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Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India.

J&K UT LEVEL EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (JKEAC)

Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing

SDA Housing Colony, Bemina, Srinagar, Kashmir

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MINUTES OF MEETING

MINUTES OF 105th MEETING OF THE JK EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 24th January, 2023 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

In pursuance of the Meeting Notice issued vide No: EAC/JK/22/ 14568-14583 dated: 26-12-2022 and No: EAC/JK/23/14584-14597 dated 19/01/2023, the 105th Meeting of JK Level Expert Appraisal Committee (JKEAC) was held on 24th January, 2023 at 11 A.M. via video Conferencing. The following members attended the meeting:-

No.	Name	Designation
1	Mr. S.C. Sharma, IFS(Rtd.)	Chairman
2	Mr. M.A Tak, IFS(Rtd.)	Member
3	Mr. Irfan Yasin	Member
4	Prof. Anil Kr. Raina	Member
5	Mr. A.R. Makroo	Member
6	Mr.Humayun Rashid	Secretary

The Secretary, JKEAC welcomed the Chairman and Members of the JK Expert Appraisal Committee.

The proceedings were made as under:-

Agenda Item No 1: To examine and evaluate the Replenishment Report of Minor Mineral Block No.1 & 2 of Sahar Khad, Block No 4 & 5 of Naj Nallah, Block No 6, 10, 12, 15, 16 and 18 of Bhinni River, private Minor Mineral Block in Ravi River of Shri Bhanu Pratap with an area of 9.98 ha, Minor Mineral Blocks in Ujh River of Shri Paramjeet Singh with an area of 8.00ha, 9.85 ha, 9.65 ha & 3.98 ha, Minor Mineral Block in Ujh River of Shri Dhyan Singh with an area of 49.68 ha and Minor Mineral Block in Tarnah Nallah of Shri Rajeev Jasrotia with an area of 2.60 ha of District Kathua formulated by Geology & Mining Dept. for appropriate recommendation to JK Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority

Deliberation:

Since none of the officers from G&M Dept. joined the proceedings to present the replenishment report of Kathua district despite repeated telephonic requests, the Committee examined the replenishment report of the above cited mining blocks and private leases falling in kathua and made the following observations:-

- The replenishment study has not been carried out as per the Enforcement & Monitoring guidelines for Sand Mining-2020 and needs to be based on both L-Section and Cross Section of the mining blocks.

- ii. Data from only 2 to 3 randomly located sites in the pertinent blocks seems to have been collected and presented which is not in line with methodology as provided in Enforcement & Monitoring Guidelines for Sand Mining-2020.
- iii. With respect to private mining blocks only replenishment figures have been quoted against the mining leases without giving any information about the methodology used and location of sites at which such data had been collected.
- iv. No replenishment data has been provided against the private lease measuring of 9.98 ha of Bhanu Pratap Singh lease at Taraf Tajwal in river Ravi
- v. No replenishment data has been mentioned for mining block No.4 of Naj Nallah.
- vi. No measurements on the specific spots along Cross Sections/L-Sections have been recorded.
- vii. The pre-monsoon and post monsoon data for the specific spots has not been provided in the report.
- viii. The graphical representation of the replenishment is not providing any useful information due to wrong scale of representation.
- ix. The L-Sectional and Cross sectional measurements should have been taken at regular intervals of 10m both for pre-monsoon and post monsoon in the form of a grid to arrive at reliable estimates of replenishment in each block.

Recommendation: In view of above deliberations, JKEAC did not recommend the replenishment report for its adoption and desired that the G&M dept. should resubmit the replenishment report strictly in accordance with Enforcement & Monitoring guidelines for Sand Mining-2020 and in line with the above deliberations and those made earlier in similar situations particularly in MoM of JKEAC of 102 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 02

Title of case:	Grant of Environment Clearance for STP Minor Mineral (Quarry) block, Area (0.25 Ha) at village Hunjala, District-Kishtwar, in favour of M/S Executive Engineer, PMGSY, Kishtwar.
Project type (whether mining lease/STP/Quarry license/brick earth)	STP Quarry (Minor mineral)
Category(B1/B2)	B2
Proposal no:	SIA/JK/MIN/268040/2022
File no:	JKEIA/2023/646
Consultant with validity	M/S Dr. J.S. JAMWAL (RQP) Valid till: 12/02/2029
Presenter of consultant:	Dr. J.S. JAMWAL
Project proponent / representative of Project proponent:	Executive Engineer (PMGSY), Kishtwar.

CASE SUMMARY

Status	Area (Ha)	Land Title	Khasra & Survey No.	Adv. Royalty (in lacs)	Project cost (in lacs)	EMP cost proposed (in lacs)		CER budget proposed (lacs/annum)
						Capital	Recurring	
New Project	0.25	Pvt. Land	1416 43 (0/15)	3.805	12.769	1.94	---	0.38

Dimensions of the Pit (Mts) (L *W* H)	Mining Methodology	Topography (mRL)		Cluster situation (Yes/No)
		Highest Contour	Lowest Contour	
(72*42*2)	Open cast, bench method	1656	1629	NO

Mine Closure plan proposed (in lacs)	Ultimate Pit Depth (mts.)	Mining period (Months)	Total mineable reserves for 3 months as per approved mine plan (MT)	Water Requirement (KLD)	Bulk density proposed	Haulage Route (Kms)
0.0375	2.00	3	26953	3.50	2.6	0.75

PROJECT EVENT DATES

Date of Letter of Intent/Approval	Revalidation of LOI, if any	LoI Date of Validity	Date of Mining Plan approval
26/06/2021	18/08/2022	18/02/2023	30/09/2021

ToRs granted on	Baseline data Collection by project proponent as the case may be	Public Hearing held on	Case discussed by JKEAC earlier on	Area reduced by G&M Dept.
NA	NA	NA	Fresh case	NA

APPRAISAL PROCESS

(To be filled by JKEAC during online appraisal)

STATUS OF DOCUMENTATION

S. No.	Document	Status	Remarks of the Committee
1	Form 1/Form 2 /Form 1-M as applicable	Submitted	
2	Pre-feasibility report (PFR)	Submitted	
3	Approved Mine Plan /Mine closure Plan	Formulated not as per guidelines	
4	District Survey Report	Formulated not as per guidelines	
5	Environmental Management Plan/ Corporate Environmental Responsibility (EMP/CER)	Formulated but needs revision	

NO OBJECTION CERTIFICATES

S. No.	Department	Status as per NOC	Remarks/ Reference
1	Irrigation Dept.	Issued	The NOC issued by the Revenue Dept., is ambiguous and not legible. As per PFR the land under the quarry mining is private land (Affidavit attached)
2	Flood Control Dept.	Issued	
3	Fisheries Dept.	Issued conditionally	
4	Forest Dept. (if required)	Issued as non-forest	
5	Wildlife Protection Dept (If required)	Issued conditionally	
6	Pollution Control Board	Not submitted	
7	Revenue Dept.	Ambiguous	
8	PHE (Jalshakti) Dept.	Issued conditionally	
10	Soil and Water Conservation dept.	---	

WATER REQUIREMENT

Source	Purpose	Avg. Demand/day (KLD)
Portable water	Dust suppression & Green belt	3.00
	Domestic (Considering 15 litres per person per day for 21 people)	0.50
Total water demand		3.50

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

S. No	Proposed actions	Budget proposed by Proponent (in lacs)		Remarks/
		Capital	Recurring	
		1	Green belt development	
2	Haulage route maintenance	0.30	0.00	
3	Env. Awareness programme	0.10	0.00	
4	Pollution monitoring	0.00	0.00	
5	Dust suppression	0.90	0.00	
6	Occupational Health & Safety of mine workers	0.34	0.00	
7	Solid waste management	0.00	0.00	
	Total	1.94	0.00	

CORPORATE ENVIRONMENT RESPONSIBILITY

S.No.	Project activity	Activities	Annual Budget proposed by Proponent (in lacs)	Remarks
1	Education	Provision for uniform, stationary items to school going children	0.12	
2	Env. awareness	Environmental awareness camp in the nearby village	0.10	

3	Health	Community medical camp	0.16	
	Total		0.38	

BUDGET FOR SURVILIENCE

S. No.	Particulars	Budget proposed by Proponent (in lacs)		Remarks
		Capital	Recurring (in lacs)	
1	Transport Permit	0.00	0.00	
2	CCTV Camera	0.50	0.00	
3	Weight Bridge	1.00	0.00	
4	Personal Computer with power backup	0.50	0.00	
5	Mobile Application Barcode scanner	0.00	0.00	
6	Radio Frequency Identification Tag (RFID) and GPS	0.00	0.00	
7	Annual Audit of lease	0.00	0.00	
8	Security Guard	0.00	0.00	
	Total	2.00	0.00	

EXAMINATION OF MINING SITE ON MULTIDATE GOOGLE EARTH IMAGE PLATFORM USING KML /KMZ FILE EMAILED/UPLOADED BY THE PROJECT PROPONENT/CONSULTANT

S.no.	Features observed	Adjacent to Mining site boundary	Uphill (Mts.)	Downhill (Mts.)	Remarks
1	Features indicative of Illegal mining	No	-	-	-
2	Settlements around the quarry	Yes	325 mtr	350 mtr	Settlements were observed both uphill and downhill of the mining site

3	Educational Institution	Not identifiable	-	-	Not identifiable
4	Hospital/Health Institution	Not identifiable	-	-	Not identifiable
5	Green patch (Cropland / trees /orchard etc.)	Yes	Within block	Within Block	Open forest/ scattered trees were observed both within & outside quarry mining block
6	Stream/River in close vicinity	Not identifiable	-	-	Not identifiable
7	Springs and other drinking water sources in close vicinity	Not identifiable	-	-	Not identifiable
8	Haulage route	Yes	-	65 mtr	Approach road is located adjacent to the mining site
9	Distance w.r.t National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary/ESZ	Not identifiable	-	-	Not identifiable
10	Involvement of forest land or any other relevant specific feature of interest or condition which is critical to grant of Environmental Clearance to the proposed project	No	-	-	As per NOC of Forest Dept. the quarry mining site is 544 m away from the nearest forest boundary line.

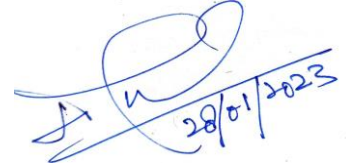
DELIBERATIONS/SPECIFIC OBSERVATION(S) OF COMMITTEE, IF ANY:

- a) The Minor Mineral Short Term Permit Quarry project has been submitted by the Executive Engineer, PMGSY, Kishtwar under B2 category with an area of 0.25 Ha.
- b) The Short-Term Permit (STP) has been granted by JD, G&M Dept., Jammu vide his letter No. JDJ/STP/Kishtwar/2020-21/635-639 dated 26/06/2021 for extraction of 15000MT of minor mineral.
- c) The KML file of the project site submitted by the project proponent was used to examine the STP site on the Google Earth Image. JKEAC observed that the area proposed for mining under the STP is almost fully vegetated and sustains considerable tree cover though it is outside the forest demarcation line as revealed by the NOC issued by the concerned DFO vide his No. 3668/KFD dated 26/02/2022.
- d) It was opined that the STP site may involve felling of trees including those falling under Specified Trees Act. This may attract the provisions under Forest Act and FCA as per Hon'ble Supreme Court direction in the case T.N. Godavarman Thirumulkpad vs Union of India & Ors on 12 December, 1996.
- e) The site is located on a critical slope and also very close to the road leading to Dul Hasti Hydroelectric project dam site.
- f) It was also observed that the lower and upper hill slopes of the road near the site are already disturbed and any further disturbance through quarrying shall trigger landslides and further destabilize the sloppy landscape.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE:

In view of the above deliberations and insight gained during the above cited appraisal process, the Committee did not agree to recommend the case for grant of Environmental Clearance to the STP for the site.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Humayun Rashid)
SECRETARY
JKUT level Expert Appraisal Committee

NO:EAC/JK/23/14641-14653

Dated: 28-01-2023

Copy by email to:

1. The Member Secretary, J&K Environment Impact Assessment Authority (JKEIAA), /PCCF/Director, Ecology, Environment and Remote Sensing, J&K Govt., Jammu for favour kind information.
2. Sh. S. C. Sharma, Chairman, J&K Expert Appraisal Committee, (JKEAC) 331 Shastri Nagar, Jammu-180004 for favour of kind information.
3. Sh. M.A Tak, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) 124 Mominabad (Near Jakfed), Anantnag Kashmir,-192101 for favour of kind information.
4. Sh. BrajBhushan Sharma, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) 278/2 Channi Himmat, Jammu for favour of kind information.
5. Professor Shakeel Ahmad Romshoo, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal Committee, (JKEAC) Department of Earth Sciences Kashmir University Srinagar-190006 for favour of kind information and necessary action please.
6. Sh. Abdul Rashid Makroo, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) H/No. 9 Lane No 11 Sector C, Gulshan Nagar Nowgam Bypass, Srinagar-190019 for favour of kind information please.
7. Professor ArvindJasrotia Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) 33/D Sainik Colony Jammu-180011 for favour of kind information please.
8. Dr.Ghulam Mohammad Dar, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) Main Campus IMPA&RD, M.A Road, Srinagar-190001 for favour of kind information please.
9. Sh. IrfanYasin, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) Bagh-e-Hyderpora, Bypass, Srinagar for favour of kind information please.
10. Professor Anil Kumar Raina, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) Department of Environmental Science University of Jammu, Jammu-180006 for favour of kind information please.
11. Professor M. A. Khan, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) Khan House, A-27 Milatabad, Peerbagh "B" Srinagar for favour of kind information please.

12. Dr.Falendra Kumar Sudan, Member, J&K Expert Appraisal COMMITTEE, (JKEAC) Professor Department of Economics University of Jammu, Jammu for favour of kind information please.
13. Sh. Sheikh Sajid, PA for information and with direction to upload the minutes on the environmental clearance portal at parivesh.nic.in.
14. Concerned File.