



Validity expires on 23.05.2019

Proceedings of the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority Kerala

Present: Prof. (Dr.) K.P. Joy, Chairman; Dr. J. Subhashini, Member; Sri. P.K. Mohanty IAS, Member Secretary

Sub: SEIAA Kerala - Quarry project in Sy. Nos. 2, 14, 15 and 16/1 at Akathethara Village and Panchayath, Palakkad Taluk, Palakkad District, Kerala by M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd. - Environmental Clearance under EIA Notification 2006 accorded - Orders issued

Environmental Clearance

No. 160/SEIAA/KL/3490/2013

dated, Thiruvananthapuram 24.05.2014

Read:- SEIAA Kerala Minutes of the 30th meeting dt. 09-05-2014

ORDER

Mr. Mohammed Fazeel T.A. has applied for Environmental Clearance vide application received on 09-12-2013 for the quarry project of M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd. in Sy. Nos. 2, 14, 15 and 16/1 at Akathethara Village and Panchayath, Palakkad Taluk, Palakkad District, Kerala from 9.3928 hectares for the extraction of minor minerals. The land use classification as per revenue records is private land. Out of the total 11.6655 hectares of land owned by the proponent, the lease area consists of 9.3928 hectares which is private land and the present land use is quarrying activities. The current proposal is for the existing quarry and hence no alternate site was examined as the project site is mineral specific. The proposed quarry site is private land and is possessed in the name of M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd. Forest land is not involved in the project. It is interalia, noted that the project comes under Category B2, Activity 1(a), (i) of Schedule of EIA Notification 2006. The proposed project site falls within 10° 51' 24.53" N to 10° 51' 38.56" N and 76° 37' 50.95" E to 76° 38' 5.63" E. The proposed project is for quarrying of 3,50,000 MTA of building stone from an area of 9.3928 hectares of land. The expected life of mine will be 28 years.

The proposal has been appraised by the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee Kerala constituted by the competent authority, as per prescribed procedure in the lights of provisions under the EIA Notification 2006 and subsequent amendments, in its 23rd meeting held on 6th and 7th January 2014, 25th meeting held on 14th and 15th February 2014, 26th meeting held on 20th and 21st March 2014 and 29th meeting held on 2nd and 3rd May 2014 AND on the basis of the supporting documents enclosed with the application viz., the Form - 1, questionnaire for mining projects, pre-feasibility report, Environment Management Plan and the additional clarifications including a map showing a buffer distance of 50 m from the forest land on the north furnished in response to the observations, the SEAC Kerala recommended environmental clearance to the project.

The proposed project activity involves about 100 % of the pit area for exploring building stone. At the end of life of mine, excavated pit will be backfilled and reclaimed and rehabilitated by plantation leaving no void. The proposed project does not involve any underground mining activities. The mining

will be done by open cast semi mechanized method. The bench height and width proposed is 5 m. The ultimate exploitation of mineral is being done from 225 m MSL to 125 m MSL in conceptual phase. The ultimate depth of the mine workings is estimated to be 125 m MSL. Part of the proposed land is already under mining and there is no top soil in those areas. The remaining land is having top soil with average thickness of 1 m to 3 m. About 1,55,440 m³ of top soil will be generated from the proposed pit, which will be properly stacked within their own property but outside the lease area and will be utilized for plantation over the reclaimed areas. The sewage of 0.8 KLD generated from the mine office will be diverted to the septic tank followed by soak pit. The municipal solid waste generated from the labour quarter will be disposed. The sludge generated from the septic tank will be dried and used as manure in plantation. The daily water requirement of 5 KLD will be met from open well water/storm water collection pond. The total power requirement of 75 kW will be drawn from diesel engine. There will be fugitive emissions generated during material handling, transportation, loading, unloading, etc. that are proposed to be managed by regular water sprinkling on haul road, green belt development, avoiding overloading of vehicles, maintaining the speed of vehicles within prescribed limits and covering the load with tarpaulin sheets. Plantation with shrubs, herbs and trees will be done as part of eco-restoration work. Anticipating 50 % growth rate, at the end of life of mine about 9,000 trees will be grown in total area of 9.3928 hectares. As per the biodiversity listing provided by the proponent, there is no floral or faunal species existing at site which are in the red listed category or schedule 1 species. Kalpathi Puzha is located at a distance of 8 km S, thodu at a distance of 2 km S, a water fall at a distance of 2 km SE, Dhoni Forest at 7.5 m N & E and Malampuzha Dam Water Catchment Area at a distance of 2.4 km NE of the project site. Electrical high tension line is at a distance of 700 m W and Mobile tower at a distance of 1 km W of the project site. There are no houses within 500 m radius from the proposed quarry. The quarry is interlinked with a crusher unit located within the complex. As stated by the proponent, there is no litigation pending against the lease area / applicant of the lease area in any court of law. The total cost of the project is ₹ 2.50 Crores.

The SEIAA, after due consideration of the relevant documents and additional clarifications submitted by the project proponent, and in view of the recommendations of SEAC, approved for issuance of Environmental Clearance for the project mentioned above at its 30th meeting held on 9th May 2014. Accordingly, the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) Kerala constituted by Govt. of India vide Notification No. S.O. 2484(E) dt. 3-11-2011 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, published as Gazette extraordinary No. 2074 on 3-11-2011 and further amended by Govt. of India vide Notification No. S.O. 546(E) dt. 25.02.2014 of Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, published as Gazette extraordinary No. 466 dated 25-02-2014, hereby accord necessary Environmental Clearance for the quarry project in Sy. Nos. 2, 14, 15 and 16/1 at Akathethara Village and Panchayath, Palakkad Taluk, Palakkad District, Kerala by M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd. as per powers vested with it under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification - 2006 and subsequent amendments and also under the provisions made in the O.M. No. L-11011/47/2011-IA.II(M) dated 18th May 2012 of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, and further subject to strict compliance of the following specific conditions, and the general conditions contained in the Annexure, which shall also form a part of this document:

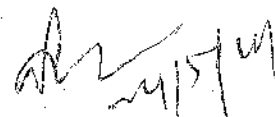
1. Limit quarry to the stream on the eastern side to permit unhindered flow of the stream.
2. Leave statutory distance from the forest land on the north.
3. The stream may be provided with low level check dams to trap silt.
4. Rain water harvesting facility is required in the absence of dependable source of water.

Compliance of the above conditions will be monitored by the Directorate of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Kerala or its agencies and also by the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India located at Bangalore. Necessary support for entry and inspection should be provided by the project proponent to the staff of the Directorate and Ministry for monitoring purposes. In case of non-compliance of conditions, noted, if any, the Director, Department of Environment and Climate Change shall report the matter to the District Collector concerned to take necessary action under Environment Protection Act 1986.

The given address of correspondence of the Authorized Signatory of the project is:- Mr. Mohammed Fazeel T.A., Managing Director, M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd., Plaza Junction, Dhoni P.O., Palakkad, Kerala - 678009; Mob. No. 09447129278; Email: royal_grs@yahoo.com

Agency with NABET accreditation for EIA is:- M/s Enkay Enviro Services Pvt. Ltd., 24-B, Dadu Marg, Gopal Bari, Ajmer Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan-302001; Tel. No: 0141-4013996/4023996/4016996; Fax; 0141-4026996; Email: info@enkayenviro.com

The validity of EC is for a period of 15 years from 24.05.2014 subject to renewal in every five years.



P. K. Mohanty IAS
Member Secretary, SEIAA
and Addl. Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Forest & Wildlife Departments

Enkay

To

Mr. Mohammed Fazeel T.A.
Managing Director
M/s Royal Sand & Gravels Pvt. Ltd.
Plaza Junction, Dhoni P.O.
Palakkad, Kerala - 678009.

Copy to :

1. IA-Division, Monitoring Cell, MoEF, Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003
2. MoEF Regional Office, Southern Zone, Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E&F Wing, II Block Koramangala, Bangalore-560034
3. The Addl. Chief Secretary to Government, Environment Dept., Government of Kerala
4. The Principal Secretary to Government, Local Self Government Department
5. The District Collector concerned
6. The Director, Dept. of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala, Tvm - 24.
7. The Director, Mining and Geology Department, Government of Kerala
8. Chairman and Members of SEIAA Kerala
9. Chairman, SEAC Kerala
10. Website uploading
11. Stock file

STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY KERALA
GENERAL CONDITIONS (for mining projects)

- (i) Rain Water Harvesting capacity should be installed as per the prevailing provisions of KMBR / KPBR, unless otherwise specified elsewhere.
- (ii) Environment Monitoring Cell as agreed under the affidavit filed by the proponent should be formed and made functional.
- (iii) Suitable avenue trees should be planted along either side of the tarred road and open parking areas, if any, inclusive of approach road and internal roads.
- (iv) The project shall incorporate devices for solar energy generation and utilization wherever possible.
- (v) Sprinklers shall be installed and used in the project site to contain dust emissions.
- (vi) Eco-restoration including the mine closure plan shall be done at the own cost of the project proponent.
- (vii) At least 10 percent out of the total excavated pit area should be retained as water storage areas and the remaining area should be reclaimed with stacked dumpings and overburden and planted with indigenous plant species that are eco-friendly.
- (viii) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agreed upon by the proponent should be implemented in tune with the conditions specified in the Companies Act, 2013.
- (ix) Barbed metal wire fencing around the mining area shall be provided with a height of not less than 5 ft so that falling of animals/human beings/dumping of garbages etc. does not happen.
- (x) Warning alarms indicating the time of blasting (to be done at specific timings) has to be arranged as per stipulations of Explosive Department.
- (xi) Control measures on noise and vibration prescribed by KSPCB should be implemented.
- (xii) Quarrying activities should be limited to day time as per KSPCB guidelines.
- (xiii) Blasting should be done in a controlled manner as specified by the regulations of Explosives Department or any other concerned agency.
- (xiv) A licensed person should supervise/ control the blasting operations.
- (xv) Access roads to the quarry shall be tarred to contain dust emissions that may arise during transportation of materials.
- (xvi) Overburden materials should be managed within the site and the old quarries, if any, should be reclaimed and restored.
- (xvii) Height of benches should not exceed 5 m and width should not be less than 5 m.
- (xviii) Mats to reduce fly rock blast to a maximum of 10 PPV should be provided.
- (xix) Mining depth should not exceed beyond 40 m, unless otherwise specified or not below the level of nearest stream bed, whichever is less.
- (xx) No mining operations should be carried out at places having a slope greater than 45°.
- (xxi) Acoustic enclosures should have been provided to reduce sound amplifications in addition to the provisions of green belt and hollow brick envelop for crushers so that the noise level is kept within prescribed standards given by CPCB/KSPCB.
- (xxii) The workers on the site should be provided with the required protective equipment such as ear muffs, helmet, etc.
- (xxiii) Garland drains with clarifiers to be provided in the lower slopes around the core area to channelize storm water.
- (xxiv) The transportation of minerals should be done in covered trucks to contain dust emissions.
- (xxv) The proponent should plant trees at least 5 times of the loss that has been occurred while clearing the land for the project.

Disposal of spent oil from diesel engines should be as specified under relevant Rules/ Regulations.
Explosives should be stored in magazines in isolated place specified and approved by the Explosives Department.

- (xviii) Norms of Kerala State Pollution Control Board should be adhered to regarding distance criteria of residences, roads, rivers and worship places.
- (xxix) 200 m buffer distance should be maintained from forest boundaries.
- (xxx) Consent from Kerala State Pollution Control Board under Water and Air Act(s) should have been obtained before initiating activity.
- (xxxi) All other statutory clearances should have been obtained, as applicable, by project proponents from the respective competent authorities including that for blasting and storage of explosives.
- (xxxii) In the case of any change(s) in the scope of the project, the project would require a fresh appraisal by this Authority.
- (xxxiii) The Authority reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if found necessary, and to take action including revoking of the environment clearance under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, to ensure effective implementation of the suggested safeguard measures in a time bound and satisfactory manner.
- (xxxiv) The stipulations by Statutory Authorities under different Acts and Notifications should be complied with, including the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and EIA Notification, 2006.
- (xxxv) The project proponent should advertise in at least two local newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which (both the advertisement and the newspaper) shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala and may also be seen on the website of the Authority at www.seiaakerala.org. The advertisement should be made within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same signed in all pages should be forwarded to the office of this Authority as confirmation.
- (xxxvi) A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Grama Panchayat/ District Panchayat/ Municipality/Corporation/Urban Local Body and also to the Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions / representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The Environmental Clearance shall also be put on the website of the company by the proponent.
- (xxxvii) The proponent shall submit half yearly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) and upload the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the respective Regional Office of MoEF, Govt. of India and also to the Directorate of Environment and Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala.
- (xxxviii) The details of Environmental Clearance should be prominently displayed in a metallic board of 3 ft x 3 ft with green background and yellow letters of Times New Roman font of size of not less than 40.
- (xxxix) The proponent should provide notarized affidavit (indicating the number and date of Environmental Clearance proceedings) that all the conditions stipulated in the EC shall be scrupulously followed.

Sd/-

Member Secretary, SEIAA Kerala