consonance with existing rules and regulations.
- iii) There shall be no additional water requirement or waste water generation from the process.
- iv) No additional land shall be used /acquired for any activity of the project without obtaining proper permission. *



- v) Environment and Safety Audit shall be carried out in different operating zones of the plant at least once in a year and the adequacy of environmental safeguards and plant / occupational safety shall be reviewed and necessary corrective measures shall be taken.
- vi) The proponent shall continuously monitor ambient VOC levels around the plant and implement necessary VOC control measures.
- vii) Fugitive emissions shall be controlled at 99.98% with effective chillers. VOCs shall be controlled at 99.997% with effective chillers / modern technology.
- viii) The unit shall ensure Zero Liquid Discharge from the plant.
- ix) All the ETP Tanks shall be above the ground level to avoid any ground water contamination. Waste water shall not be stored in underground sumps / tanks.
- x) The project proponent shall carry out regular monitoring of the ground water level and quality in and around the industry by establishing network of monitoring wells. Quarterly monitoring of water quality and water level shall be carried out through NABL accredited laboratory covering all seasons and reports shall be submitted to PPCC.
- xi) Organic Waste Converter shall be installed for converting organic waste into manure and the manure shall be used for gardening.
- xii) The industry shall carry out energy audit through accredited agencies and take appropriate actions for energy conservation.
- xiii) The project proponent has allocated 8.42 acres of land (34.65%) for green belt development. This area shall not be diverted for other use. Stratified green belt with tall trees and shrubs beneath should be developed and maintained properly to serve as effective sink for air pollutants.
- xiv) A separate Environment Management Cell (having qualified persons with Environmental Science / Engineering / Management specializations) equipped with full-fledged



laboratory facilities shall be set up to carry out the Environmental Management and Monitoring functions.

- xv) As per the MoEFCC OM dated 30.09.2020 superseding the OM dated 01.05.2018 regarding the Corporate Environmental Responsibility, the project proponent shall allocate an amount of Rs. 1.58 Crores towards environment conservation and community welfare activities, which shall be utilized over a period of three years. The said amount shall be utilized for activities like infrastructure creation for drinking water supply, sanitation, health, education, skill development, roads, cross drains, electrification including solar power, solid waste management facilities, scientific support and awareness to local farmers to increase yield of crop and fodder, rain water harvesting, soil moisture conservation works, avenue plantation, plantation in community areas, etc. within the project area. The Project Proponent shall prepare a separate project report on the proposed environment conservation and community welfare activities in consultation with the District Collector and copy of the report shall be submitted to the District Collector, SEIAA, PPCC and Regional Office of MoEFCC. The activities shall be implemented in a time bound manner in consultation with the District Collector. The project progress report shall be submitted to the SEIAA, PPCC and Regional Office of MoEFCC as a part of the half yearly compliance report. The above fund allocated towards environment conservation support activities is to be in addition to the cost envisaged under the CSR budget of the company which will be allocated as per the rules prescribed by the Government of India / Companies Act 2013.

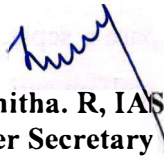
The Authority noted that all Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) proposals have been recategorized under 'B2' Category vide amendments dated 27.03.2020, 15.10.2020 & 16.07.2021 in the EIA Notification, 2006. MoEFCC has notified these amendments to expedite the prior Environmental Clearances to the projects or activities in respect of bulk drugs and intermediates, as a part of comprehensive and robust system to handle the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19) outbreak by ensuring drug availability or production to reduce the impact of the Novel Corona Virus (COVID-19).

The Authority noted that the SEAC had appraised the proposal based on Form I, Pre-Feasibility Report and additional documents submitted by the proponent in the Parivesh Portal and the filed inspection. The project proponent is not required to prepare and submit



detail Environment Impact Assessment report by virtue of the MoEFCC Notification re-categorizing API units under B2 Category in the wake of COVID pandemic. The Authority noted that Puducherry Pollution Control Committee is carrying out Environment Audit of the industry through expert institution. Hence, PPCC shall exercise due diligence before issuing Consent to Establish.

After due deliberation, Authority decided to issue Environmental Clearance stipulating the specific conditions recommended by SEAC along with standard EC conditions prescribed by MoEFCC for Pharmaceutical / Chemical Industry sector.


(Mrs. Smitha. R, IAS)
Member Secretary


(Prof. G. Srinivasan)
Chairman