

Date

F. No. 22-83/2014-IA.III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Raod, Aliganj
New Delhi-110 003

Dated the 9th October, 2014

C I R C U L A R

Subject: Conduct of Public Hearing by the concerned State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) or the Union Territory Pollution Control Committee (UTPCC) - regarding.

Clause '7 (i) III. Stage(3)-Public Consultation' of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended, provides for Public Consultation as one of the stages of the environmental clearance (EC) process for a project. The provision inter-alia provides for conduct of public hearing by the concerned SPCB / UTPCC in the manner prescribed therein. As per the prescribed procedure, the project proponent submits the draft EIA / EMP report along with request of public hearing to the concerned SPCB / UTPCC. The SPCB / UTPCC is thereafter required to get the public hearing done and forward the proceedings to MoEF&CC / SEIAA within 45 days.

2. It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that sometime the concerned SPCB / UTPCC comment on the draft EIA / EMP report submitted to them and specify additional requirements to the project proponent. Also, concerns have been raised regarding delays in getting the public hearing done.

3. It is hereby clarified that the EIA / EMP report is to be prepared as per the TORs issued by MoEF&CC / SEIAA based on the recommendations of the EAC / SEAC. Thus, there is no case for the SPCB / UTPCC to specify additional requirements to the project proponent. Also, it is reiterated that the SPCBs / UTPCCs should complete the public hearing process in a time-bound manner as prescribed under the EIA Notification 2006. The procedure for conduct of public hearing as prescribed in Appendix-IV of EIA Notification 2006, as amended, may be strictly followed in this regard.

4. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Dr. Satish C. Garkoti)
Scientist 'F'

To
The Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all SPCBs/ UTPCCs.

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1. PS to MOS(Independent Charge)
1. PPS to Secretary (E,F&CC)
2. PS to JS (AT)
3. NIC, MoEF&CC: for uploading on the Ministry's Website