

KIND ATTN: Dr Satya Sugurata

J-11015/328/ 2006- IA. II (M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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Paryavaran Bhavan, C.G.O. Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Dated the April 4, 2007

To The President
M/s Vasavadatta Cement
P.O. Sedam 585 222, District Gulbarga,
Karnataka

Sub: Expansion of Injepalli limestone mine of M/s Vasavadatta Cement at
village Sadem in district Gulbarga in Karnataka - reg environmental
clearance.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to refer to your letter no. VC:WS:
E&I:ENV:CKJ:06:009/2854 dated 9.10.2006 and subsequent communication dated
16.1.2007 and 15.2.2007 on the above mentioned subject. The Ministry of
Environment and Forests has examined the application.

2. It has been noted that proposal is for expansion of captive limestone mine
for production of limestone from 4.5 to 9.0 million TPA and shale production of
0.50 million TPA to meet the requirement of cement plant. The company proposes
to increase the clinker capacity of the cement plant from 3.3 MTPA to 6.6 MTPA.
Distance of cement plant is 0.5km from the limestone mine. River Kagina flows at a
distance of 4.4 km from the mine lease boundary. Kamalavathi nalla passes adjacent
to the western boundary of the mining lease. Topography of the area is gently
undulating. Elevation above mean sea level is 420m above MSL. Total mine lease area
of the mine is 897.86 ha of which 889.16 ha is agriculture land and 8.7 ha is
government land. Out of 889.16 ha agriculture land, 792.86 ha is active mine lease
area, 15.0 ha is for infrastructure and roads and 90.0 ha will be under safety zone
with bund provided with green belt. Life of the mine is 67 years.

3. No ecologically sensitive area such as National park/ wildlife sanctuary/
biosphere reserve is located within 10km distance of the core zone of mining lease
area. Injepalli village is situated in 3 acres of land adjacent to the mine lease
having 108 families. Company will acquire 6 acres of land to rehabilitate the existing
villagers taking into consideration all the required infrastructure facilities like

school, community hall etc. Method of mining is opencast and mechanized involving drilling and blasting. Present working depth is 60m (bgl). Working depth is 45 m below ground level. Working will not intersect ground water table. Void of 60m depth will be created. Mined out pit will be created into artificial lake. Pit will be fenced as safety measures. Water requirement of 500m³/d initially will be met from the mine pit (494m³/d) and from the Kagina river for domestic consumption (6.0 m³/d). About 7.25 million m³ of OB waste will be generated, of which 1.25 million m³ will be used for afforestation in and around the colony plant, road etc. 6.0 million m³ of OB waste will be utilized to form bund of 50 m width, all along the lease boundary. It is noted that public hearing of the project was held on 12.12.2006. IBM has approved the mining scheme (including mine closure plan) on 11.08.2006. Cost of the project is Rs. 31.07 crores.

4. The project has been considered in accordance with the para 2.2 (2.2.1(i) (a)) of Interim operational guidelines of the Ministry issued on 13th October 2006 by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under Para 12 of the EIA Notification 2006.

5. Based on the information submitted by you, the Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to above project under the provisions of EIA Notification dated 14th September 2006 subject to the compliance of the following Specific and General conditions:

A. Specific conditions

- (i) The mining operation shall not intersect the ground water table. Prior approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and Central Ground Water Authority shall be obtained for mining below water table.
- (ii) Top soil shall be stacked properly with proper slope with adequate safeguards and shall be backfilled for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out area.
- (iii) Over burden shall be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only and shall not be kept active for long period. The maximum height of the dump shall not exceed 30 m, each stage shall preferably be of 10 m and over all slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. The mine pit area shall be reclaimed by back filling the OB in a phased manner. The OB dumps shall be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests on six monthly basis.

- (iv) Garland drains/trench around the mine shall be constructed to arrest flow of float iron, silt and sediment flows from soil, and mineral dumps into the agricultural field. The water so collected shall be utilized for watering the mine area, roads; green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly..

Garland drain (size, gradient and length) shall be constructed for both mine pit and for waste dump and sump capacity shall be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity shall also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. Sedimentation pits shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains and desilted at regular intervals.

- (v) The project proponent shall prepare a rehabilitation action plan to rehabilitate the villagers for implementation in consultation with the State Government and the affected persons.
- (vi) Drilling and blasting shall be by using dust extractors/wet drilling.
- (vii) Plantation shall be raised in an area of 77.41 ha including a green belt of adequate width by planting the native species around the ML area, roads, OB dump sites etc. in consultation with the local DFO / Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2500 plants per ha.
- (viii) The project authority shall implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (ix) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The monitoring shall be carried out four times in a year - pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to MOEF, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director Central Ground Water Board.
- (x) The project proponent shall convert the mined out area into pisciculture and as a source of drinking water and recreational activities and form a cooperative society of local people to undertake pisciculture.

- (xi) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Measures shall be taken for maintenance of vehicles used in mining operations and in transportation of mineral. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be overloaded.
- (xii) A. Final Mine Closure Plan, along with details of Corpus Fund, shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.
- (xiii) The project proponent shall engage a doctor who is trained in occupational health.

B. General conditions

- i. No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- ii. No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral, limestone and waste shall be made.
- iii. Conservation measures for protection of flora and fauna in the core & buffer zone shall be drawn up in consultation with the local forest and wildlife department.
- iv. Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RPM, SPM, SO₂, NO_x monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- v. Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM, SO₂, NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- vi. Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.

- vii. Measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. shall be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- viii. Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should 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. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- ix. Personnel working in dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- x. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers shall be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- xi. A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- xii. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- xiii. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.
- xiv. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- xv. The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore 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.

- xvi. A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- xvii. State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- xviii. The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in> and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located Bangalore.
6. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
7. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
8. The above conditions will 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 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.

Yours faithfully,
P. Ahujara
(Dr. P.L. Ahujara)
Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
3. Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
4. Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.
5. Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore
6. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional Office (SZ), Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor E&F, Wings 17th Main Road, 1 Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560 034.
7. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110 032.
8. Chairman, Karnataka state Pollution Control Board, 6,7,8 & 9th Floors, Public Utility Building, MG Marg, Bangalore-560001.
9. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A2, W3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
10. Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
11. District Collector, District Gulbarga, Karnataka.
12. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, EI Division, New Delhi.
13. Monitoring File.
14. Guard File.
15. Record File.

(Dr. P.L. Ahujarai)
Director

