

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STATE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE, SIKKIM,
HELD AT 11.00 AM ON 18.01.2024 IN FOREST SECRETARIAT, DEORALI,
GANGTOK FOR EXAMINATION OF PROPOSAL /APPLICATION FOR
EXTENSION OF VALIDITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE**

In pursuance of the meeting notice vide No. 214(I)/E&SC/Circle/SEIAA/SEAC/16, dated 03.11.2023 of the Member Secretary, SEAC, Sikkim, the meeting of the SEAC, Sikkim was convened under the chairmanship of Sh.J.B.Subba, the chairman, SEAC, Sikkim at 11.00 AM on 18.01.2024 in the Barbet hall, D Block, Forest Secretariat, Gangtok. The list of participants is at **Annexure-A**.

The agenda for the same is as follows:

S.No.	Details of Agenda
1.	Proposal for issue of Terms of Reference (TOR) for Common Municipal Solid Waste Management Facility in Mangan, Sikkim.
2.	Proposal for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance for Rangit II HEP in West Sikkim 66 MW (2*33 MW).

AGENDA NO: 1

1. Name of the proposal: Regional sanitary landfill facility at Mangan, North Sikkim.
2. Proposal No: SIA/SK/INFRA2/454716/2023 (copy of application enclosed as **Annexure-I**)
3. Documents submitted along with the application:
 - a) Copy of the Common Application Form, Application for TOR
 - b) Kml file of the proposed location of the project
 - c) Copy of the in-principle approval for diversion of forest land vide letter no.1849/FCA/F&ED/230, dated 06.12.2021 of the O/o Addl.Chief Secretary-cum-PCCF, F&ED, GOS.
 - d) Layout plan of the proposed project
 - e) Schematic representations of the feasibility drawing
4. Land requirement and its land use classification: Forest land (2 hectare). Copy of final clearance/ approval for diversion of the same under FC Act, 1980 has not been enclosed/ reportedly not obtained. It is also mentioned that out of 2

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hectare area of forest land, 1500 sq.m will be used for solid waste management and the rest will be used for green belt development

5. Distance from the boundary of Protected area: reportedly 3.45 km from the boundary of Kanchenjunga National Park (KNP)
6. Shortest Aerial Distance from the ESZ of KNP as per the report of Working Plan circle of F&ED, Government of Sikkim : 2.36 km (GIS analysis report enclosed)
7. Details of waste water management proposed:
 - a) Waste water generation per day : 3.4 KLD
 - b) Quantity of treated water proposed to use per day: 2.8 KLD
 - c) Quantity of treated water proposed to discharge outside the premises per day: 0.6 KLD
 - d) Purpose for which treated water is proposed to be used: Greenbelt development purpose

8. Details of proposed solid waste generation and management:

Waste category	source	Quantity (TPA)	Proposed Mode of disposal
Biodegradable	Residential	515.2	Biomethanation
Metal, glass, ceramics, paper, textiles etc	Residential & commercial	972.5	Landfill
Plastic	Residential, commercial, institution and road sweeping & commercial	4.79	Landfill
E waste	-	-	-
Batteries waste	-	-	-
Biomedical waste	-	-	-
Hazardous waste	-	-	-

Construction or demolition waste	Residential commercial	& 49.07	landfill
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The project proponent (Urban Development Department, Government of Sikkim) made a power point presentation on the proposal as per the template provided along with the meeting notice.

Discussion:

1. As per the GIS analysis from the Working plan circle of Forest & Environment Department, Government of Sikkim, the proposed site falls within 10 km of the boundary of the protected area (Kanchenjunga National Park). However, it is not falling within the Eco sensitive Zone of Kanchenzunga National Park (KNP). (It lies at a distance of 2.36 km from the boundary of the ESZ of KNP and hence, as per the para 2 of the Office memorandum No.F.No.J-11013/41/2006-IA-II(I)(Part), dated 20th August 2014 of the Impact Assessment Division, MoEF&CC, Government of India, this proposal will not attract the General conditions of EIA Notification, 2006 and the subsequent amendments made thereunder. Therefore, the proposal falls within the purview of the SEAC, Sikkim.
2. As the proposed site was near the Teesta River (as per the Google image), the committee decided to make a field visit to ascertain the actual condition, for further consideration.
3. Copy of the Standard Terms of Reference (TOR) of the MoEF&CC for the category of the proposal under consideration (Activity: 7(i)- Common Municipal Solid Waste Management Facility) was also shared with the committee of SEAC, for information .

Recommendation:

The committee decided to make a field visit to ascertain the actual field conditions, for further consideration of the proposal.

Agenda: 2

Background information of the proposal:

1. Name of the proposal:
Proposal for extension of validity of Environmental Clearance of Rangit II HEP in West Sikkim 66Mw(2*33MW)
2. Proposal No: SIA/SK/RIV/298173/2023 (copy of application enclosed as **Annexure-I**)

3. Documents submitted along with the application:

- a) Copy of Environmental Clearance issued by MoEF, GOI vide Ref.No.J-12011/6/2009-IA.I of IA Division, MoEF, Govt.of India, Dated 10.06.2009 with the validity of 10 (ten) years.
- b) Reasons of the delay in implementation of 66MW Rangit II HEP, Sikkim
- c) Project completion schedule
- d) Letter No.SHPVL/SEIA/2023/006, Dated 20.02.2023 of Sh.Hemant Chandel, Director, Sikkim Hydropower Ventures Limited with the request for extending the validity of Environmental Clearance, dated 10.06.2009.However, the letter No.SHPVL/SEIA/2019/002, dated 15.03.2019 was not found enclosed along with the above said letter dated 20.02.2023, as mentioned. The copy of the same also could not be located in the file concerned.

The project proponent had not participated during the earlier meeting to consider the proposal on 17.11.2023.

Discussion:

The project proponent has not participated the in the meeting during this meeting also. Further, as per the Environmental Clearance dated 10.06.2009 mentioned above for the proposal under consideration and Office Memorandum F.No.IA3-22/28/2022-1A.111(E 181584) dated 13.12.2022 of the Impact Assessment Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, regarding clarification on the amendment to EIA Notification 2006 issued vide S.O.No.1807(E) dated 12.04.2022 with regard to validity of Environment Clearance (**copy enclosed as Annexure-II**), the validity of the Environmental Clearance dated had already been expired.

Recommendation:

As the validity of the Environmental clearance has already expired, the SEAC, Sikkim recommends that the project proponent may be directed to apply for fresh Terms of Reference/ Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 of MoEF&CC, Government of India, and the subsequent amendments made thereunder.



Sh. B. K. Chettri

(Member)



Sh. D. G. Shrestha

(Member)



Sh. S. Elamurugannan

(Member Secretary)

(Conveyed approval through
Sh. Mani kumar Pradhan *WhatsApp*)

(Member)

(Conveyed approval through
Sh. Ganesh Chandra Khanal *WhatsApp*)

(Member)



Sh. J. B. Subba

(Chairman)

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ATTENDANCE SHEET

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