



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 MEETING**

In pursuance to the Minutes of the 72<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the JK Expert Appraisal Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 through video Conferencing issued vide No. EAC/JK/21/11086-11098 dated 20-11-2021, the 67<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the JK Environment Impact Assessment Authority was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 at 1100 Hrs. through video conferencing:

The following members 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<br>Director, EE&RS, J&K | Member-Secretary, JKEIAA |

The following agenda items will be discussed in the meeting:-

**Agenda Item No.01.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Amit Gupta S/o Shri Ashok Kumar Gupta R/o- 21/06, Trikuta Nagar, JK UT for RBM (River Bed Mineral) Minor Mineral Block Mining Project, Block-1/4 Nowshera Tawi River, Down Stream Muradpur Bridge (Kallar Area) Rajouri, JK UT (Plan-IV). (Reduced area 3.00 Ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61170/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category (Cluster situation) for RBM (River Bed Mineral) Minor Mineral Block Mining Project, Block-1/4 Nowshera Tawi River, Down Stream Muradpur Bridge (Kallar Area) Rajouri, JK UT (Plan-IV). (Reduced area 3.00 Ha.) LOI has been issued on 12-11-2020, which was later extended on 21-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 16-02--2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 24-04-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 14-05-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 27-09-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 18-06-2021.

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 issued NOCs (conditionally) in favour of the project.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- The project had earlier been discussed during 38<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 24.04.2021 during which the Committee recommended ToRs in favour of the project subject

- to condition that the active water channel is excluded from the mining block and joint inspection by the interdepartmental committee to fix responsibility for illegal mining in the mining block.
- b) The PP has got the block resized from 9.58 Ha to 3.00 Ha from the Geology & Mining Dept. vide letter dated 18/06/2021 while excluding the active water channel. The G&M Dept. has intimated that the block forms cluster with another block, therefore to be considered under B1 category.
  - c) The Committee observed illegal mining activity on the Google Image. However, the PP has obtained clarification from the Multi Departmental District Level (MDLTF) cell, stating that the PP is not involved in any kind of illegal mining activity in the said mining block. Therefore, the case was treated under non-violation category.
  - d) The general concerns raised by the public during public hearing process especially w.r.t protection of local religious assets need to be addressed by the PP.
  - e) While examining the haulage route proposed along the river course to join the existing road, it was desired that the PP must take adequate care to ensure that the river bank does not get adversely affected.
  - f) Compliance to ToR Condition relating to photograph of display screen showing dates of data collection not submitted in the EIA report and the same need to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
  - g) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised.
  - h) EMP budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column.
  - i) Revision of the mining plan with revised area, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC.
  - j) Mining depth and bulk density to be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 1.86 as provided in the approved mining plan.

**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) 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) Revision of mining plan as detailed above.
- d) Compliance to ToR condition relating to the photographs of display screen as detailed above, prior to grant of EC.
- e) 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.
- f) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.\

- g) Maximum targeted mineral production of 36000 MT.
- h) Condition the geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- 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 JKEIAA upheld recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) Submission of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- d) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 1.86 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 36000 MT.
- e) 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) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC prior to grant of 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.\
- i) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- j) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.
- 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.02.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of ShriAmit Gupta S/O Shri Ashok Kumar Gupta R/O - 21/06, Trikuta Nagar, JK UT for RBM (River Bed Mineral) Minor Mineral Block Mining Project, Block-1/7Area 9.12ha. Ans River, Downstream Kotranka Brtdge (Kotranka Area), Rajouri (Plan-II) In District Rajouri JK UT under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61173/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for RBM (River Bed Mineral) Minor Mineral Block Mining Project, Block-1 Ans River, Downstream Kotranka Bridge (Kotranka Area), Rajouri (Plan-II) Area 9.12ha.) LOI has been issued on 06-08-2020, which was later extended on 21-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 16-02--2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 24-04-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 14-05-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 27-09-2021. 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 appraisal report shows that stakeholder departments have issued NOCs (conditionally) in favour of the project. Fisheries Dept. has reported that the mining block falls under reserved Trout beat. During Public Hearing the people have questioned the title of the land and have stated that block falls under Khasra No. 967 which is Kacharai land.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 38th meeting held on 24.04.2021 during which the Committee recommended ToRs in favour of the project subject to joint inspection by the interdepartmental committee to fix responsibility for illegal mining in the mining block.
- b) The PP has obtained clarification from the Multi Departmental District Level Task Force (MDLTF) cell, stating that the PP is not involved in any kind of illegal mining activity in the said mining block.
- c) It was observed that the locals during public hearing process have agitated against the mining activity in the area and have even questioned the title of the land. They have reported that the block falls under Khasra No. 967 Kaicharai land. However, the concerned district authority has reported the land, as state land.
- d) As per NOC issued by the Fisheries Dept. the Block 1/7 Kotranka area falls under Reserved Trout Beat and the RBM extraction from the block may affect the trout fish fauna. The PP needs to obtain a categorical certificate stating whether the mining activity should or should not be allowed in the block to safeguard fish faunal habitat.
- e) Perusal of Public Hearing Record indicates that general mood amongst the local inhabitants is not in favour of mining activity in the area as they perceive it detrimental to the environment in their area. The consultant also could not allay the public concerns/fears as expressed during the public hearing and suggest any mitigation measures.
- f) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform reveals features that are suggestive of irrigation off-take point in the mining block & in its vicinity. 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 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.
- h) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the dates of collection of data is 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) EMP/CER budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column.
  - k) 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.
  - l) Mining depth of 2.5 m adopted in the instant mining plan not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 1.86 only be adopted for calculating the production targets.

**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 for grant of EC in the present form.
- b) The PP, if he so desires, may again approach the JKEIAA after ensuring compliance to the observations made by the Committee herein above.

**Decisions of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC not to approve the case in the present form. The project proponent may again approach the JKEIAA after ensuring compliance to the observations made by the Committee here-in-above.

**Agenda Item No.03.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Singh Minerals R/O Near Kali Mata Mandir, Pathankot, Punjab for Minor Mineral in Block No.17, ANS River Upstream Narloo Bridge, District - Reasi, JK UT(Resized area 5.16ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61541/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Minor Mineral in Block No.17, ANS River Upstream Narloo Bridge, District - Reasi, JK UT(Resized area 5.16ha.)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 14-01-2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 23-04-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 08-05-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 18-09-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 23-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs (conditionally) in favour of the project. However, the Revenue Department has not issued the NOC as yet.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22.04.2021 during which the Committee recommended ToRs in favour of the project subject to revision of the mining plan of the block after excluding the active water channel.
- b) The PP has got the mining block resized from 8.85 Ha to 5.16 Ha by the G&M Dept. vide letter dated 23/10/2021 while excluding the active water channel from the mining block.
- c) The Committee observed that by resizing the mining block, the PP proposes to limit the mining activity to the Southern dry shoal area only but, he has not re-planned the haulage route as it is still traversing the permanent active water channel. Therefore, the PP was asked to propose a fresh haulage route on the opposite side of the proposed one without crossing water channel, in consultation with the local PRI and to submit revised version of the EIA document, prior to grant of EC.
- d) Title verification of the mining block is awaited from the PP which needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
- e) The general concerns raised by the public during public hearing process need to be addressed by the PP.
- f) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the dates of collection of data is missing in EIA report which needs to be submitted, prior to grant of EC.
- g) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised.
- h) EMP/CER budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column.
- i) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised area, surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority prior to grant of EC.
- j) Mining depth of 2.5 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets in absence of actual field 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) 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) Title verification of the mining block, prior to grant of EC.

- d) Submission of revised EIA document with alternative haulage route in consultation with local PRI as detailed above, prior to grant of EC.
- e) Compliance to Specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen as detailed here-in-above, prior to grant of EC.
- f) Revision of mining plan as detailed above.
- 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 61900 MT.
- j) Condition the geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed 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.

**Decisions of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) The Geology and Mining Department shall verify the title of land before signing the lease with PP.
- d) Submission of revised EIA document with alternative haulage route in consultation with local PRI as detailed above, prior to grant of EC.
- e) Compliance to Specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen as detailed here-in-above, prior to grant of EC.
- f) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- g) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 61900 MT.
- h) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC 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) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- l) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given

in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.

- 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.04.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of Shri Karanvir Singh S/O Surinder Singh R/o 01 Lane 3 Sheed Udham Singh Nagar, Pathankot, Punjab for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.10, ANS River Downstream Narloo Bridge, District-Reasi (Plan-I), JK UT (Resized area 4.86ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/61099/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.10, ANS River Downstream Narloo Bridge, District-Reasi (Plan-I), JK UT (Resized area 4.86ha.) LOI has been issued on 27-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 14-01-2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 20-03-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 01-04-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 18-09-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 23-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs (conditionally) in favour of the project. However, the Revenue Department has not issued the NOC as yet.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 30th meeting held on 20.03.2021 during which the Committee recommended ToRs in favour of the project subject to revision of the project cost after excluding the active water channel or exploring possibility of relocating the mining block southwards to avoid active water channel.
- b) The PP has got the mining block resized from 6.28 Ha to 4.86 Ha by the G&M Dept. vide letter dated 23/10/21 while excluding the water creek passing through the mining block. However, the Committee observed that the PP has not re-planned the haulage routes appropriately as the one proposed is still traversing the permanent active water channel. Therefore, the Committee opined that in order to avoid adverse impact on the aquatic ecology of the water channel, the PP should plan separate haulage routes for the northern and southern shoals in consultation with the local PRI, and submit revised EIA document with alternative routes for extraction of the material, prior to grant of EC.
- c) Title verification of the mining block is awaited from the PP which needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
- d) Committee observed green vegetation in the Southern shoal that needs protection during mining activity.
- e) Illegal mining activity detected in the mining block as per features on Google image of Dec, 2020 which needs clarification from the Multi Dept. District level



- Task Force (MDLTF) Cell to fix responsibility for the illegal mining and to report whether the PP is involved in it or not. In case the PP is found to be involved in it, the process for grant of EC shall be liable to be withdrawn.
- f) The general concerns raised by the public during public hearing process need to be addressed by the PP.
  - g) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the dates 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.
  - i) EMP/CER 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, revised area, 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 2.5 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets in absence of actual field 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) 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) Title verification of the mining block prior to grant of EC.
- d) Securing of 'Non-involvement of PP in illegal mining' certificate from the MDLTF Cell prior to grant of EC.
- e) Submission of an undertaking duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate 1st class to the effect that the PP shall take utmost care to protect the existing vegetation in the block.
- f) Compliance to Specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen as detailed herein above, prior to grant of EC.
- g) Submission of revised EIA document with separate alternative haulage routes for northern and southern shoals, prior to grant of formal EC.
- h) Revision of mining plan as detailed above.
- 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 58300 MT.

- l) Condition the geographical coordinates as per revised area to be conveyed by G&M Dept. are mentioned in the EC letter by JKEIAA.
- 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.

**Decisions of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) The Geology and Mining Department shall verify the title of land before signing the lease with PP
- 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) Submission of an undertaking duly attested by the Judicial Magistrate 1st class to the effect that the PP shall take utmost care to protect the existing vegetation in the block.
- f) 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.
- g) Submission of revised EIA document with separate alternative haulage routes for northern and southern shoals, prior to grant of formal EC.
- h) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- i) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 58300 MT.
- j) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC prior to grant of EC.
- k) 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.
- l) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- m) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- n) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.

- o) 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 ShriKesri Nandan Mines at Logate Tehsil & District Kathua, JK UT for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.15, ANS River Downstream Narloo Bridge, District-Reasi JK UT (Plan-VI), Area 9.08ha. under proposal No. SIA/JK/MIN/61101/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.15, ANS River Downstream Narloo Bridge, District-Reasi JK UT (Plan-VI), Area 9.08ha. LOI has been issued on 27-07-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 14-01-2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 20-03-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 01-04-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 18-09-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 23-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project. However, the Revenue Department has not issued the NOC as yet.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The project had earlier been discussed during 30th meeting held on 20.03.2021 during which the Committee recommended ToRs in favour of the project subject to revision of the project cost and after excluding the active water channel. However, the Committee observed that the PP has not submitted compliance w.r.t exclusion of active water channel.
- b) Title verification of the mining block is awaited from the PP which needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
- c) The general concerns raised by the public during public hearing process need to be addressed by the PP.
- d) The transportation of mineral should not cause any adverse impact on the active water channel. Therefore, the Committee has desired that the PP should lay adequate number of Hume pipes of appropriate specifications to cross the water creek.
- e) The compliance to specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen of Air Quality Monitoring Station displaying the dates of collection of data is missing in EIA report which needs to be submitted prior to grant of EC.
- f) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP, CER and therefore needs to be revised.
- g) EMP/CER budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column.
- h) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised area, 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.

- i) Mining depth of 2.5 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets in absence of actual field 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) 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) Title verification of the mining block, prior to grant of EC.
- d) Compliance to Specific ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen as detailed here-in-above, prior to grant of EC.
- e) Revision of mining plan as detailed above.
- 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 108900 MT.
- i) Condition the geographical coordinates as per LOI 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 in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

#### **Decisions of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, The JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) The Geology and Mining Department shall verify the title of land before signing the lease with PP
- d) 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.
- e) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.

- f) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 108900 MT.
- g) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC prior to grant of EC.
- h) 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.
- i) No JCBs/ Excavators/ Bulldozers to be used in mining and no water course to be disturbed while transporting minor minerals.
- j) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- k) PP should lay the adequate number of hume-pipes of appropriate specification to cross the water creek.
- l) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.
- 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 M/S Sai Mines R/O Tehsil - Logate, District- Kathua, JK UT for Minor Mineral in Block No 20, ANG/VE/20 Y.K. Pora to Kuchpora Downstream Vethvethri Nallah, District- Anantnag, JK UT, Area 7.38ha. (Reduced area 1.95ha.). under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/234931/2021 & SIA/JK/MIN/63369/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B2 category for Minor Mineral in Block No 20, ANG/VE/20 Y.K Pora to Kuchpora Downstream Vethvethri Nallah, District- Anantnag, JK UT, Area 7.38ha. (Reduced area 1.95ha.). 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 26-04-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by Geology & Mining Department on 13-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project. However, the Revenue Department has not issued the NOC as yet.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) As per the mining plan, the original area of the mining block is 7.38 Ha. However, the project proponent has got the mining block resized from 7.38 Ha to 1.95 Ha vide letter dated 13/10/2021 from the Joint Director, G&M Dept., Kashmir.
- b) The resized mining block is still located at a distance of approx.385m from the bridge upstream, as observed on the Google image. Besides, the Committee while

- examining the mining block on Google Earth image also found a green patch within the mining block from Pillar-k & J and an active water channel.
- c) Further, the Committee while observing the mining block on the Google Earth image found heavy illegal mining in and around the mining block on the latest available image of 11/2020. Therefore, a clarification from MDLTF Cell to fix responsibility for the illegal mining is required for appropriate action by G&M Dept.
  - d) The Committee further observed that by resizing the block after maintaining a safe distance from the bridge and excluding the active water channel and the green patch, the resultant area of the dry shoals remains approx. 0.60 Ha. The Committee, as such, is of the opinion that the mining activity in such a small area would not be economically and ecologically viable and is likely to open door for illegal extraction under the garb of a valid EC.
  - e) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform revealed features that are suggestive of few irrigation off-take points in the vicinity of the mining block which have not been brought in the notice of the Committee by the consultant in the presentation.

#### **Recommendations of the JKEAC:**

In view of the above deliberations/observations made by the Committee herein above, the Expert Appraisal Committee did not agree to approve the case for grant of EC.

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

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA in view of deliberations/observations made by the Committee here-in-above, rejected the case for grant of Environment clearance.

#### **Agenda Item No.07**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Kesri Nandan Mines At Logate Tehsil & District Kathua, JK UT for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.18, Mendhar River Upstream Chajjla Bridge Part-II, District-Poonch, JK UT Area 7.00ha. under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/59682/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No.18, Mendhar River Upstream Chajjla Bridge Part-II, District-Poonch, JK UT Area 7.00ha. 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 10-03-2021. The Terms of Reference to the project were issued on 25-03-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 03-07-2021.

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 issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project. However, the Revenue Department has not issued the NOC as yet. The NOC of Jalshakti department mentions that a dug-well is located 80mtrs away in south direction.

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

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 10/03/2021 during which the Committee recommended the project for ToRs subject to title verification from the Competent Authority. However, the title verification has not been submitted and the Committee expressed its displeasure at non-compliance of the ToR condition.
- b) The examination of mining block on Google Earth platform revealed features that are suggestive of irrigation off-take points in the close vicinity of the mining block, but the requisite information was neither reflected in the documentation nor reported during the presentation, thereby raising questions on the intention of the consultant.
- c) The Committee also observed a dug well at a distance of 80m from the mining block boundary on the Google image of the area. The PHE dept. while granting NOC, has indicated that the mining activity should not cause any damage to the same. It was further observed that the proposed haulage route is passing near the dug well site and this may affect the quality of water due to dust emission etc. The Committee felt that NOC from the owners of the dug well and the local inhabitants in regard to their consent of haulage route will be pre-requisite to proceed with the appraisal process.
- d) Project cost has been underestimated by the consultant as it does not include cost of EMP and CER and therefore, needs to be revised.
- e) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, revised surface plan, targeted mineral production and replenishment and its denovo approval by the competent authority.
- f) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget.
- g) 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.
- h) Mining depth of 3 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets 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 did not agree to recommend the case.

- a) However, the PP, if he so desires, may approach the JKEIAA office for reconsideration of the case after obtaining categorical NOC from the Irrigation Dept. / PRI to the effect that the proposed mining activity will not interfere / degrade the existing availability /quality of water.
- b) The PP will also submit an undertaking to the effect that the cost of any mitigation measures required to enable a disciplined and controlled mining that will not tell upon the irrigation facilities, would be borne by him.

### **Decisions of JKEIAA:**

- a) After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC not to approve the case in the present form. However, the project proponent, may approach the JKEIAA for reconsideration of the case after obtaining categorical NOC from the Irrigation Dept and PHE Dept along with mitigation measures for disciplined and controlled mining that will not tell upon the dug-well as well as the irrigation facility
- b) Besides, NOC shall also mention that there is no irrigation related structure/ headworks/ take off point in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained and mining activity will not interfere/degrade the existing availability/quality of water
- c) NOC from the owners of the dug well and the local inhabitants in regard to their consent of haulage route to be obtained by the PP for appraisal process.
- d) The project proponent shall also submit an undertaking to the effect that the cost of any mitigation measures for protection of the dug wells and irrigation facilities as prescribed by the stakeholder department would be borne by him.

### **Agenda Item No.08.**

**Grant of Environment Clearance in favour of M/S Singh Minerals R/O Near Kali Mata Mandir, Pathankot, Punjab, for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No. 3/6, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream (Nowshera Jabba) Bridge (Bhaganoti area) Rajouri, JK UT (Part-VI), (Area resized 5.37ha) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/63073/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No. 3/6, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream (Nowshera Jabba) Bridge (Bhaganoti area) Rajouri, JK UT (Part-VI), (Area resized 5.37ha) LOI has been issued on 07-11-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 16-02-2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 14-06-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 13-07-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 12-10-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 27-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project. However, NOC from Revenue Department is still awaited.

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

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 14/06/2021 during which the Committee recommended the project for ToRs subject to resizing/relocating the mining block, revision of mining plan and report for fixing responsibility for illegal mining in and around the mining block.



- b) The PP has only got the mining block resized from 9.32 Ha to 5.37 Ha after excluding the active water channel. However, the other two compliances relating to revision of mining plan and the report on illegal mining has not been made for which the Committee expressed its displeasure.
- c) Illegal mining also observed in the mining block and its vicinity on the latest Google image of 5/2021 which demands report from the Multi Dept. District Level Task Force Cell to the effect that the PP is not involved in it, prior to grant of EC. In case it is reported that the PP has been involved in such illegal mining, the EC so processed shall be liable to be withdrawn.
- d) Since, the public hearing report indicates that the locals have asked the PP to construct a new approach road in consultation with local people, the Committee also desired that the PP should identify an alternative haulage route and ensure it does not cause any damage to the nearby dug well and agricultural land. The consultant informed that an alternative route has been proposed now away from the dug well side and the village. The Committee desired that the same be submitted in revised EIA report, prior to grant of 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.
- g) EMP Budget needs to be revised with appropriate budget as suggested in the remark's column of EMP table above.
- h) 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.
- i) Mining depth of 3 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets 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) 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) Securing of "Non-involvement in illegal mining" certificate from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell, prior to grant of formal EC.
- d) Submission of revised EIA report with revised haulage route and compliance of ToR condition relating to the photographs of display screen as detailed herein above, prior to grant of EC.

- e) Submission of a specific NOC w.r.t safety of dug wells in the close vicinity as detailed herein above, prior to grant of EC.
- f) Maximum targeted mineral production of 64400 MT.
- 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) Condition the revised geographical coordinates as per revised 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 in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

**Decision of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) 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.
- d) Submission of revised EIA report with revised haulage route in consultation with locals ensuring that it doesn't cause any damage to nearby dug well as well as agricultural land.
- e) 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) Submission of a specific NOC w.r.t safety of dug wells in the close vicinity as detailed herein above, prior to grant of EC.
- g) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- h) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 64400 MT.
- i) Revision of EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC prior to grant of EC.
- 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) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.

- m) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.
- n) 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 M/S Sai Mines R/O Tehsil-Logate, District - Kathua, JK UT for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No 2/5, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream Muradpur Bridge (Narina area) Rajouri, JK UT(Part-X), (Area resized 7.88ha.) under proposal No.SIA/JK/MIN/63064/2021.**

**Brief Summary:** This case pertains to grant of Environment Clearance under B1 category for Riverbed Mining Project of Minor Mineral in Block No 2/5, Nowshera Tawi River Downstream Muradpur Bridge (Narina area) Rajouri, JK UT(Part-X), (Area resized 7.88ha.) LOI has been issued on 05-10-2020, which was later extended on 18-09-2021 and is valid up to 30-11-2021. Mining plan has been approved on 16-02-2021. The case was earlier discussed by the JKEAC on 14-06-2021. The Terms of Reference were issued to the project on 13-07-2021 and public hearing of the project was conducted on 09-08-2021. The area of the project has been reduced by the Geology & Mining Department on 27-10-2021.

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 issued NOCs(conditionally) in favour of the project.

**Deliberations/specific observations of JKEAC:**

- a) The case had been discussed by the Expert Appraisal Committee earlier during the 45<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 14/06/2021 during which the Committee recommended the project for ToRs subject to submission of specific NOCs from stake holder depts., exclusion of active water channel by resizing the block, alternative haulage route that does not traverse through the active water channel and illegal mining report to fix responsibility for illegal mining in the block.
- b) The PP has got the mining block area resized to 7.88 Ha against its original size of 9.40 Ha. by excluding the active water channel.
- c) Haulage route proposed by the PP crosses the main channel of the river that would require repeated crossing of active water channel or in the alternative to construct a full-fledged bridge which may also get washed down during floods and cause obstruction of flow thereby leading to inundation of the lands along the banks. The proposed haulage route therefore cannot be allowed and the PP ought to come out with an alternative haulage route on the right side opposite to the proposed one with due consultation with local land owners/stakeholders, prior to grant of EC.

- d) The NOC obtained by the PP from stake holders depts. is on a generalized format without specifying the location of their dept. assets vis-a vis the mining block boundary.
- e) Illegal mining observed in the mining block and its vicinity which demands report from the Muti dept. District Level Task Force Cell to the effect that the PP is not involved in it, prior to grant of EC. In case it is reported that the PP is involved in illegal mining, the case for EC under process shall be liable to be withdrawn.
- f) The title verification of the block though not submitted in the documentation, was however, presented by the consultant during deliberations and he was asked to email it prior to grant of 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 committee desired that the genuine issues raised during public hearing by the locals should be addressed by the PP as agreed during the public hearing.
- i) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, 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 table above.
- 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 3 m & bulk density of 2.25 adopted in the instant mining plan were not agreed by the committee. Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 only be adopted for calculating the production targets 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) 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 a revised EIA document providing alternative haulage route and compliance to ToR condition relating to photographs of display screen as detailed above under deliberations, prior to grant of EC.
- d) Securing of "Non-involvement in illegal mining" certificate from the Multi Dept. District level Task Force (MDLTF) Cell, prior to grant of formal EC.
- e) Maximum targeted mineral production of 94,500 MT.
- f) The mining depth of max.1m shall be maintained strictly leaving the traditionally used path as un-mined corridor' of adequate width across the nallah for safe passage to the villagers, in consultation with the local PRI.

- 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) Condition the revised geographical coordinates as per revised 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 in view of non-availability of replenishment data.

**Decision of JKEIAA:**

After due deliberations, the JKEIAA upheld the recommendations of the JKEAC to grant Environment clearance to the project subject to:-

- a) Standard and Specific Conditions as per Annexure B to the Minutes of JKEAC Meeting.
- b) of compliance to the observations made by JKEAC during deliberations herein above prior to grant of EC.
- c) Submission of a revised EIA document providing alternative haulage route on the right side opposite to the proposed one in consultation with locals prior to grant of EC.
- 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) 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) Revision of the mining plan with mine closure plan, revised mining depth, surface plan, and its approval by the competent authority within a period of three months from the date of issuance of E.C.
- g) Mining depth be restricted to max. 1m in aggregate and bulk density of 2.0 be adopted for calculating mineral production subject to maximum production of 94,500 MT.
- h) Revision of EIA, EMP/CER Budget as suggested by JKEAC prior to grant of EC.
- i) The mining depth of max.1m shall be maintained strictly leaving the traditionally used path as un-mined corridor' of adequate width across the nallah for safe passage to the villagers, in consultation with the local PRI.
- 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) While issuing EC, Member Secretary shall specifically mention revised geographical coordinates for revised area conveyed by G&M Dept.
- m) To ensure protection of Infrastructure in vicinity of mining block, minimum distance guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given

in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure, shall be maintained.

- n) 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. 10**

**Discussion on Original Application No. 301/2021 Joginder Bhandari Versus Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir regarding unscientific muck dumping in Arzi Nallah by AFCONS Infrastructure Limited at Pakal Dul Hydroelectric Project in District Kishtwar, J&K, resulting in damage to the environment.**

**Deliberations:** JKEIAA discussed the case wherein one Sh. Joginder Bhandari has filed an email compliant to NGT regarding excavated muck being dumped in the Arzi Nallah by AFCONS Infrastructure Limited of Pakal Dhul Hydroelectric Project and has desired that Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) to impose penalty of Rs. 2 Cr on AFCONS company for illegally dumping boulders/debris and also damaging the trees in Arzi Nallah, Kishtwar which as per complainant are in sheer violation of National Green Tribunal (NGT) directives. He has also alleged the company for avoiding to dump debris at the identified sites away from the construction sites. He has further alleged that this illegal activity has made the life of people of Arzi village horrible as the level of water pollution is increasing in the river, moreover silt is being created in River which would cause damages to the Dul Hasti Power station.

In this regard, Hon'ble NGT in its order passed on November 11, 2021 has directed J&KPCC, J&KSEIAA and the District Magistrate, Kishtwar to verify the facts and take remedial action in accordance with law. An action taken report may be filed within two months by e-mail at [judicial-ngt@gov.in](mailto:judicial-ngt@gov.in) preferably in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF.

#### **Decision of the Authority**

In light of directions of Hon'ble NGT, the authority decided to request JKEAC to nominate an expert member who shall visit the site along with other members as decided by Hon'ble NGT. The report may be prepared within next 2 weeks for necessary action

#### **Agenda Item No. 11**

**Discussion on NOC and Field Report issued by Executive Engineer 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, with annotations.**

**Deliberations:** JKEIAA discussed issue of NOC and Field Report issued by Executive Engineer 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, with annotations.

The case has reference to the Grant of Environment clearance for RBM (River Bed) Minor Mineral Block Mining Project, Block-1 Area:- 6.42 ha., River Suran Downstream Sher-E-Kashmir Bridge Part-1, District Poonch having reference to the Minutes of the 67th Meeting of JKEAC held on 21st October, 2021 and Minutes of the 62nd Meeting of JKEIAA held on 3rd November, 2021 wherein the project proponent among other conditions was asked to submit the **“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.

In reference to the above condition, the Executive Engineer, I&FC, Poonch Division has issued the field report-cum-NOC in favor of the project proponent, however not as per the directions/deliberations of JKEIAA/JKEAC.

The concerned Executive Engineer has stated that “it was found that the proposed site of Block Part 1<sup>st</sup> Minor Mineral Block, at River Suran downstream S.K. Bridge the block is in the vicinity of old Alignment of Salotri Khul which was washed away during the flood of 2014. Water in the khul was restored partially, but yet again the khul was damaged from the same portion during the cloud burst. The present water is being provided to the farmers by means of temporary channel which is about **39m** away from the proposed mining block.”

### **Decision of the Authority**

The Authority has taken a serious note for issuing ambiguous NOC by stakeholder depts. The authority felt that the Executive Engineer ought not to have issued the NOC, when there was a khul (old) already existing in the middle of the block and water is being provided to the farmers through a temporary channel, which is within the prescribed prohibited distance. The authority further asked the Member Secretary to write to Commissioner/Secretary, Jalshakti and Forests Department to sensitize and advise the field functionaries, to avoid issuing such ambiguous and generalized NOCs. In order to avoid controversy & conflict of interest, the Authority has decided that in future Executive Engineer concerned/ stakeholder department shall issue an unambiguous NOC as per the guidelines provided under standard environmental conditions as given in Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016, particularly at S.No. 49 - Protection of Infrastructure.

**Note:** For irrigation 200 meters upstream and downstream would mean location of headworks/take-off point of canal 200 meters from the boundary of mining block. Keeping in view the topography and hilly terrain of J&K, distance of bridges from mining block shall not be less than 500m up-stream and down-stream as recommended by JKEAC in earlier cases.

The Authority is also of the considered view that once stake holder Depts, issues NOC on the basis of sand mining guidelines, involving PRI's at that stage would serve no purpose.

In view of above, JKEAC is requested to consider recommendations for issue of EC based on these parameters asking the stakeholder departments to issue NOC on the basis of prescribed distance from the mining block in terms of Sand mining guidelines. Further, participation of PRI during public hearing meetings shall be meaningful to register their apprehensions/observations in public hearing, so that these are considered by the JKEAC and mitigation measures are recommended before issue of EC.

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/4413-4430  
Copy by email to:

Dated: 25/11/2021

1. Mr. Lal Chand, IFS (Rtd.), Hon'ble Chairman, JKEIAA, for information.
2. Er. Nazir Ahmad (Rtd. Chief Engineer), Hon'ble Member, JKEIAA, for information.
3. Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Mining Department, J&K Government for favour of information.
4. Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, J&K Government, Civil Secretariat, Jammu for favour of kind information.
5. Dr. Neelu Gera, IFS PCCF/Director, EE&RS, Member Secretary, JKEIAA, for information
6. Director, Geology & Mining Department, J&K Government, Jammu for information and necessary action.
7. Deputy Commissioner, Rajouri, Reasi, Anantnag, Poonch for information.
8. Chief Engineer, PDD, Jammu/Kashmir for information and n/a.
9. Chief Engineer, Irrigation & Flood Control Department, Jammu/Srinagar for information and n/a.
10. Chief Engineer, PHE, Jal Shakti, Jammu/Srinagar for information and n/a.
11. The Secretary, JK Expert Appraisal Committee for information.
12. Website(s)

  
(Staff Officer)

to PCCF/Member Secretary JKEIAA  
Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, J&K