



सत्यमेव जयते

File No.: IA-J-11011/106/2008-IA-II(IND-I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA Division



Dated 04/03/2024



To,

M/s. MALCO ENERGY LIMITED
SIPCOT Industrial Complex, Madurai bypass road, T.V Puram PO Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu- 628002
Email: Sumit.Gupta@vedanta.co.in

Subject: Expansion of Cobalt, Copper, Nickel and Sodium Sulphate Unit by M/s Malco Energy Limited, located at Plot No. L-15, L-19 & L- 20 Cuncolim Industrial Estate, Cuncolim, Goa –Amendment in Environmental Clearance– regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This refers to your proposal no. IA/GA/INDI/452494/2023 dated 25.12.2023 along with Form 4 (CAF, Form – I Part A, B and C) and Addendum EIA and sought for amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 w.r.t. amendment in production quantity of the Nickel, Cobalt & Copper by removal of capping for individual Product/By Product) without increase in total production capacity of 7560 MTPA and other associated amendments. Further, the PP has uploaded the information on portal on 07.02.2024.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC23A1004GA5827783A
(ii) File No.	IA-J-11011/106/2008-IA-II(IND-I)
(iii) Clearance Type	Amendment in EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Schedule No./ Project Activity	3(a) Metallurgical Industries (ferrous and non ferrous)
(vi) Sector	Industrial Projects - 1 Proposed Amendment in existing Environmental Clearance for “Expansion of Cobalt, Copper, Nickel and Sodium Sulphate Unit at Plot No. L-15, L-19 & L- 20 Cuncolim Industrial Estate, Cuncolim, Goa”
(vii) Name of Project	
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	SOUTH GOA, GOA

(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) EC Date	28/10/2009
(xi) Applicability of General Conditions	NO
(xiii) Status of implementation of the project	

3. The proposal cited above was considered in 52nd meeting of Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry-1 Sector) held during 23rd – 25th January, 2024. The minutes of the meeting and all the project documents are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in>.

Details submitted by the project proponent

4. Initially, M/s. Nicomet Industries Limited was operating a Cobalt, Copper, Nickel and Sodium Sulphate Unit at Plot No. L-15, L-19, & L-20 Cuncolim Industrial Estate, Cuncolim, Goa. Environmental Clearance for the same was obtained from MoEFCC, New Delhi vide letter no. F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009. Thereafter, the EC was transferred from in the name of MALCO Energy Limited vide letter no. J-11011/106/2008-IA-II (I) dated 31.10.2022.

5. The instant proposal is for seeking amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 w.r.t. amendment in production quantity of the Nickel, Cobalt & Copper by removal of capping for individual Product/By Product) without increase in total production capacity of 7560 MTPA and other associated amendments. The details are furnished at Annexure I

6. It is reported that there is no violation under EIA, 2006/court case/show cause/direction related to the project under consideration.

7. The Committee noted the following:

i. Initially, M/s. Nicomet Industries Limited was operating a Cobalt, Copper, Nickel and Sodium Sulphate Unit at Plot No. L-15, L-19, & L-20 Cuncolim Industrial Estate, Cuncolim, Goa. Environmental Clearance for the same was obtained from MoEFCC, New Delhi vide letter no. F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009. Thereafter, the EC was transferred from in the name of MALCO Energy Limited vide letter no. J-11011/106/2008-IA-II (I) dated 31.10.2022.

ii. The instant proposal is for seeking amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 w.r.t. amendment in production quantity of the Nickel, Cobalt & Copper by removal of capping for individual Product/By Product) without increase in total production capacity of 7560 MTPA and other associated amendments.

iii. PP reported that the composition of raw material used by M/s NICOMET industries is different from the present raw material available. Percentage of metal content in Raw material varies as per the ore mineralogy for same metals. The present raw material contains ~23 % Nickel and ~ 1 % Cobalt, which meets the requirements for the production of the final products. Therefore, due to variation in mineral composition of Ore & to utilize the variable quality of ore to the optimum level the removal of capping has been proposed. The EAC deliberated on the justification provided by the project proponent and found it satisfactory in the instant case.

iv. The EAC noted that there is no change in overall capacity of units in granted EC.

v. The EAC also deliberated on the written submission of the Project proponent and found it satisfactory.

8. After deliberations, the Committee recommended the proposal subject to uploading of written submission on portal for amendment in EC granted vide letter F. No. J-11011/106/2008- IA II (I) dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 as detailed in **Annexure I**. The other terms and conditions of the EC letter dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 shall remain the same.

9. The MoEF&CC has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee

(Industry-1 Sector) hereby decided to grant Amendment in Environment Clearance dated 28.10.2009 and subsequent EC transfer dated 31.10.2022 for instant proposal of **M/s Malco Energy Limited** under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006.

10. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary at subsequent stages and the project proponent shall implement all the said conditions in a time bound manner. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the environmental clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not found satisfactory.

11. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

12. This issues with approval of the competent authority.

(Dr. R. B. Lal)
Scientist 'F'/Director

Copy To

1. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Goa, Panaji.
2. Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Goa, Panaji.
3. The Director General of Forest, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi.
4. Regional Officer, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bangalore – 560034
5. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD- The Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
6. Chairman, Goa State Pollution Control Board, Dempo Tower, EDC Plaza, 1st Floor, Panaji, Goa- 403 001
7. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W- 3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
8. District Collector, South Goa, Govt. of Goa.
9. Monitoring File/Guard File/ Record File.
10. MoEF&CC Website

(Dr. R. B. Lal)
Scientist 'F'/Director

Annexure I

Amendment in EC w.r.t. production quantity of the Nickel, Cobalt & Copper by removal of capping for individual Product/By Product) without increase in total production capacity of 7560 MTPA and other associated amendments. The details are as follows:

S. No.	Amendment proposal	Reference of EC	Existing as per EC 2009				Proposed Amendment				Justification
			Products	Existing (MTPA)	Proposed (MTPA)	After Expansion (MTPA)	Products	Existing (MTPA)	Proposed (MTPA)	Proposed Amendment (MTPA)	
1.	Removal of Capping for Product/ By Product	Para 2.0 Table of EC letter vide no. J-11011/106/2008-IA II(I) dated 28.10.2009	Cobalt	600	1,020	1,620	Cobalt	1,620	Nil	7560	The composition of raw material used by M/s NICOMET industries is different from the present raw material available. Percentage of metal content in Raw material varies as per the ore mineralogy for same metals. The present raw material contains ~23 % Nickel and ~ 1 % Cobalt, which meets the requirements for the production of the final products. Therefore, due to variation in mineral composition of Ore & to
			Copper (By product)	360	3,420	3,780	Copper (By product)	3,780	Nil		
Nickel	480	1,680	2,160	Nickel	2,160	Nil					
Sodium Sulphate (By product)	7,200	2,520	9,720	Sodium Sulphate (By product)	9,720		9,720				
By Products											
<u>Zinc sulphate solution (As per CTO)</u>	60	Nil	60								
<u>Manganese Sulphate Solution and Crystals (As per CTO)</u>	1200	Nil	1200								

S. No.	Amendment proposal	Reference of EC	Existing as per EC 2009	Proposed Amendment	Justification
					utilize the variable quality of ore to the optimum level the removal of capping has been proposed.

Other Amendments sought –

S. No.	Amendment proposal	Reference of EC	Existing as per EC 2009	Proposed Amendment	Justification
1.	Water requirement	Para 4.0 of EC letter vide no. J-11011/106/2008-IA II(I) dated 28.10.2009	Total water requirement for proposed expansion from Goa Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) will be 148 m³/day.	The water requirement for proposed expansion from Goa Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) will be 300 m³/day	MEL is using raw material with different composition therefore existing water requirement won't suffice to run plant at peak capacity. Increased Moisture losses through the products in the form of water of hydration by producing Nickel and Cobalt salts = 50 KL/day
2.	Water requirement	Para 6.0, Specific conditions, Point (ix)	Total water requirement for proposed expansion from Goa Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) will be 148 m³/day.	The water requirement for proposed expansion from Goa Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) will be 300 m³/day	Increased water consumption in cooling water top-up water due to operating the cooling towers at full capacity to utilize 100% capacity of plant for Nickel and Cobalt salt production =102 KL/day
3.	Air Monitoring	Para 6.0 Specific condition (ii) of EC	On-line ambient air monitoring and	Ambient air monitoring and Stack monitoring	M/s. Nicomet Industries Limited had submitted representation on 3 rd September 2015 to

S. No.	Amendment proposal	Reference of EC	Existing as per EC 2009	Proposed Amendment	Justification
		letter vide no. J-11011/106/2008-IA II(I) dated 28.10.2009	<u>continuous</u> stack monitoring facilities for all the stacks and sufficient air pollution control devices shall be provided to keep the emission levels below <u>100 mg/Nm³</u>	facilities for all the stacks and sufficient air pollution control devices shall be provided to keep the emission levels below <u>50 mg/Nm³</u>	CPCB that NIL was wrongly classified into the group of integrated steel plants and sponge iron units which comes in the 17 categories of highly polluting industries. On the basis of this, NIL was exempted by CPCB from the requirement of installation of online emission and effluent monitoring. MEL is being and will be monitored AAQ manually and reduce the emission levels from <u>100 mg/Nm³</u> (as prescribed in earlier EC) to <u>50 mg/Nm³</u>
4.	Air Monitoring	Para 6.0 Specific condition (v) of EC letter vide no. J-11011/106/2008-IA II(I) dated 28.10.2009	<u>On-line</u> ambient air monitoring and <u>continuous</u> stack monitoring facilities for all the stacks and sufficient air pollution control devices shall be provided to keep the emission levels below <u>100 mg/Nm³</u>	Ambient air monitoring and Stack monitoring facilities for all the stacks and sufficient air pollution control devices shall be provided to keep the emission levels below <u>50 mg/Nm³</u>	
5.	Secondary fugitive emission from blast furnace	Para 6.0, Specific condition Point (vii)	Secondary fugitive emission from blast furnace shall be controlled within the latest permissible limits issued by the	-	There is no Blast furnace present at the plant. <u>Therefore, PP requests to remove this condition</u>

S. No.	Amendment proposal	Reference of EC	Existing as per EC 2009	Proposed Amendment	Justification
			Ministry and regularly monitored. Guidelines / Code of Practice issued in this regard by CPCB shall also be followed		

