

F. No. IA3-22/14/2023-IA.III [E 218163]
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Impact Assessment Division)

3rd Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 28th July, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Clarification on the applicability of EIA Notification 2006 for manufacturing Green Ammonia / Green Hydrogen - reg.


The aspect regarding applicability of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) under EIA Notification 2006 for standalone Ammonia plants was referred to the Expert Committee which was constituted to streamline the EC process. After due deliberation *“the committee was of the opinion that as per the EIA Notification 2006 and amendments made thereof, standalone ammonia project/activity is not included in the schedule of the EIA notification, 2006. It may be emphasized that requirement of seeking EC is applicable only to the projects/activities listed in the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006”*.

2. Subsequently, the Ministry issued a case specific clarification dated 22.08.2019 that *“Standalone Ammonia Plants/Project may not be considered to be covered under the extant provisions of EIA Notification 2006, read with subsequent amendments, and thus not requiring prior EC for the present”*.

3. The Ministry is now in receipt of request for clarifying the applicability of EIA Notification 2006 for manufacturing Green Ammonia / Green Hydrogen. In addition, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has also requested to simplify the processes and expedite approvals needed to provide the necessary impetus to the Green Hydrogen industry. Accordingly, the matter was referred to the concerned sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for deliberation. After detailed deliberations on the manufacturing of Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia, based on the current available information the EAC has inter-alia recommended that since Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia will definitely contribute to the reduction of Carbon Footprint, EC shall not be required for the standalone Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia projects.

4. The matter has been examined in the Ministry. Based on the recommendations of the sectoral EAC, it is hereby clarified that Standalone plants producing Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia by way of electrolysis of water using Renewable Energy, shall not require prior EC under the provisions of EIA Notification 2006. However, the requisite consents under the provisions of the Air Act, 1981 and Water Act, 1974 shall be obtained, along with other statutory permissions/clearances as applicable. In case of setting up of such Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia plants within the same premise of an existing unit which other-wise require prior EC, the component of such Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia plant would require to be included through amendment in the existing EC.

5. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(Sundar Ramanathan)
Scientist 'E'

To

1. The Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs.
2. The Chairman of all the Expert Appraisal Committees
3. The Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all SPCBs/UTPCCs.
4. All the Officers of IA Division

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