21.03.2006

Sh. G. Prasada Rao
The Chief Engineer
I & CAD Department.
North Coast
Visakhapatnam
Andhra Pradesh.

Subject: Vamsadhara Project Phase-II of Stage-II, in Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh – Environmental clearance reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No.CE(North Coast)/VSP/CWC-Vam.Proj/2006 dated 9.1.2006 and subsequent letters dated 20.1.06, 11.2.06 and 15.2.06 on the subject.

2. It has been noted that Vamsadhara Project, phase-II of stage-II will be constructing a side weir at Katragada village and right side canal is proposed as a flood flow canal cum irrigation canal of 34.00 km length. The water will be stored in a balancing reservoir to be constructed across a valley near Hiramandalam. No other storage head work is proposed on the vamsadhara river. The total contemplated irrigation command under the stage-II of the project is 43,414 ha. 0.65 cum.mecs of water will be supplied for drinking purpose. Total 4332.121 ha land will be required for the project. Out of which 38ha. is forest land. 32 Nos. of temples and 16 NOS of churches will be submerged. 18 villages are fully and 16 villages are partially consisting of 22027 Nos. of person are likely to be affected. Total cost of the project is Rs.933.90 crores. Public hearing was held on 16.1.2006.
3. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance as per the provision of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification-1994, subject to the strict compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below –

Part - A: Specific conditions

i) Consent of Central Water Commission should be obtained.

ii) 48 Nos. of worship places are likely to be affected under the proposed Hiramandalam reservoir of the project. The rehabilitation plan for relocation of 48 affected places of worship as proposed vide letter No.CE/NC/VSP dated 15.2.2006 should be implemented in toto.

iii) The feasibility report does not indicate any thing about supplying of 0.65 cumeecs drinking water. Under abstract estimate no expenditure has been shown for supplying drinking water. An action plan identifying the villages for supplying 0.65 cumeecs drinking water should be submitted within three months.

iv) To check mosquito breeding, a minimum rate of flow of water at 60 cu/sec should be maintained. Specific measures to alleviate the problem of malaria/mosquito breeding will have to be made as a part of this project.

v) The alignments of the canal is running through several villages. Most of the time farmers grew crop in adjacent land to canal and use canal water for human and animals by digging and breaking the inner canalwalls indiscriminately leading of leaching of fertilizer nutrient and other agro-chemicals used in the adjacent land. To avoid such environmental consequences these must be buffer land on both sides of the canal where canal bank plantation shall be done and permanent bathing ghat shall be constructed to check human interference.

vi) Forest clearance should be obtained for acquisition of forest land.

vii) Silt yield Index for prioritization of Sub watersheds shows that only 4F2A1Y1 sub watershed has SYI value above 1000, other subwatersheds have less than 1000 SYI value. As per SYI method below 1000 SYI values do not require CAT.

Part - B. General conditions

i) Provision of supplying kerosene or cooking gas / Pressure Cooker to the labourers should be kept instead of supplying fuel wood.

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 issue the work permits.

iv) Restoration of construction area including dumping site of excavated materials at dam site & power house site should be ensured by leveling, filling up of borrow pits, landscaping etc. The area should be properly afforested with suitable plantation.

v) A multidisciplinary committee should be constituted with representative from the disciplines of forestry, ecology, wildlife, soil conservation, NGO etc. to oversee the effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures.

vi) Financial provision should be made in the total budget of the project for implementation of the above suggested safeguard measures.

vii) Six monthly monitoring reports should be submitted to the Ministry and its Regional Office, Bangalore for review.

4. Officials from Regional Office MOEF, Bangalore would be monitoring the implementation of environmental safeguards should be given full cooperation, facilities and documents / data by the project proponents during their inspection.

5. The responsibility of implementation of environmental safeguards rests fully with the Irrigation Department and Government of Andhra Pradesh.

6. In case of change in the scope of the project, project would require a fresh appraisal.

7. 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 environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures in a time-bound and satisfactory manner.

8. This clearance letter is valid for a period of five years from the date of issue of this letter for commencement of construction work.
9. A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been received while processing the proposal.

10. State Pollution Control Board / Committee should display a copy of the clearance letter at the regional office, district industries centre and collector's office / tehsildar's office for 30 days.

11. 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 may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at http://www.envfor.nic.in/.

Yours faithfully,

(Signature)
(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
3. Dr. Ravi Mallu, Special Representative of Government of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Bhawan, 1, Ashoka Road, New Delhi.
4. The Advisor (I & CAD) Planning Commission, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi -110 001.
5. The Chief Engineer (PAD), Central Water Commission, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 100062.
6. Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Hyderabad.
7. CCF, Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Bangalore.
8. EI - Division, MOEF, New Delhi - 110001.

(Signature)
(Dr. S. Bhowmik)
Additional Director