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भारत सरकार

पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

पर्यावरण भवन, सी. सी. ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स

PARYAVARAN BHAVAN, C.G.O. COMPLEX

लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003

LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI-110003

No J-12011/62/2006-IA-I

08th May, 2007

Er. N. Sasikumar
Executive Director (Projects)
TamilNadu Electricity Board
V Floor, Western Wing
NPKRR Maaligai
144, Anna Salai
Chennai - 600002

Subject:- Kundah Pumped Storage HEP(4 x 125 MW) in Nilgiri district,
TamilNadu. - Environment clearance regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No. ED/P/SE/PI/EF/KPSHEP/AEE4/DPR/F.KUNDAH - Env./152/07 dated 28.3.2007 on the above mentioned subject. The above referred proposal was considered by the Expert Committee for River Valley & Hydroelectric projects at its meeting held on 18.4.2007. The project envisages only the construction of water conductor system and power house. All the other components are in existence for the last 40 years. The proposed pumped storage scheme will be located about 1 km from the existing Kundah power house 6 (Parson's valley Power House) in Nilgiri district. The existing Porthimund Reservoir (Capacity 2100 Mcft) will be the Upper Reservoir, and the existing Avalanche Emerald Reservoir (capacity 5500 Mcft) will be the Lower Reservoir. The distance between the Upper Reservoir and Lower Reservoir is about 2 km. 18 ha forest land and 44.5 ha private land belongs to Tea Estate will be required for this project. The project is within buffer zone of Nilgiri biosphere Reserve. No displacement of human population is involved in the project.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions as follows:

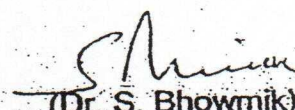
Part A: Specific Conditions

- i) Controlled blasting with very low charge and mild explosives should be used under close supervision. The quantity of explosive per delay to be used should be informed within one month from the date of issue of this letter.
- ii) Muck disposal must be done with consolidation and compaction of muck. Muck retaining wall must be built without allowing the fines within the muck escaping into the adjacent valley.
- iii) Catchment Area Treatment Plan as has been proposed in the EMP should be completed before filling up of the reservoir.
- iv) Cost of compensatory afforestation is on higher side in comparison to number of plants to be planted. The number of plants for plantation shall be increased.

Part-B: General Conditions

- (i) Adequate free fuel arrangement should be made for the labour force engaged in the construction work at project cost so that indiscriminate felling of trees is prevented.
- (ii) Fuel depot may be opened at the site to provide the fuel (kerosene/wood/LPG). Medical facilities as well as recreational facilities should also be provided to the labourers.
- (iii) All the labourers to be engaged for construction works should be thoroughly examined by health personnel and adequately treated before issuing them work permit.
- (iv) Restoration of construction area including dumping site of excavated materials should be ensured by leveling, filling up of burrow pits, landscaping etc. The area should be properly treated with suitable plantation.
- (v) Financial provision should be made in the total budget of the project for implementation of the above suggested safeguard measures.
- vii) A Multidisciplinary committee should be constituted with representatives from various disciplines of forestry, ecology, wildlife, soil conservation, NGO etc. to oversee the effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures.
- iii) Six monthly monitoring reports should be submitted to the Ministry and its Regional Office, Bangalore for review.

- 3.. Officials from Regional Office MOEF, Bangalore who would be monitoring the implementation of environmental safeguards should be given full cooperation, facilities and documents / data by the project proponents during their inspection.
4. The responsibility of implementation of environmental safeguards rests fully with the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board & Government of Tamil Nadu.
5. In case of change in the scope of the project, project would require a fresh appraisal.
6. The Ministry reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if found necessary and to take action including revoking of the clearance under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures in a time-bound and satisfactory manner.
7. This clearance letter is valid for a period of five years from the date of issue of this letter for commencement of construction work.
8. A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been received while processing the proposal.
9. State Pollution Control Board / Committee should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industries Center and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's office for 30 days.
10. The project proponent should advertise within seven days at least in two local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board / Committee and also at Website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at [http:// www.envfor.nic.in](http://www.envfor.nic.in)


(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti, Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-110001.
3. Secretary, Department of Power, Govt. of Tamil Nadu Secretariat, Chennai.
4. The Adviser (Power), Planning Commission, Yojna Bhawan, New Delhi-1.
5. The Chief Engineer, (PAD), Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.
7. The Regional Office, MOEF, Chandigarh.
8. Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai-600032
9. EI- Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi-110003.
10. Guard file.

(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director