



सत्यमेव जयते

File No.: SEIAA. 3201/2022

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

(Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA),
ASSAM)



Dated 19/07/2024



To,

BIRAJ DAS
Village-Patharkandi, P.O- Patharkandi, P.S- Patharkandi , District- Karimganj, Assam, Pincode-
788724., Patharkandi, KARIMGANJ, ASSAM, 788724
birajpkd@gmail.com

Subject: Grant of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed Mining Project under the provisions of EIA Notification 2006-regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application submitted to SEIAA vide proposal number SIA/AS/MIN/455129/2023 dated 28/03/2024 for grant of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) to the project under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-and as amended thereof.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC23B0107AS5608552N
(ii) File No.	SEIAA. 3201/2022
(iii) Clearance Type	Fresh EC
(iv) Category	B1
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals Proposed River bed mining project of Longai Sand Minor Mineral Unit No 1A & B on Longai river bed, located at Tinokhal-Saigoj area, in Karimganj district of Assam under Duhalia Range of Karimganj Forest Division, Karimganj , Assam.
(vii) Name of Project	
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	KARIMGANJ, ASSAM
(x) Issuing Authority	SEIAA
(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	Yes

In view of the particulars given in the Para 1 above, the project proposal interalia including Form-1(Part A and B) were submitted to the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), Assam under the provision of EIA notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments.

The above-mentioned proposal has been considered by SEIAA in the meeting held on 21/06/2024. The minutes of the

meeting and all the project documents are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed from the PARIVESH portal by scanning the QR Code above. Brief description of the project is as under: River bed mining project of Longai River has rich source of mineral resources of sand.

Details of the minerals to be mined along with production capacity and the brief on the salient features of the project as submitted by the project proponent in Form 1 (Part A, B and C) in the reports and as presented during SEIAA are annexed to this EC as Annexure (1).

The SEAC, in its meeting held on 21/06/2024, based on information submitted viz: Form 1 (Part A, B and C), EIA/EMP report etc & clarifications provided by the project proponent and after detailed deliberations on all technical aspects and public hearing issues and compliance thereto furnished by the Project Proponent, recommended the proposal refer to the SEIAA for grant of Environment Clearance under the provision of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof subject to stipulation of Specific and Standard EC conditions as detailed in the point below.

The SEIAA reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary.

The Environmental Clearance to the aforementioned project is under provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. It does not tantamount to approvals/consent/permissions etc. required to be obtained under any other Act/Rule/regulation. The Project Proponent is under obligation to obtain approvals /clearances under any other Acts/ Regulations or Statutes, as applicable, to the project.

The PP is under obligation to implement commitments made in the Environment Management Plan, which forms part of this EC.

The SEAC has examined the proposal in accordance with the provisions contained in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and based on the recommendations of the SEAC, the SEIAA hereby accords to grant the Environment Clearance for the instant proposal to M/s. BIRAJ DAS under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof subject to compliance of the Specific and Standard EC conditions as given in Annexure (2).

Validity of EC is upto 5(five) years from which the prior environmental clearance is granted by the regulatory authority.

General Instructions:

1. The project proponent shall prominently advertise it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days indicating that the project has been accorded environment clearance and the details of SEIAA website where it is displayed.
2. The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn must display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
3. The project proponent shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors (in case of Company) or competent authority, duly prescribing standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental / forest / wildlife norms / conditions.
4. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the project proponent (during construction phase) and authorized entity mandated with compliance of conditions (during operational phase) shall be prepared. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Six monthly progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report.
5. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
6. The IRO, MoEFCC, GOI shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports.
7. Any appeal against this EC shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

The extraction of Sand-Gravel from the area within the limits of the GPS Co-ordinates as under:

Longitude Latitude

Block A

1. 92°19'25.53" E 24°30'16.81" N
2. 92°19'23.90" E 24°30'17.46" N
3. 92°19'25.28" E 24°30'05.35" N
4. 92°19'23.31" E 24°30'04.08" N

Block B

5. 92°19'55.37" E 24°31'26.70" N
6. 92°19'53.57" E 24°31'27.40" N
7. 92°19'43.95" E 24°30'33.78" N
8. 92°19'44.79" E 24°30'32.31" N

EC is approved for project area allotted 12Ha with a quantity of 62,500 Cu M of Sand for 5 (five) years @ 12,500 Cu M, annually subject to the terms and conditions laid down by SEAC, Assam.

Copy To

1. The Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, MOEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Rd, New Delhi-110003.
2. The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment & Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 Cum Member Secretary, SEIAA, Assam for favour of kind information.
3. The P.C.C.F, HoFF, Govt. of Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for favour of kind information.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Karimganj Forest Division, Karimganj, Assam for information & necessary action to ensure that all **Specific Conditions & General Condition** are complied with.
5. The Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, 4th Floor, Housefed Building, G.S. Road, Rukminigaon, Guwahati-22 for kind information.
6. Office Copy.

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Specific Conditions By Seac

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	<p>(i) Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consent to Operate (CTO) shall be obtained from the PCBA in terms of the guidelines circulated by the CPCB / MoEF & CC for non manual extraction which need to be adhered to by the concerned DFO.</p> <p>(ii) The Divisional Forest Officer shall ensure due vigilance in the mining area to avert any kind of irregularities / illegalities during the mining period.</p> <p>iii) The DFO shall also ensure marking the boundary of the mining site on the ground fixing permanent concrete pillars, painted yellow with the Geo coordinates depicted there in on the pillars / posts, following the GPS coordinates mentioned in the approved mining plan.</p> <p>iv) Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) activities shall be carried out / undertaken by the Proponent and minimum of 3% of the total project cost amounting to Rs 17.07 Lakh (Rupees Seventeen Lakh Seven Thousand) only, shall be spent in establishment of Toilet facilities, both for Male and Female in the adjoining village, as approved. Such activities carried out and complied with are to be uploaded in the PARIVESH portal.</p>

S. No	EC Conditions
	<p>v) The budget earmarked for the Environment Protection as approved by the SEAC amounting to Rs 13.65 Lakh only as the Capital Cost and Rs 5.50 Lakh as recurring cost per year shall be spent accordingly and not diverted for any other purposes.</p> <p>vi) Plantation activities shall be carried out / undertaken in any of the Educational Institutions or Govt lands involving local NGOs, School / College students in 33% (3.9 ha) of the area. Efforts shall be made to selectively use the saplings of aesthetic, of medicinal value, of evergreen nature with the consultation of the DFO and label the plant species for the benefits of the villagers, common people and specially the school/college students. The DFO, Karimganj Division shall identify the activities adequately, prepare the approved budget for the purposes amounting to Rs 20,52,000.00 for raising of plantation including their maintenance and get the same executed / implemented within 1st 2 (two) years of allowing mining in the area and shall upload the reports in PARIVESH portal which shall form part of the Half Yearly Compliance Report.</p> <p>The recommended species of plants in the locality could be of species like Bakul (<i>Mimosups elengi</i>), Agor (<i>Aquillaria malaccensis</i>), Amlokhi (<i>Phyllantus emblica</i>), Hilikha (<i>Terminalia chebula</i>), Asoca (<i>Saraca asoca</i>), Bael (<i>Aegle marmelos</i>), Bokphul (<i>Sesbania grandiflora</i>), Mohaneem (<i>Azadirachta indica</i>), Jamun (<i>Syzygium cuminii</i>), Kordoi (<i>Averrhoa carambola</i>), Arjun (<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>), Ow Tenga (<i>Dillenia indica</i>), Defol (<i>Garcinia spp</i>), Kala Siris (<i>Albizzia lebbeck</i>) etc etc.</p> <p>Compliance of the same shall duly be uploaded by the Proponent in the PARIVESH portal</p>

2. Specific Conditions By Seiaa

S. No	EC Conditions
2.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sand extraction site should be selected minimum 100mts away from upstream and downstream and the protection works. 2. Deep and new bank extraction which may divert the channel flow. 3. Mining near bridge piers and abutments should be avoided. 4. Mechanical setup used for mining such as pumps, pipehines etc should not be placed on or excess any WR structures. 5. Mining shall be confined and limited to the area falling within the revised GPS coordinates for each of the blocks leaving a gap of 50 mtrs as non-mining zone.

Standard EC Conditions for (Mining of minerals)

1. Statutory Compliance

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The Environmental clearance shall be subject to orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Courts, NGT and any other Court of Law, from time to time, and as applicable to the project
1.2	The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish / Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State pollution Control Board/ Committee.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.3	The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
1.4	The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
1.5	The maximum production or peak production at any given time shall not exceed the limit as prescribed in the EC.
1.6	Validity of EC is as per life of the mine mentioned in EC letter or 30 years as per EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments therein

2. Air Quality Monitoring And Mitigation Measure

S. No	EC Conditions
2.1	Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centres.
2.2	Transportation of coal, to the extent if permitted by road, shall be carried out by covered trucks/conveyors. Effective control measures such as regular water sprinkling/rain gun/ Fog cannon /mist sprinkling etc., shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution with higher level of particulate matter all through the coal transport roads, loading/unloading and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be controlled regularly. It shall be ensured that the ambient air quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board.
2.3	Major approach roads shall be black topped and properly maintained.
2.4	Adequate number of Fog canon (mist sprayer) shall be installed to reduce the impact of air pollution at dust generating sources with time bound action plan.

3. Water Quality Monitoring And Mitigation Measures

S. No	EC Conditions
3.1	Monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of river including ponds, lakes, tanks shall be carried out once in six months and record of monitoring data shall be maintained and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/Regional Office.
3.2	The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures to ensure reverian/ riparian ecosystem in and around the coal mine upto a distance of 5 km. A revarian /riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation / water resource department in the state government.
3.3	The project proponent shall not alter major water channels around the site. Appropriate embankment shall be provided along the side of the river/nallah flowing near or adjacent to the mine. The embankment constructed along the river/nallah boundary shall be of suitable dimensions

S. No	EC Conditions
	and critical patches shall be strengthened by stone pitching on the river front side, stabilized with plantation so as to withstand the peak water pressure preventing any chance of mine inundation.

4. Noise And Vibration Monitoring And Prevention

S. No	EC Conditions
4.1	Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels as per Noise Pollution Rules, 2016 in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operation of HEMM, etc shall be provided with personal protective equipments (PPE) like ear plugs/muffs in conformity with the prescribed norms and guidelines in this regard. Adequate awareness programme for users to be conducted. Progress in usage of such accessories to be monitored.
4.2	The noise level survey shall be carried out as per the prescribed guidelines to assess noise exposure of the workmen at vulnerable points in the mine premises, and report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry/RO on six-monthly basis.

5. Mining Plan

S. No	EC Conditions
5.1	Efforts should be made to reduce energy and fuel consumption by conservation, efficiency improvements and use of renewable energy.
5.2	No mining shall be carried out in forest land without obtaining Forestry Clearance as per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and also adhering to The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 read with provisions of Indian Forest Act, 1927.
5.3	Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan (including Mine Closure Plan) abiding by mining laws related to coal mining and the relevant circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS).
5.4	No change in mining method i.e. UG to OC, calendar programme and scope of work shall be made without obtaining prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

6. Land Recalvation

S. No	EC Conditions
6.1	Native tree species shall be selected and planted over areas affected by subsidence.

7. Public Hearing And Human Health Issues

S. No	EC Conditions
7.1	Effective arrangement shall be made to provide and maintain at suitable points conveniently

S. No	EC Conditions
	situated, a sufficient supply of drinking water for all the persons employed.
7.2	PP must ensure an emergency action plan during pandemic in order to provide assistance to the nearby villages located within the 10 km radius buffer zone (If required)
7.3	PP is asked to also identify the rural areas for installation of solar light with its maintenance within the study area of 10 km radius buffer zone with time bound action plan
7.4	PP to take measure for installation of Renewable Energy sources in nearby area falling within 10 km radius

8. Corporate Environment Responsibility

S. No	EC Conditions
8.1	Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.
8.2	The company shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approve by the Board of Directors. The environmental policy should prescribe for standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions and/or shareholders/stake holders.

9. Miscellaneous

S. No	EC Conditions
9.1	The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.
9.2	The illumination and sound at night at project sites disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. PPs must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day light/night hours
9.3	The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
9.4	The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language

S. No	EC Conditions
	within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.
9.5	The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
9.6	The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.
9.7	The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.
9.8	The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and put on the website of the company.
9.9	The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MOEFCC regarding commencement of mining operations.
9.10	No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
9.11	The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.
9.12	The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.
9.13	The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports.