

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

Minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the SEIAA, Assam held on 21/06/2022

The 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the SEIAA, Assam was held at Conference Hall of the Pollution Control Board, Assam, Guwahati-21 on 21/06/2022at 3.30 p.m.

# The following Members were present

- Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.
- Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS, Addl. Secretary, Environment and Forest Department, Govt. of Assam and Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.
- Dr. Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam.

Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam presided over the meeting.

#### Agenda Item 1.

Actions on the recommendations of 38th Meeting of SEAC held on 04th June, 2022.

1. Proposal for modification of EC for mining of Sand from the "Jatinga River Minor Mineral Unit (Sand)" under Cachar Forest Division, Silchar proposed by the DFO Cachar Forest Division. SEIAA.1782/2021. (SIA/AS/MIN/256210/2022).

#### SEAC Resolution 38/2:

The project proposal asking modification of EC for mining of Sand from the "Jatinga River Minor Mineral Unit (Sand)" under Cachar Forest Division, Silchar proposed by the DFO Cachar Forest Division is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. The original EC was granted in favour of Sri Samar Deb vide No. SEIAA 1782/2021/EC/13/1446 dt. 7-7-2021 against 4.5 Hect. Jatinga River Minor Mineral Unit (Sand) for five years allowing extracting 2000 cu.m. sand annually as per approved mining plan. The average annual extractable quantity of the MCA estimated 13315 cu.m. The Divisional Forest Officer, Cachar Division requested to allow 28032 cu.m sand from the reserved quantity to meet the demand of the Govt. Department for constructional works under Cachar Forest Division. Detailed discussion is held. Status report submitted by the DFO, NOC given by the original proponent and approved mining plan is discussed in detail. Considering the request of the DFO, Cachar Division and ongoing developmental activities, the committee recommended the proposal approving in favour of the DFO, Cachar Division to extract 7000 cu.m sand from the approved mining site with validity of the EC for 1 (one) year. The excavation must be at least 5.0 meters away from the high banks of the river and maintaining two meters mining depth.

The DFO, Cachar Forest Division shall utilize the approved mining materials strictly against Govt. works only on receipt of due indent from the concerned Govt. department. The DFO, Cachar Division is also requested to ensure that the mining works of the other proponent is not get disturbed. The DFO, Cachar will ensure strict adherence to all the terms & condition laid down in the approved Mining Plan. Further, he will issue permit against the Govt. Department only on the basis of their indent. While issuing permit to the Govt. Department, the DFO, Cachar Division should adhere to the instructions issued by the Govt. vide notification No.PEM.82/2018/31 dt. 26<sup>th</sup> Oct, 2018.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/01:**

Approved for issuance of EC as per condition laid down by SEAC.

Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS,

Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.

Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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2. Proposal of TOR for mining of Sand & Stone from "NKD-B-6 Bandarkhowa Mining Contract Area" District: Barpeta, Assam under N.K Division, Rangia proposed by Sri Ajit Kumar Nath. SEIAA.3030./2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/ 70694/2022).

#### SEAC Resolution 38/3:

The project proposal asking for issuance of TOR for mining of sand & stone from "NKD-B-6 Bandarkhowa Mining Contract Area" District: Barpeta, Assam under N.K Division, Rangia proposed by Sri Ajit Kumar Nath is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. The proposed allotted MCA area is 15 hect. and requested mining for 5 years. Requisite documents are scrutinized. LOI issued by the concerned DFO vide letter No. B.MHL/Bandarkhowa MCA/9247-49 dt. 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2021 is discussed. Since the project comes under B-1 category and the committee after due discussion *recommended for issuance of TOR to submit detail EIA report along with report of Public Hearing* for taking further needful action.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/02:**

Approved for issuance of TOR, however issuance of EC shall be subject to outcome of the court verdict case no. W.P.(4).38.78/.20.22...of Honorable Gauhati High Court.

3. Proposal asking EC for mining of Ordinary Clay from "Barkhanajan Ordinary Clay Mining Permit Area" under N.K Forest Division proposed by Sri Babul Boro. SEIAA.2013/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/ 254975/2022)

#### SEAC Resolution 38/5:

The project proposal asking EC for mining of Ordinary Clay from "Barkhanajan Ordinary Clay Mining Permit Area" under N.K Forest Division proposed by Sri Babul Boro is placed before the SEAC for appraisal, review and discussion. Scrutinized the necessary documents submitted by the proponent. Replies of both EDS and ADS furnished by the proponent including the comment of the W. R. Department are discussed. Detailed discussion is held and the committee recommended the proposal approving to *extract* 2650 cu. m. ordinary clay within a period of 1year (one year) with the following conditions.

- The mining depth is approved 30 cm. (one feet) maximum as recommended by the Water Resources Department.
- The mining activities should be away from the river bank by 20 meters.
- No truck or other such heavy vehicles shall move close to the river bank.
- The proponent should inform the concerned Water Resources Division of Nalbari at the time of mining the area that mining activities are started.
- Other terms and condition laid down in the approved mining plan are to be strictly followed by the proponent in course of mining operation.

The Divisional Forest Officer, N K Division, Rangia is requested to ensure that all the terms and condition laid down herein are duly comply by the proponent during mining period. He will also ensure due surveillances to avoid occurrences of irregularities that may occur during the period of mining activities.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/03:**

Approved for issuance of EC as per condition laid down by SEAC and No heavy truck or other such heavy vehicles shall move close to the river bank.

Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS,

Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.

Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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4. Proposal of EC for mining of Ordinary Earth & Stone from "2 No. Odalbakra Village Patta Land Ordinary Earth and Stone Mining Permit Area" under Kamrup East Division proposed by Sri Dilip Ch. Goswami. SEIAA. 1894/2021, (SIA/AS/MIN/ 231002/2021).

# SEAC Resolution 38/7:

The project proposal asking EC for mining of ordinary earth and stone from "2 No. Odalbakra Village Patta Land Ordinary Earth and Stone Mining Permit Area" under Kamrup East Division proposed by Sri Dilip Ch. Goswami is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. Appraised the proposal and necessary scrutiny of all the documents are made. Detailed discussion is held. After a thread bare discussion the following points are noted:

- The location of the proposed mining area is stated as 4-5 k.m. away from the NH-37, but it is seen just close to the NH-37. The Mine Plan in the introduction also stated that there is no human habitation within 0.5 k.m. radius, but from the KML file superimposed on Google earth indicates innumerable buildings surrounding the proposed mine area, being located within the Guwahati city.
- Ownership of the proposed land is not clear.
- The land record is shown somewhere as 0.3 hect and at other place as 0.13 hect.
- The RQP is giving false and misleading information and the same should be communicated.
- As the area is within the limit of Guwahati City, the committee unanimously decided to reject the proposal considering the safety of human habitation in the city.

# **SEIAA Resolution 31/04:**

Rejected as per observation made by SEAC.

5. Proposal asking EC for mining of Ordinary earth from "Kalipahar Ordinary Earth Mining Permit Area" under N.K Forest Division proposed by Sri Ashok Jain. SEIAA.3014/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/ 266057/2022).

#### **SEAC Resolution 38/10:**

The proposal asking EC for mining of ordinary earth from "Kalipahar Ordinary Earth Mining Permit Area" under N.K Forest Division proposed by Sri Ashok Jain is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. Documents furnished by the proponent are scrutinized. Recommendation of the concerned DFO and mining plan approved by the DGM, Assam vide letter No. GM/MM/86-B (40)/Pt. IV/5929-33 dt. 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 is discussed. The land record indicates that the proposed land (mining site) is under possession of the proponent. Detailed deliberation is held and the committee recommended the proposal approving to mine out 5000 cu.m ordinary earth from the proposed mining site within a period of 1 (one) year. The proponent shall have to construct retaining wall wherever necessary to guard against landslides. The proponent also shall have to strictly follow all the terms and condition laid down in the approved mining plan.

The Divisional Forest Officer, N K Division, Rangia is requested to ensure that all the terms and condition laid down herein are duly comply by the proponent during mining period. He will also ensure due surveillances to avoid occurrences of irregularities that may occur during the period of mining activities. Mining is recommended strictly within the limit of the approved mining site.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/05:**

Approved for issuance of EC as per condition laid down by SEAC.

Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS, Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam

cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.

Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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6. Proposal of EC for mining of ordinary earth from "Gajiajani Village Patta Land Ordinary Sand Mining Permit Area" under Goalpara Division proposed by Sri Jaganath Nath. SEIAA.3029/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/269451/2022)

# SEAC Resolution 38/11:

The project proposal asking EC for mining of ordinary earth from "Gajiajani Village Patta Land Ordinary Sand Mining Permit Area" under Goalpara Division proposed by Sri Jaganath Nath is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. Appraised the proposal and necessary documents are scrutinized. Recommendation of the DFO, Goalpara Division and Mining Plan approved by the DGM, Assam is discussed. Detailed deliberation is held. The committee after due discussion recommended the proposal approving to extract 8000 cu.m. ordinary earth from the proposed location within a period of 1(one) year. The proponent shall have to strictly follow all the terms and condition laid down in the approved mining plan.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Goalpara Forest Division is requested to ensure that all the terms and condition laid down herein are duly comply by the proponent during mining period. He will also ensure due surveillances to avoid occurrences of irregularities that may occur during the period of mining activities. Mining is recommended strictly within the limit of the approved mining site and not beyond that under any circumstances.

# **SEIAA Resolution 31/06:**

Approved for issuance of EC as per condition laid down by SEAC.

7. Proposal of EC for mining of Sand & Gravel from "2.5 Ha Meneha (Lower Dikrong) Mining Permit Area (Outside the R.F.)" under Lakhimpur Division proposed by Sri Brajanath Mallah. SEIAA. 3000/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/263672/2022)

# **SEAC Resolution 38/13:**

The project proposal asking EC for mining of sand and gravel from "2.5 Ha Meneha (Lower Dikrong) Mining Permit Area (Outside the R.F.)" under Lakhimpur Division proposed by Sri Brajanath Mallah is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and necessary discussion. Requisite documents submitted by the proponent are discussed in detail. Mining plan approved by the DGM, Assam and recommendation of the concerned DFO are also discussed. The committee after due deliberation recommended the proposal approving to extract 8700 cu.m gravel and 5800 cu.m. sand from the proposed mining site within a period of two years. The committee also approve to extract 4350 cu.m gravel and 2900 cu.m sand from the approved site annually strictly following all the terms and condition laid down in the approved mining site.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Lakhimpur Forest Division is requested to ensure that all the terms and condition laid down herein are duly comply by the proponent during mining period. He will also ensure due surveillances to avoid occurrences of irregularities that may occur during the period of mining activities. Mining is recommended strictly within the limit of the approved mining site and not beyond that under any circumstances.

**SEIAA Resolution 31/07:** 

Approved for issuance of EC as per condition laid down by SEAC.

Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS,

Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam.

Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam

Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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8. Proposal of EC for collection of stone from "Langkhang P.P. Land Stone MCA under Karbi Anglong East Forest Division proposed by Sri Lip Terang. SEIAA. 1815/2021, (SIA/AS/MIN/221333/2021)

#### **SEAC Resolution 38/16:**

The project proposal asking EC for mining of stone from Langkhang P.P. Land Stone MCA" under Karbi Anglong East Forest Division proposed by Sri Lip Terang is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and necessary deliberation. Necessary documents submitted by the proponent including the replies of EDS & ADS are scrutinized. Recommendation of the DFO, Karbi Anglong East Division and LOI issued by him on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 as well as the Mining Plan approved by the DGM, Assam is also discussed in detail. Due deliberation is held, and the committee recommended the project proposal approving to extract 50000 cu.m stone from the proposed mining site within a period of five (5) years subject to the following conditions.

- 44 nos of standing trees of different species & sizes are to be operated and disposed off departmentally by the DFO, Karbi Anglong East Division strictly following the prevailing Departmental procedure and Forest Revenue thereon be deposited to the Govt. exchequer. Mining operation be allowed only after removing the out turn of the trees/ timber.
- The proponent should take requisite measures against anticipated detrimental impact on the water regime within proposed site and adjoining areas.
- Over burden of the mining activities shall have to be dumped in specified location shown in the report.
- 10000 cu.m stone is allowed to operate from the proposed mining site annually.
- The proponent shall have to strictly adhere to all the terms and condition laid down in the approved Mining Plan.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Karbi Anglong East Division, Diphu will ensure that all the terms and condition laid down herein are duly comply by the proponent during the mining period. The DFO will allow actual mining activities only after operating the standing trees and duly mark the approved mining site on the ground fixing boundary pillars. He will ensure due surveillance and monitoring on the mining activities to guard against occurrence of irregularities.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/08:**

Furnish Specific view in respect of the following point -

• The proponent should take requisite measures against anticipated detrimental impact on the water regime within proposed site and adjoining areas.

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Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS, Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam. Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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# Actions on the recommendations of 37th Meeting of SEAC held on 25th May, 2022.

9. Proposal of EC for mining of Sand from "Chaparmukh-Kopili Nodi Sand Permit Area - 1 (C) under Nagaon Division Proposed by Gunj Associates. SEIAA. 2086/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/262070/2022).

# SEAC Resolution 37/3:

The project proposal asking EC for mining of Sand from "Chaparmukh-Kopili Nodi Sand Permit Area - 1 (C)" under Nagaon Division proposed by Gunj Associates is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and deliberation. Necessary documents including the reply of ADS sought from this end are scrutinized. Detailed deliberation is held. After a thread bare discussion the committee is opined as below:

- Both the plots upstream and downstream are not suitable for mining.
- Upstream plot is a confluence of one of the tributaries of the Kopili River. Further, some GPS coordinate point lies outside the river bank.
- Downstream plot is located along a sharp bank of the Kopili River and GPS coordinate points indicate the proposed mining area rose from one bank to other and beyond.
- Mining activities in both the plots might have adverse affect in the river system resulting bank erosion.

Considering the above notes, the committee rejected the project proposal.

# **SEIAA Resolution 31/09:**

Rejected as per observation made by SEAC.

10. Proposal for extension of EC for mining of Ordinary Clay from "Gelabill River of Rongamati Mining Contract Area For Ordinary Clay" under Golaghat Division, proposed by Sri Amal Hazarika. SEIAA.3006/2022, (SIA/AS/MIN/ 256745/2022)

# SEAC Resolution 37/19:

The proposal asking extension of EC for mining of ordinary clay from "Gelabill River of Rongamati Mining Contract Area for Ordinary Clay" under Golaghat Division, proposed by Sri Amal Hazarika is placed before the SEAC for appraisal and discussion. Necessary documents are scrutinized. Discussed recommendation of the concerned DFO and approved mining plan. On scrutiny, it is observed the validity of the EC issued earlier has expired on 14<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2021 and the proponent applied for extension lately on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022. On the other hand the period of mining permit was till 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 as reported by the DFO, Golaghat.

Considering the facts stated above the committee decline the prayer of the proponent and rejected the project proposal.

#### **SEIAA Resolution 31/10:**

Rejected as per observation made by SEAC.

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

(Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury)

Chairman,

SEIAA, Assam

Sri IndreswarKalita, ACS, Addl. Secretary, Env& Forest, Assam cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam. Dr.Hari Prasad Sarma, Member, SEIAA, Assam Sri Pradyut Kumar Choudhury, Chairman, SEIAA, Assam.

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