

No.J.11013/5/2010-IA-II(I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodi Road
New Delhi - 110 003

Dated 28th April, 2011

Office Memorandum

Sub: Consideration of projects in respect of critically polluted areas.

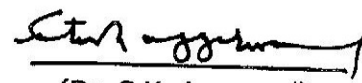
Ministry of Environment and Forests had imposed a moratorium on consideration of projects for environmental clearance to be located in critically polluted areas/industrial clusters identified by the Central Pollution Control Board. Based on the review of the Action Plans for the 43 identified critically polluted areas, moratorium has now been lifted in 20 clusters vide Ministry's Office Memorandums of even No. dated 26th October, 2010, 15th February, 2011 and 31st March, 2011. In the remaining 23 identified critically polluted areas/clusters, it has been decided to extend the moratorium further upto 30th September, 2011.

Ministry has been receiving queries regarding consideration of projects for environmental clearance in terms of the EIA Notification, 2006 particularly on the applicability of general condition in respect of projects to be located in these clusters from which moratorium on consideration of projects has been lifted.

It may be noted that the EIA Notification, 2006, the General Condition stipulates that "any project or activity specified in category 'B' will be treated as category 'A' if it is located in whole or in part within 10 kms. from the boundary of : (i) protected areas notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, (ii) critically polluted areas as notified by the Central Pollution Control Board from time to time, (iii) notified eco-sensitive areas, (iv) inter-State boundaries and International boundaries."

In view of the above, this is to clarify that the projects to be located within 10 kms. from the latest list of the critically polluted areas as identified by the Central Pollution Control Board would attract the General Condition of EIA Notification, 2006 and therefore, such projects would need to be treated as category 'A' projects.

This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.


(Dr. S.K. Aggarwal)
Director

To

1. All the officers of IA Division
2. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs

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