
State Environment Impact Assessment Authority West Bengal Minutes of SEIAA Meeting

__***__

Subject:-

39th meeting of SEIAA

Venue:-

Conference Room of Environment Department, Prani Sampad Bhavan, 5th Floor, LB -

Block, Sector - III, Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700106

From :-

07 December 2021

To:-

07 December 2021

I.

CONSIDERATION/RECONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

(1) Proposed installation of 2x10 Tonnes Induction Furnaces with Ladle Refining Furnace, Continuous Caster and 3000 MT/Month Rolling Mill to existing facilities by **M/s Ruhr Ispat Pvt. Ltd.** at J.L. No. 65, Dag No. 2074, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2094, 2097, 2102, 2122, Khatian No. 3855; Dag No. 2082, 2088, 2091, 2092, 2095, 2098, 2099, Khatian no. 6023, Bamunara Industrial Area, Vill & P.O. & Mouza – Gopalpur, P.S. Kanksa, Dist. Paschim Bardhaman, Durgapur – 713212, West Bengal

Proposal No. :- SIA/WB/IND/57057/2019, File No. :EN/T-II-I/019/2019

Type-EC

INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application vide proposal no. SIA/WB/IND/57057/2019 dated 01.10.2020 along with copies of EIA/EMP seeking environment clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned project. The proposed project activity is listed at SL.No. 3(a) Metallurgical industries (ferrous & non ferrous), under Category "B1" of EIA Notification 2006.

The project was placed in the 17th meeting of SEIAA held on 23.02.2021 and it was decided to request the project proponent to submit certain documents.

The project proponent submitted reply through letter dated 12.11.2021.

DELIBERATION IN SEIAA

SEIAA considered the submission made by the project proponent vide their letter no. nil dated 12.11.2021 and observed that none of the plot nos. have been classified for industrial use. ADDA vide its Memo No. ADDA/DGP/NOC(P)/PC-155(B)/19-20/197 dated 01.04.2021 in condition no. (xvi) have mentioned that 'permission for conversion of land under the provision of WBLR Act must be obtained from the Competent Authority'. Thus the land conversion certificates are to be submitted from the Competent Authority by the project proponent.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

Therefore, the application for EC is deferred for additional information.

CONCLUSION

Deferred (Additional Information).

(2) Proposed expansion of Cement Production Capacity of Existing Stand-alone Clinker Grinding Unit (2.0 to 5.0 MTPA) by M/s. UltraTech Cement Limited (Unit: Sonar Bangla Cement Works) at Village: Dhalo, P.O: Gankar, Block: Raghunathganj-I, District: Murshidabad, West Bengal (details of plot nos. given in Annexure – 1).

Proposal No. :-SIA/WB/IND/58900/2020, File No. :EN/T-II-1/066/2020

Type-EC

INTRODUCTION

The proponent made online application with final EIA report vide proposal no. SIA/WB/IND/58900/2020 dated 26.07.2021 along with copies of EIA/EMP seeking environmental clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the above mentioned project. The project proponent has submitted application in SL.No. 3(b) Cement plants, under Category "B1" of EIA Notification 2006.

The project proponent obtained ToR vide File No. EN/T-II-1/066/2020 dated 23.12.2020 (Proposal no. SIA/WB/IND/58900/2020 dated 04.12.2020).

Earlier the project obtained EC from SEIAA for expansion vide memo no. EN/128-I/T-II-1/054/2007 dated 19.06.2008 and No. 3001/EN/T-II-1/054/2007 dated 08.12.2015. Transfer of EC from Sonar Bangla Cement (A Division of Century Textiles & Industries Ltd.) to M/s. Ultratech Cement Limited was accorded vide memo no. 465/EN/T-II-1/054/2007 dated 28.02.2020 (SIA/WB/IND/127450/2019).

The project was placed in the 36th meeting of SEIAA held on 28.10.2021 and it was observed that the project proponent is required to submit the following:-

- The lay out plan showing all activities of the plant, road, parking, loading unloading area, greenbelt etc. for existing (2.0 MT) and proposed expansion (5.0 MT) in different colours mentioning the area and percentage in a comparative table in the same sheet.
- ii. The complete EIA Report is not available in the Portal.
- iii. A table mentioning the list of trees is submitted in the Portal. A greenbelt plan duly certified by the local DFO.

It was also decided that in order to assess the environmental load for the proposed expansion of the plant, a field visit by a team of SEIAA & SEAC members to be organised with prior intimation to the project proponent.

In pursuance to the decision taken in SEIAA meeting held on 28.10.2021, a field visit of SEIAA was held at 10.30 am on 30.11.21.

DELIBERATION IN SEIAA

In addition to the documents sought in meeting held on 28.10.2021, it was decided to ask the following from the project proponent based on the field visit:-

- i. From the land documents vide Ref. No. Infra/Gen/2P-17/10(Part-II)/1937 dated 03.11.2021, it was observed that there is a discrepancy in the total land area in the land lease agreement. It was requested by the authority to provide corrected land schedule issued by the competent authority.
- ii. As adequacy of parking area could not be ascertained during the field visit, the project proponent is requested to provide a numbered parking layout plan.
- iii. A map showing all dag nos. within the project boundary.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF SEIAA

Therefore, the application for EC is deferred for additional information.

CONCLUSION

Deferred (Additional Information).

II MISCELLANEOUS

(1) Processing of Terms of Reference (ToR) applications.

It is observed that some of the project proponents apply for ToR without submission of land conversion certificates. Issuance of land conversion certificate is a time consuming process and any project attracting ToR is required to prepare EIA/EMP followed by public hearing process which also requires considerable time. In order to expedite the whole process of EC application, SEIAA decided that ToR can be issued with the specific condition that the project proponent would obtain land conversion certificate prior to the submission of the EC application.

(2) Approval of DSRs.

It is observed that some DSRs from the Mines Branch, Deptt. of Industry, Commerce & Enterprises, Govt. of West Bengal have been received by email with an endorsement to SEIAA for approval.

Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench in its Original Application No. 40/2020/EZ and O.A. 57/2020/EZ dated 14.10.2020 has observed that 'the SEIAA comprises of technical/scientific experts. The SEAC after appraisal of the report shall forward it to SEIAA for consideration and approval if it meets all scientific/technical requirements'. Approved DSR is a mandatory requirement for processing of EC applications dealing with sand mining cases.

In West Bengal SEAC & SEIAA do not have any infrastructure, office, manpower, technical experts and no budget allocation till date. At present meeting of SEIAA is conducted at the Conference Room of the Environment Department and the meeting of SEAC is conducted at the Conference Room of WBPCB only on the days of meeting when the projects are put up for environmental clearance. In absence of any dedicated office space, detailed checking, appraisal, analysis and documentation of the individual projects are not possible prior to the date of meeting. Only on the days of the meeting some supporting staff from WBPCB and Dept. of Environment are provided for conducting the meeting. This issue of the urgent requirement of physical space, infrastructure, adequate manpower and budgetary provision has been conveyed to the Authorities time and again.

In view of the foregoing paras it would be extremely difficult to undertake the task of appraisal, verification and approval of the DSR by the SEIAA. Even hon'ble NGT has also emphasised that scientific/technical inputs are essential in carrying out such exercise. It is, therefore, requested that adequate facilities to SEIAA may please be provided to undertake the task of appraisal and approval of DSRs. Detailed requirements of such facilities shall be worked out in consultation with the subject matter specialist.

Member Secretary is requested to bring it to the notice of Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Environment and Chief Secretary, West Bengal.

(3) Non payment of amount towards implementation of 'remediation plan (RP) and natural and community resource augmentation plan (NCRAP)' by the project proponents.

The project proponents who have failed to deposit the requisite amount towards RP and NCRAP beyond a period of six months from the date of communication of the same will be liable for delisting of their EC application. After a lapse of six months period a reminder email to the project proponent shall be sent for due compliance within a period of fifteen (15) days from the date of issue of email. In case of no response from the project proponent the EC application shall be delisted.

(4) Review of online pending applications.

Sl. No.	Issues	Recommendations
1.	Inadequate space (1 MB) provided for uploading all essential documents during submission of the project proponent through PARIVESH portal.	Option 1: Increase space to 10 MB for uploading of all essential documents Option 2: To create a link with a space of 10 MB capacity for uploading of drawing files separately. Action: MoEF&CC and NIC
2.	Rejection of approved EC application in violation cases for non payment of the requisite amount towards remediation plan (RP) and natural and community resource augmentation plan (NCRAP).	Presently there is no such provision for rejection of approved EC application which is lying pending with SEIAA for non payment of the requisite amount towards RP and NCRAP. A provision for such rejection is to be made in the portal. Action: MoEF&CC and NIC

(Ujjwal Kumar

Bhattacharya)

Chairman

(Prof. Madhumita Roy

Member

(K. Balamurugan) Member Secretary