



STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, ASSAM  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India  
BAMUNIMAIDAM, GUWAHATI 781021, ASSAM

Minutes of the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting 3 of the SEIAA, Assam held on 30/12/2025

The 58th SEIAA Meeting. 3 was held in the Conference Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Pollution Control Board, Assam on 30/12/2025 at 2.00 p.m.

The following Members were present

- Sri Rajesh Kemprai, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.
- Sri Ramen Chandra Malakar, ACS, Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.
- Dr. Sarat Phukan, Member, SEIAA, Assam.

Sri Rajesh Kemprai, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam presided over the meeting.

Agenda Item 1.

1. **Environment Clearance EC for Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing (Well Name: OBCA) in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2019/1 in Gohpur Area under Sonitpur District in the State of Assam by Oil India Limited: SEIAA.3553/2023 (SIA/AS/IND2/432459/2023).**

SEIAA Resolution 5/1:

Deliberations by the SEIAA in current meetings

EC is approved for location "OBCA" Onshore Oil & Gas Exploratory Drilling at Loc. OBCA in OALP-V Block AA-ONHP-2019/1 (Area : Biswanth) in Sonitpur district of Assam.

The Project OBCA is a non-forest area, falling in the Revenue land. GPS location of the Well is 26°53'12.299"N, 93°36'17.554"E. Total land requirement for the project is 3.33 ha.

PEL for 8 (eight) years vide Mines & Minerals Deptt. Letter dated 08.02.2021 is uploaded. Distance of the project area OBCA from the boundary to the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve is 9.8 Km (approx.).

Estimated Project cost is Rs 20.00 crore.

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**Specific Conditions by SEAC:**

- I) CER activities shall be carried out in terms of the approved EMP and compliance of the same shall be uploaded in the PARIVESH 2.0 portal.
- II) The PP shall undertake Climate Change mitigation measures through the DFO, Biswanath Wildlife Division (under Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve) to facilitate promotion of Eco tourism activity in the northern part of the National Park and Tiger Reserve and also to support the cause of anti poaching activity for the precious **Schedule I** animals of the park. For the purpose of invigorating the ecotourism activity adequate logistic support under due consultation with the DFO shall be supported in a time bound manner. For surveillance in the park area as a measure of anti poaching activity by the field staff and officers a suitable vehicle shall accordingly be provided under due consultation with the authority.

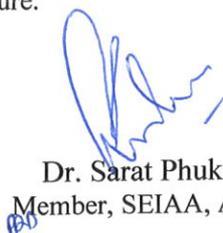
**CER (Corporate Environment Responsibility):**

**Green Belt:**

- I) The proponent shall develop Green Belt around the Wells comprising 10% of the area of the project area and shall ensure planting of indigenous species of plants as are prescribed. For the purpose, the concerned DFO, Sonitpur East Division may be consulted to have the quality planting materials ready in advance in the Departmental Nursery and requisite fund for the purpose should be made available to the DFO in advance for raising of minimum of **1,500 poly-pot** saplings.
- II) The recommended species of plants in the area could be of species like Nahor (*Mesua ferrea*), Siris (*Albizia procera*), Hollock (*Terminalia myriocarpa*), Amlokhi (*Phyllanthus emblica*), Hilikha (*Terminalia chebula*), Jamun (*Syzygiumcumini*), Cham (*Artocarpus chaplasha*), Dimaru (*Ficus spp*), Ow Tenga (*Dillenia indica*), Thekera (*Garcinia spp*), Bhomora (*Terminalia bellirica*) etc etc. Density of plantations shall be **1,250** plants per Hectare and the Proponent is required to raise plantations covering an area measuring **33%** of the project area against the Well as prescribed.
- III) To cover the prescribed area under plantation, educational institution, Govt lands around the project area may be selected and local NGOs, Students, Villagers may be involved in plantation activities and the preferred species of plants may be fruit bearing, of medicinal value and aesthetic in nature.



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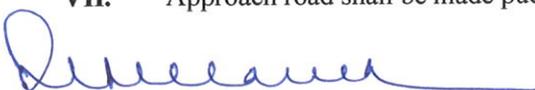
- IV) The proponent shall take all requisite measures to maintain natural environment in the oil fields and its surroundings are to be maintained in healthy and environment friendly conditions. All necessary measures and precautions must have to be taken by the proponent to prevent any probable / random oil spillage, discharge of effluents in the surroundings.
- V) CER activities shall be carried out by the PP within 1<sup>st</sup> year of the EC and for non compliance of the same stakeholders shall be made accountable in terms of the EIA Notification, 2006.
- VI) Half Yearly Compliance Reports (HCR) are mandatory on the part of project Proponent which need to be uploaded on or before **1st June** and **1st December** of the calendar year in **PARIVESH 2.0 portal** and no activity shall be permitted by the DFO without HCR.

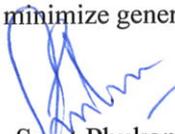
**Compliance of the same shall duly be uploaded by the Proponent in the PARIVESH portal.**

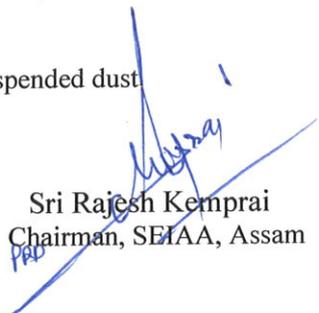
**Standard EC Conditions for (Off-shore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and production)**

**1. Specific Conditions**

- I. The company shall comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards proposed in the documents submitted to the Ministry. All the recommendations made in the EIA/EMP in respect of environmental management, and risk mitigation measures relating to the project shall be implemented.
- II. No pipelines or its part shall be laid in the Forest land/Protected Area without prior permission/approval from the Competent Authority.
- III. Total fresh water requirement shall not exceed 39 m<sup>3</sup>/day will be met from groundwater. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority.
- IV. The project proponent will treat and reuse the treated water within the factory and no waste or treated water shall be discharged outside the premises. Mobile ETP coupled with RO shall be installed to reuse the treated water in drilling system. Size of the waste shall be equal to the hole volume+ volume of drill cutting and volume of discarded mud if any. Two feet free board may be left to accommodate rain water. There shall be separate storm water channel and rain water shall not be allowed to mix with waste water. Alternatively, if possible pit less drilling be practiced instead of above.
- V. During production, storage and handling, the fugitive emission of methane, if any, shall be monitored using Infra-red camera/ appropriate technology.
- VI. The project proponent also to ensure trapping/storing of the CO<sub>2</sub> generated, if any, during the process and handling.
- VII. Approach road shall be made pucca to minimize generation of suspended dust.

  
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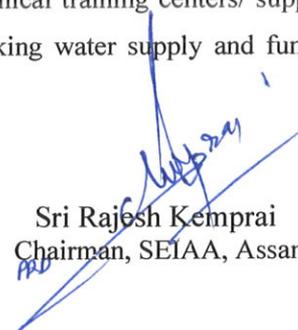
- VIII.** The project proponent shall make all arrangements for control of noise from the drilling activity. Acoustic enclosure shall be provided for the DG sets along with the adequate stack height as per CPCB guidelines.
- IX.** The company shall construct the garland drain to prevent runoff of any oil containing waste into the nearby water bodies. Separate drainage system shall be created for oil contaminated and non-oil contaminated.
- X.** Drill cuttings separated from drilling fluid shall be adequately washed and disposed in HDPE lined pit. Waste mud shall be tested for hazardous contaminants and disposed according to HWMH Rules, 2016. No effluent/drilling mud shall be discharged/disposed off into nearby surface water bodies. The company shall comply with the guidelines for disposal of solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids for onshore drilling operation notified vide GSR 546(E) dated 30th August, 2005.
- XI.** Oil spillage prevention and mitigation scheme shall be prepared. In case of oil spillage/contamination, action plan shall be prepared to clean the site by adopting proven technology. The recyclable waste (oily sludge) and spent oil shall be disposed of to the authorized recyclers.
- XII.** The project proponent shall take necessary measures to prevent fire hazards, containing oil spill and soil remediation as needed. At fixed installations or plants use of ground flare shall be explored. At the place of ground flaring, the overhead flaring stack with knockout drums shall be installed to minimize gaseous emissions during operation.
- XIII.** The project proponent shall develop a contingency plan for H2S release including all necessary aspects from evacuation to resumption of normal operations. The workers shall be provided with personal H2S detectors in locations of high risk of exposure along with self-containing breathing apparatus.
- XIV.** Blow Out Preventer system shall be installed to prevent well blowouts during drilling operations.
- XV.** On completion of the project, necessary measures shall be taken for safe plugging of wells with secured enclosures to restore the drilling site to the original condition. The same shall be confirmed by the concerned regulatory authority from environment safety angle. In case of hydrocarbon not found economically viable, a full abandonment plan shall be implemented for the drilling site in accordance with the applicable DGH / Indian Petroleum Regulations.
- XVI.** As per the Ministry's OM dated 30.09.2020 superseding the OM dated 01.05.2018 regarding the Corporate Environmental Responsibility, and as per the action plan proposed by the project proponent to address the socio-economic and environmental issues in the study area, the project proponent, as committed, shall provide education funds in technical training centers/ support in nearby village's schools, support in health care facilities, drinking water supply and funds for



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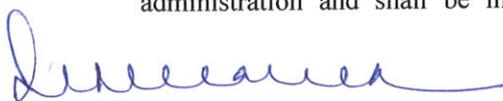


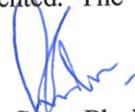
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- miscellaneous activities like solar street lights, battery, solar panel etc., in the nearby villages. The action plan shall to be completed within time as proposed.
- XVII.** No lead acid batteries shall be utilized in the project/site.
- XVIII.** Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be carried out as per the prevailing Acts and Rules. All workers & employees shall be provided with required safety kits/mask for personal protection.
- XIX.** Oil content in the drill cuttings shall be monitored and report & shall sent to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- XX.** The project proponent shall prepare operating manual in respect of all activities, which would cover all safety & environment related issues and measures to be taken for protection. One set of environmental manual shall be made available at the drilling site/ project site. Awareness shall be created at each level of the management. All the schedules and results of environmental monitoring shall be available at the project site office. Remote monitoring of site should be done.
- XXI.** PP shall sensitize and create awareness among the people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MOEFCC on 12th August, 2021. A report along with photographs on the measures taken shall also be included in the six-monthly compliance report being submitted to concerned authority.

## **2. General Conditions**

- I.** No further expansion or modifications in the plant, other than mentioned in the EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments, shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/SEIAA, as applicable. In case of deviations or alterations in the project proposal from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry/SEIAA, as applicable, to assess the adequacy of conditions imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.
- II.** The energy source for lighting purpose shall be preferably LED based, or advanced having preference in energy conservation and environment betterment.
- III.** The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (day time) and 70 dBA (night time).
- IV.** The company shall undertake all relevant measures for improving the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding area. CER activities shall be undertaken by involving local villages and administration and shall be implemented. The company shall undertake eco-developmental

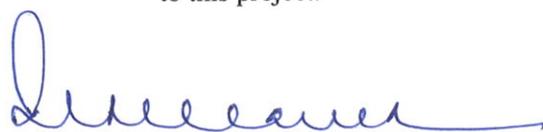
  
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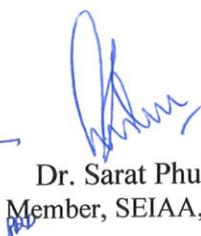
  
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measures including community welfare measures in the project area for the overall improvement of the environment.

- V. The company shall earmark sufficient funds towards capital cost and recurring cost per annum to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the State Government along with the implementation schedule for all the conditions stipulated herein. The funds so earmarked for environment management/ pollution control measures shall not be diverted for any other purpose.
- VI. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the project proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal.
- VII. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Environmental Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and SPCB. A copy of Environmental Clearance and six monthly compliance status report shall be posted on the website of the company.
- VIII. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF&CC by e-mail.
- IX. The project proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry and at <https://parivesh.nic.in/>. This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.
- X. The project authorities shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of the project.
- XI. This Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, Hon'ble NGT and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to this project.



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**3. Nbwl Conditions**

- I.** The environmental clearance is subject to obtaining prior clearance from the wildlife angle, including clearance from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife, as applicable, as per the Ministry's OM dated 8th August, 2019. Grant of environmental clearance does not necessarily imply that Wildlife Clearance shall be granted to the project and that their proposal for Wildlife Clearance will be considered by the respective authorities on its merit and decision taken. PP shall also strictly follow the conditions mentioned in existing NBWL clearance.
- II.** The project proponent shall prepare a site specific conservation plan and wildlife management plan in case of the presence of Schedule-1 species in the study area, as applicable to the project, and submit to Chief Wildlife Warden for approval. The recommendations shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest/Wildlife Department in a time bound manner.

The meeting came to an end with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

**(Sri Rajesh Kemprai)**

**Chairman,**

**SEIAA, Assam**



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