

PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR EIA STUDIES: -
DIAMOND MINING PROJECT, SUPPLEMENTARY MINE LEASE (162.631 HA)

NMDC has obtained integrated Environmental clearance for Diamond Mining Project comprising of main & supplementary mine lease of 275.963 Ha from MOEF, New Delhi vide letter no J-11015/323/2005-IA.II (M) dated 13/1/2006 under EIA 1994 notification for production of 1.00 lakh carats of diamonds per annum.

MOEF&CC has issued Notification no:1530(E) dated 6/4/2018, where mining projects which have obtained Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification 1994, shall apply in Form-1 as given in Appendix-II of the EIA Notification 2006 within six months for grant of E.C under the provisions of the EIA notification 2006.

In view of the above notification dated 6/4/2018, Diamond Mining Project, Panna which got Environmental Clearance under EIA 1994 Notification is required to obtain ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE under EIA 2006 Notification.

However, the previous Environmental clearance was issued for Diamond Mining Project consisting of 2 mining leases i.e Main Mining Lease (113.332 Ha) and Supplementary Mining Lease (162.631 Ha). The Main Mining Lease (113.332 Ha) mainly consists of Diamond quarry where ROM Kimberlite ore is mined and part of over burden dumps, coarse & fine tailing dumps, mineral storage, roads, tailing pond, green belt, township & others. Whereas supplementary mining lease (162.631Ha) consists of processing plant where mineral beneficiation is being carried out for recovery of Diamonds. The area also consists of part of over burden removal, Overburden Dump, Tailing Pond, CISF Barracks, Township, etc.

Presently, MoEF&CC is issuing Environmental clearance lease wise instead of integrated E.C comprising of 2 or more leases. Therefore, the present application is for obtaining Environmental clearance for Diamond Mining Project, Supplementary Mining Lease area, 162.631 Ha, 0.72 LTPA of over burden removal and processing of 8.0 LTPA for ROM Kimberlite ore in the existing ore processing plant for recovery of 1.0 lakh carats of diamonds per annum on the following grounds.

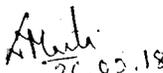
- 1) Kimberlite ore of 8.0 lakh tons of tuff will be processed in the existing ore processing plant for production of 1 lakh carats of diamonds per year in the EIA/EMP Report (July 2005) prepared for obtaining E.C for Diamond Mining Project, Panna. The kimberlite ore quarry from Main Mining Lease and the same is processed in ore processing plant situated in supplementary Mining Lease
- 2) In the E.C. letter dated 13/1/2006 issued for Panna DMP, it was mentioned that 5,600 m³/month sand stone and 22,000 m³/month OB totalling 27,600 m³/month is generated. Considering the bulk density as 2, the total waste excavation shall be 6.62 lakh tons / annum. Since, major over burden removal is to be excavated from main mine lease area i.e. about 90% of total O.B removal, the quantity of

O.B removal from mine lease area is 5.90 lakh tons per annum and balance 0.72 lakh tons from Supplementary Mining Lease area.

- 3) There is no change in the quantity of total excavation i.e ROM Kimberlite and OB removal in the present proposal for recovery of 1.00 lakh carats of diamonds when compared with E.C obtained on 23/1/2006 under EIA 1994 notification.
- 4) As per Rule 3(1) of Mineral (Mining by Government Companies) Rule 2015, Supplementary Mining Lease is valid upto 30.06.2020 from the initial date of grant on 1.7.1970.
- 5) Forest clearance for diversion of 74.018 Ha obtained from MOEF, New Delhi vide letter no: F.No.8-93/1998-FC (pt) dated 14.06.2012
- 6) The Scheme of Mining for Supplementary Mining Lease has been approved by IBM vide letter no. MP/Panna/Diamond/M.Sch.-126/14-15/4521 dated 03/09/2015 for the period 2015-20.

MOEF&CC may kindly consider for granting fresh environmental clearance under EIA, 2006 notification as per provisions of SO No.1530(E) dated 06/04/2018 by giving exemption for preparation of fresh EIA report including public consultation process as there is no change in the proposal.

However, standard terms of reference (TOR) for mining projects as specified by EAC shall be followed for preparation of EIA/EMP report for Diamond Mining Project, Panna of M/s. NMDC Ltd, if suggested by EAC, MOEF&CC. The EIA/EMP report shall be prepared as per generic structure of EIA document as given in Appendix III of EIA, 2006 notification.


26.05.18
(Authorised Signatory)
Diamond Mining Project, Panna