

Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited

(A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise)

SBU & PC-LIGNITE, JAIPUR

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No.: RSMM/SBU(L)/VBD/F.5/Sonari/EC/2018 172 / 2 429

26.11.2018

The Member Secretary

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change IA-II Division (Coal Mining) Indira Paryavaran Bhawan JOR BAGH

NEW DELHI- 110003

Sub.: Grant of TOR for Sonari Lignite Project, Tehsil & District Barmer, Rajasthan with a capacity of 1MTPA and area of 1512.50 Ha.

Ref.: 1) Proposal No.: IA/RJ/CMIN/80982/2018

2) Your email dated 21 November 2018

Sir,

In connection with the subject matter we are in receipt of an email dated 21.11.2018 vide which it has been advised to submit justification for the proposal to be covered under modernization category.

In this regard it is humbly submitted that Sonari Lignite Mine Project is an ongoing project with Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited (RSMML) (A Government of Rajasthan Enterprise) spanning over an area of 1512.50 Ha with rated capacity of 1 MTPA of Lignite production. The Environmental Clearance for this project was accorded by MOEF vide their No. 11015/186/2006-IA.II(M) dated 17.07.2007 under section 12 of the EIA Notification, 2006.

It is further submitted that the Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board (RSPCB) took a view that the EC dated 17.07.2007 granted by MOEF is being treated as that granted under EIA Notification, 1994 and accordingly in pursuance to the MOEF&CC Notification dated 06.04.2018, prefer not to renew the Consent to Operate for the project and advised us to seek fresh EC by filling the Form I as per EIA Notification, 2006.

Although, several discussions were held with RSPCB officials as regards to applicability of the said Notification dated 06.04.2018 on the existing valid EC of Sonari Lignite Project granted under EIA Notification, 2006 and its way forward yet in absence of any significant clarifications, and in spirit of the provisions of the MOEF Notification dated 06.04.2018, RSMML filed the online Form-I on the 'Parivesh' Portal.

The application made by RSMML pursuant to Notification dated 06.04.2018 was submitted on 02.10.2018 (within the stipulated period of 6 months from the publication of the Notification dated 06.04.2018) wherein out of the three categories New/ Modernization / Expansion, 'Modernization' was applied since we are not contemplating any expansion on an ongoing project.

However considering the fact that the subject project is having a valid EC dated 17.07.2007 under section 12 of the EIA Notification,2006 and in light of the fact that RSPCB took a view that this EC would be considered as that granted under EIA Notification,1994, our application for TOR dated 02.10.2018 submitted to MOEF&CC submitted in pursuance to MOEF&CC Notification dated 06.04.2018 within the stipulated time frame, may please be treated and considered as application for re-validation of the existing EC dated 17.07.2007 issued by MOEF under section 12 of the EIA Notification,2006.

It is requested to consider our submission sympathetically.

Any inconvenience caused is deeply regretted.

Thanking You.

Yours faithfully,

(Mukesh Chaturvedi)

Group General Manager (Lignite)