

F. No. J-11011/112/2013-IA II (I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(I.A. Division)

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Dated: 29th March, 2016

To

M/s Ardent Steel Limited
Plot no. 208, New Colony Jamuhata,
Dist Keonjhar, Odisha-758001.

Subject: Iron Ore Pelletizing Plant (0.6 MTPA) located at Village Phuljhar, Tehsil Telkoi, District Keonjhar, Odisha, by M/s Ardent Steel Limited Environmental Clearance-regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to your online application No. IA/OR/IND/18852/2013 dated 28th November, 2015 along with copy of EIA/EMP report seeking Environmental Clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above. The ToRs to the project was awarded by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide letter No. J-11011/112/2013-IA.II (I) dated 10th November and subsequently an amendment was issued on 7th July 2015 for preparation of EIA/EMP report. The project proponent vide letter dated 10.09.2015 requested Ministry to consider the application for existing 0.6 MTPA pellet plant only at present, which was agreed by the Ministry.

2.0 The existing Iron Ore Pellet Plant (0.6 million TPA) of M/s Ardent Steel Limited is located at Village Phuljhar, Tehsil Telkoi, District Keonjhar. The total land acquired for the project is 36.781 ha, which is entirely of industrial type. No forestland involved. The entire land has been acquired for the project. The topography of the area is flat and reported to lies between 21°43'40.26" to 21°44'10.48" N Latitude and 85°25'53.78" to 85°27'49.41" E Longitude in Survey of India topo sheet No. 73G/6, at an elevation of 536 m AMSL. The Baitarani River passes near the project area. It has been reported that no water body exist around the project and modification/diversion in the existing natural drainage pattern at any stage has not been proposed. No national park/wildlife sanctuary/biosphere reserve/tiger reserve/elephant reserve etc. are reported to be located in the core and buffer zone of the project. The Similipal National Park is located at a distance of 68.79 KM from the site. The Grate Kiln Technology for existing pelletisation plant of 0.6 MTPA capacity has been adopted.

3.0 The targeted production capacity of the Iron Ore Pellet Plant is 0.6 million TPA. The ore for the plant would be procured from local market. The ore transportation has been done through railway & trucks.

4.0 The ground water table reported to ranges between 0.79 to 5.6 m below the land surface during the post-monsoon season and 3.8 to 12.3 m below the land surface during the pre-monsoon season.

5.0 The water requirement for the existing plant is 500 m³/day, which is being sourced from ground water. NOC from CGWA has been obtained vide letter No. 21-4(70)/SER/CGWA/2008-986 dated 25.08.2008. The power requirement of the existing project is 6.0 MW, which is obtained from the Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited.

6.0 It has been reported that a total of 17945 tonnes/annum of waste is being generated due to the project, out of which 13798 tonnes/annum has been used in Pellet Plant and 4147 tonnes/annum has been dumped in the earmarked dump yard. An area of 12.141 ha has been developed as green belt around the project site to attenuate the noise levels and trap the dust generated due to the project development activities.

7.0 It being an existing standalone pelletisation project, Public Hearing is being exempted as per EIA Notification, 2006 as amended on 14.09.2015.

8.0 The capital cost of the project is Rs. 133.96 Crores. The capital cost for environmental protection measures is Rs. 850 Lakhs. The annual recurring cost towards the environmental protection measures is Rs. 200 Lakhs. The proponent has mentioned that there is no court case to the project or related activity.

9.0 The matter was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry-I) in its 2nd meeting held on 28th -30th December, 2015. After detailed deliberations, the EAC (I) recommended the project for Environmental Clearance and stipulated Specific Conditions along with other environmental conditions while considering for accord of Environmental Clearance.

10.0 The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has considered the application based on the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry-I) and hereby decided to grant Environmental Clearance to the above mentioned proposal of M/s. Ardent Steel Ltd for Iron Ore Pelletizing Plant (0.6 MTPA) under the provision of EIA Notification dated 14th September, 2006, as amended, subject to strict compliance of the following Specific and General conditions:

A. SPECIFIC CONDITION:

- i. Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, a qualified doctor should be appointed and schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.
- ii. The project proponent shall ensure supply of safe drinking water to the nearby villages.

- iii. The project proponent shall install 24x7 air monitoring devices to monitor air emissions, as provided by the CPCB and submit report to Ministry and its Regional Office.
- iv. Continuous stack monitoring facilities for all the stacks shall be provided and sufficient air pollution control devices viz. Electrostatic precipitator (ESP), bag house, bag filters etc. shall be provided to keep the emission levels below 50 mg/Nm³ and installing energy efficient technology.
- v. The National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009 shall be followed.
- vi. Gaseous emission levels including secondary fugitive emissions from all the sources shall be controlled within the latest permissible limits issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. 414(E) dated 30th May, 2008 and regularly monitored. Guidelines / Code of Practice issued by the CPCB shall be followed.
- vii. Vehicular pollution due to transportation of raw material and finished product shall be controlled. Proper arrangements shall also be made to control dust emissions during loading and unloading of the raw material and finished product.
- viii. 'Zero' effluent discharge shall be strictly followed and no wastewater shall be discharged outside the premises.
- ix. Regular monitoring of influent and effluent surface, sub-surface and ground water shall be ensured and treated wastewater shall meet the norms prescribed by the State Pollution Control Board or described under the E(P) Act whichever are more stringent.
- x. Proper handling, storage, utilization and disposal of all the solid/hazardous waste shall be ensured and regular report regarding toxic metal content in the waste material and its composition, end use of solid/hazardous waste shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office, SPCB and CPCB. The proponent shall submit a copy of the agreement with the authorized vendor to the regional office as a part of compliance.
- xi. Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per the Factories Act and analysis shall be submitted to the regional office of the Ministry.
- xii. A time bound action plan shall be submitted to reduce solid waste generated due to the project related activities, its proper utilization and disposal.
- xiii. Proper utilization of fly ash shall be ensured as per Fly Ash Notification, 1999 and subsequent amendment in 2003 and 2009. All the fly ash shall be provided to cement and brick manufacturers for further utilization and Memorandum of Understanding shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office at Chennai.

- xiv. A Risk and Disaster Management Plan shall be prepared and a copy submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office, SPCB and CPCB within 3 months of issue of environment clearance letter.
- xv. The project proponent shall provide for solar light system for all common areas, street lights, villages, parking around project area and maintain the same regularly.
- xvi. The project proponent shall provide for LED lights in their offices and residential areas.
- xvii. Green belt shall be developed at least in 33% of the total project area with at least 10 meter wide green belt on all sides along the periphery of the project area and along road sides etc. by planting native and broad leaved species in consultation with local DFO, local community and as per the CPCB guidelines.
- xviii. At least 2.5% of the total cost of the project shall be earmarked towards the Enterprise Social Commitment based on Public Hearing issues, locals need and item-wise details along with time bound action plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office. Implementation of such program shall be ensured by constituting a Committee comprising of the proponent, representatives of village Panchayat and District Administration. Action taken report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.
- xix. The proponent shall prepare a detailed CSR Plan for every year for the next 5 years for the existing-cum-expansion project, which includes village-wise, sector-wise (Health, Education, Sanitation, Health, Skill Development and infrastructure requirements such as strengthening of village roads, avenue plantation, etc) activities in consultation with the local communities and administration. The CSR Plan will include the amount of 2% retain annual profits as provided for in Clause 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 which provides for 2% of the average net profits of previous 3 years towards CSR activities for life of the project. A separate budget head shall be created and the annual capital and revenue expenditure on various activities of the Plan shall be submitted as part of the Compliance Report to RO. The details of the CSR Plan shall also be uploaded on the company website and shall also be provided in the Annual Report of the company.
- xx. The Company shall submit within three months their policy towards Corporate Environment Responsibility which shall inter-alia address (i) Standard operating process/procedure to being into focus any infringement/deviation/ violation of environmental or forest norms/conditions, (ii) Hierarchical system or Administrative order of the Company to deal with environmental issues and ensuring compliance to the environmental clearance conditions and (iii) System of reporting of non-compliance/violation environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the company and/or stakeholders or shareholders.
- xxi. Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile

STP, Safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- i. The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the Odisha Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
- ii. No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- iii. At least four ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the downward direction as well as where maximum ground level concentration of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂ and NO_x are anticipated in consultation with the SPCB. Data on ambient air quality and stack emission shall be regularly submitted to this Ministry including its Regional Office at Bhubaneswar and the SPCB/CPCB once in six months.
- iv. Industrial wastewater shall be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May, 1993 and 31st December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. The treated wastewater shall be utilized for plantation purpose.
- v. The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards (85 dBA) by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels should conform to the standards prescribed under EPA Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (daytime) and 70 dBA (nighttime).
- vi. Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per the Factories Act.
- vii. The company shall develop rain water harvesting structures to harvest the rain water for utilization in the lean season besides recharging the ground water table.
- viii. The project proponent shall also comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards recommended in the EIA/EMP report. Further, the company must undertake socio-economic development activities in the surrounding villages like community development programmes, educational programmes, drinking water supply and health care etc.
- ix. Requisite funds shall be earmarked towards capital cost and recurring cost/annum for environment pollution control measures to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) as well as the State Government. An implementation schedule for implementing all the conditions stipulated herein shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry at Bhubaneswar. The funds so provided shall not be diverted for any other purpose.

- x. A copy of clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the web site of the company by the proponent.
- xi. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of the MOEFCC at Bhubaneswar. The respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The criteria pollutant levels namely; PM₁₀, SO₂, NO_x (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or critical sectoral parameters, indicated for the projects shall be monitored and displayed at a convenient location near the main gate of the company in the public domain.
- xii. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Regional Office of MOEFCC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The Regional Office of this Ministry at Bhubaneswar / CPCB / SPCB shall monitor the stipulated conditions.
- xiii. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of the MOEFCC at Bhubaneswar by e-mail.
- xiv. The Project Proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) at <http://envfor.nic.in>. This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office at Bhubaneswar.
- xv. Project authorities shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of commencing the land development work.

11.0 The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.

12.0 The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.

13.0 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 Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008 and the Public (Insurance) Liability Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.


29/3/2016
(Dr. Satish C. Garkoti)
Scientist 'F'

Copy to:-

1. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Odisha.
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi, 110 032.
3. The Chairman, Orissa Pollution Control Board, "Paribesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilakantha Nagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751012.
4. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (EZ), A/3, Chandersekharpur, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751023
5. Guard File / Record File/Monitoring file.


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