

**MINUTES OF THE 10th MEETING OF STATE LEVEL EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (SEAC), JHARKHAND HELD ON 22nd to 25th OCTOBER 2013**

The 10th meeting of State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), Jharkhand was held on 22<sup>ND</sup> October 2013 under the Chairmanship of Sh. A.K. Saxena in the Conference Room at 170 C, Ashok Nagar, Ranchi. The following members were present:

1. Sh. S.B.S Chauhan - Member
2. Dr. R.P. Singh Sangu - Member
3. Prof. (Dr.) M.C. Mahata - Member
4. Er. S.K. Singh - Member
5. Prof (Dr) Shatrunjay Singh<sup>Kr</sup> - Member Present from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October
6. Sh. S.K. Sinha - Secretary Present on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> October

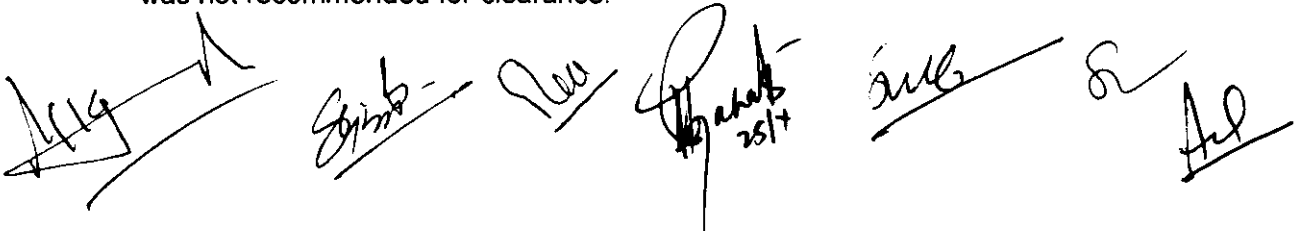
Some of the issues which were required to be deliberated on priority were deliberated on 22<sup>nd</sup> October and agreed to. The same are as follows:

**1. Stone Quarry of M/s. Madhucon Project Ltd. at Banamghatu, Dist – East Singhbhum, Jharkhand (Area 8.4 acres i.e. 3.4Ha).**

A letter No 151 dated 07.10.2013 was received from Member Secretary, SEIAA regarding reappraisal and recommendation of Stone Quarry of M/s. Madhucon Project Ltd. at Banamghatu, Dist – East Singhbhum, Jharkhand in view of MOEF Notification dated 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013. As per DFO, Jamshedpur's Report the project site falls within 10 Km of Dalma Sanctuary. Also Singhbhum Elephant Reserve falls within 10 Km from Project Site. Further as per C O' s Report the Interstate Boundary is at a distance more than approx 5 Km (reply against query that is there any Interstate Boundary within 10 Km from Project Site). Further as per General Conditions of EIA Notification 2006 any project or activity specified in Category 'B' will be treated as Category 'A', if located in whole or in part within 10 km from the boundary of:

- (i) Protected Areas notified under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972;
- (ii) Critically Polluted areas as notified by the Central Pollution Control Board from time to time;
- (iii) Eco-sensitive areas, as notified under section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, such as Mahabaleshwar, Pancgani, Matheran, Panchmarhi, Dhanu, Doon valley, and
- (iv) Inter-State boundaries and international boundaries:

In view of above the Project was reviewed in the SEAC meeting held in May 2013 and was not recommended for clearance.

The block contains several handwritten signatures in black ink. From left to right, there are approximately seven distinct signatures, some with horizontal lines underneath them. The signatures are written in a cursive, somewhat stylized manner.

MOEF vide its Notification dated 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013 has relaxed the conditions. The new condition under Item 1(a) of amendment to EIA Notification 2006 states that "General Conditions shall apply except for project or activity of less than 5 Ha of Mining Lease for Minor Minerals".

**In view of above it is recommended that the Project may be considered for grant EC by SEIAA.**

## **2. Issues raised by Jharkhand Accelerated Road Development Company Limited**

Jharkhand Accelerated Road Development Company Limited vide its letter no JARDCL-NKB/PRJ/TEC/ODO/02182 dated 10<sup>th</sup> August 2013 addressed to Member Secretary, SEIAA has requested for guidelines for Environmental Clearance for its projects mentioned in the aforesaid letter. In the joint meeting of SEIAA and SEAC held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 had asked Chairman, SEAC to get the matter examined in next meeting of SEAC and forward its views to SEIAA for necessary action.

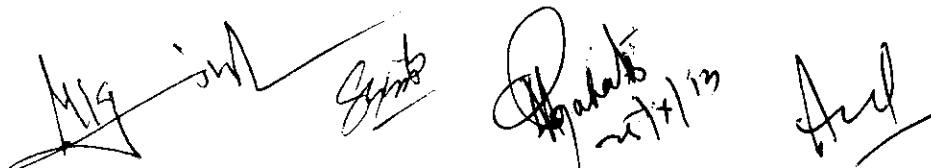
The matter was examined by SEAC and it was felt that JARDCL be advised to get prepared report for Prior Environment Clearance so that TOR can be issued following which they can proceed for preparation of EIA Report. JARDCL should be advised to engage only NABET / QCI registered / accredited consultants and presentation of EIA Report be made by specific EIA co – ordinator or functional area expert. As far TOR is concerned the presentation can be made by Project Proponent alongwith a technical person.

**A suitable reply based on above may please be sent to JARDCL by SEIAA.**

## **3. Issues raised by Jharkhand State Stone Industry Association, Jharkhand.**

Jharkhand State Stone Industry Association, Jharkhand vide its representation no Nil dated 21<sup>st</sup> September 2013 addressed to Honorable Chief Minister, Jharkhand has raised a number of issues. In the joint meeting of SEIAA and SEAC held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 it was decided that the same be examined and discussed in next meeting. The matter was deliberated by the Committee and its observations are submitted below :

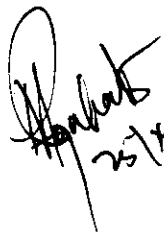
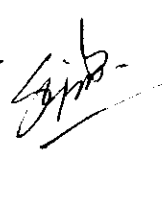
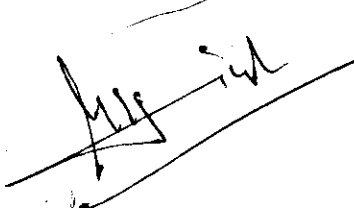
- i. The representation is regarding certain concessions for Stone mines under 'Minor Mineral' particularly for the quarries having an area of less 5 Ha. The association has stated that the rural economy largely depends on the stone mining in the State and because of Environmental Clearance required in line with Supreme Court decision, most of the mining leases are pending for renewal and as a result, the whole industry is suffering. They have raised the issues for relaxation of area under falling B-2 category, reducing the distance of mines from the forest boundary and reducing the fees for Environment Clearance in case of small mines.
- ii. In this context it may be pertinent to mention that SEAC is considering all the proposals of Stone mines for Environmental Clearance strictly in line with

The bottom of the page contains four handwritten signatures or initials in black ink. From left to right: the first is a stylized signature that appears to be 'Mig'; the second is a signature that looks like 'Srin'; the third is a signature that appears to be 'Rajab' with '27/1/13' written below it; and the fourth is a signature that looks like 'Arul'.

provisions contained in the MoEF notification and guidelines. Though the certain relaxation have been given by different States like Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. but these relaxations in respect of categorization of mines in B-1 or B-2 Category and the distance of mine from the ecological fragile areas etc. have been considered after the amendments or revisions of Minor Mineral Concession Rule by respective states. Since the Minor Mineral Concession Rules are yet to be notified by Government of Jharkhand State, the relaxation as desired by Stone association cannot be considered at this stage.

- iii. Regarding district level committees in the state of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh for the Environment Clearance of small mines of less than 5 ha area, this has come into effect after the amendment in their Minor Mineral Concession Rule. In case of Jharkhand the same can be considered by appropriate authority once the Minor Mineral Concession Rules of Jharkhand are notified by the Government.
- iv. Regarding issue of permits, the subject matter pertains to the Dept. of Mines, Government of Jharkhand
- v. Deemed extension of 18 months period is applicable in Rajasthan only, as per Rajasthan Mineral Concession Rule. In case of Jharkhand the same can be considered by appropriate authority once the Minor Mineral Concession Rules of Jharkhand are notified by the Government.
- vi. Regarding distance of Stone mines from the forest boundaries or ecological fragile area the distance of 50 meters has now become effective after the decision taken in the joint meeting of SEIAA and SEAC held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and are being considered by SEAC in case of renewal of mining leases. Regarding fresh leases the matter was deliberated in the joint meeting and it was decided not to modify the existing guidelines as notified by SEIAA..
- vii. Regarding issue of distance from Interstate Boundaries ,SEAC will consider the case for Environmental Clearance for the mines of less than 5 Ha area as per latest notification S.O. 2731(E), date 9 Sept 2013 where the General Condition of distance will not apply in case of area less than 5 Ha for Minor Minerals.
- viii. Regarding reduction in fee structure for EC the matter was deliberated in the joint meeting of SEIAA and SEAC held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 and it was not agreed However fees in respect of borrowing of earth / excavation of 'brick earth' or 'ordinary earth' and Sand mining from Riverbed were discussed and agreed to. These are lower than fees for other Minor Minerals.
- ix. There are certain other issues raised by Jharkhand State Stone Industry Association which can be deliberated in a joint meeting of various concerned Departments of Government of Jharkhand. It will be prudent once the Minor Mineral Concession Rules of Jharkhand is notified.

The above points are submitted for perusal of SEIAA. SEIAA may like to take the matter further.



#### 4. Issues associated with withdrawal of RQP status of Dr Mrinal Chakraborty of CIMFR and case of Shri M K Mukhopadhyay, RQP.

The Committee noted that as per IBM's letter no KOL/SB(E)/Ky/MP-472 Dated 30.07.2013 addressed to GM, JSMD C the name of Dr M K Chakraborty has been withdrawn as key person from list of key persons representing CIMFR. w. e. f. 19.07.2013 Dr Chakraborty has prepared a number of Mine Plans for Minor Minerals for a number of PP's. It was agreed that any other key person from CIMFR can present the cases or alternatively the PP can get the Mine Plan vetted / revised through another RQP who can then present the case..

The committee also went through the request made by Shri M K Mukhopadhyay RQP to allow him to present cases of PP's for whom he has prepared the mine plans. His RQP status has expired on 17.07.2013 and he has applied for renewal on 27.08.2013. The committee deliberated on the matter and decided that the PP can get the Mine Plan vetted / revised through another RQP who has a valid registration and subsequently can then present the case.

In this regard the Committee also noted that the figures of mineable reserves and production figures submitted in case of M/s Rameshwar Singh and M/s B.S.C. & C Construction Limited, J. V. were identical. The write-up was also identical. This point is to be clarified by PP's and RQP's / Consultant during meeting. RQP for M/s Rameshwar Singh was Dr M K Chakraborty and RQP for M/s B.S.C. & C Construction Limited, J. V. was Shri M K Mukhopadhyay.

In view of the points mentioned above the Committee decided not to entertain Dr M K Chakraborty and Shri M K Mukhopadhyay for making presentations.

Copies of undertakings given by Dr M K Chakraborty, M/s Rameshwar Singh and M/s B.S.C. & C Construction Limited, J. V. during meetings on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> are attached for perusal by SEIAA. SEIAA may like to take action.

#### 5. Mining of Minor Minerals Cluster approach

As per MOEF OM No L-11011 /47 / 2011 / IA.II (M) Dated 24th June 2013 In respect of of 'brick earth' or 'ordinary earth' it is stated that in case the area of borrowing / excavation is likely to result into a cluster situation i.e. if the periphery of one borrow area is less than 500 m from the periphery of another borrow area and the total borrow area equals or exceeds 5 ha, the activity shall become Category 'B I' Project under the EIA Notification, 2006. In such a case, mining operations in any of the borrow areas in the cluster will be allowed only if the environmental clearance has been obtained in respect of the cluster.

In view of the above OM a number of queries have been raised by RQP's / Consultants / PP's regarding cluster approach in respect of Minor Minerals. The Committee deliberated on the issue decided that since this OM pertains to borrowing of earth /

*Handwritten signatures and dates:*  
MCL  
Smit  
Sew  
25/8/2013  
Sue  
Sua  
Ard

excavation of 'brick earth' or 'ordinary earth' the same approach may not be applied to other Minor Minerals. Similar decision has been taken by SEIAA Chattisgarh (copy enclosed).

The above is submitted for perusal by SEIAA and for its advice if any.

## 6. Matters related to approval of Mine Plans

A number of PP's have informed that they have submitted their Mine Plans to Department of Mines, Government of Jharkhand and they have not received approval in spite of their efforts. The Committee deliberated on the matter and suggests the following

1. A letter be written to JSPCB that Consent to Operate be issued by them only when the PP submits copy of approved Mine Plan to JSPCB.
2. A letter may be written by SEIAA to Secretary, Department of Mines, Government of Jharkhand to look into the matter and expedite approval of Mine Plans.
3. PP's are to be advised to submit the Mine Plans to Department of Mines, Government of Jharkhand at the same time when submit the application with SEIAA. A copy of the receipt of submission is to be provided by PP at the time of presentation.

**It is requested that SEIAA takes appropriate action as mentioned above.**

## 7. Manpower

In the joint meeting of SEIAA and SEAC held on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2013 Chairman, SEAC was requested to make a proposal for manning of SEIAA and SEAC. For effective and efficient functioning of SEIAA and SEAC the following Manpower is proposed for the present.

### For SEIAA


1. One Scientific Officer\* / Environmental Engineer\*
2. One Data entry operator
3. One Office Staff / Administrative Officer
4. One Accountant
5. One Peon

### For SEAC

1. One Environmental Engineer\*
2. One Scientific Officer \*
3. One Data entry operator
4. One Office Staff / Administrative Officer
5. One Steno
6. One Peon

In addition One Driver and one Tea Boy / Lady are also required.

At present there are 9 persons engaged in SEIAA / SEAC. None of them is technically competent. It is very much felt necessary that these persons be appointed for effective and efficient functioning of SEIAA and SEAC.

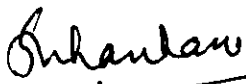


SEIAA may take up with appropriate authority for sanction of Manpower and also appointment procedure. The matter may please be expedited.

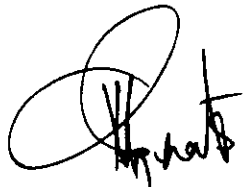
\*The qualification of Scientific Officer and Environment Engineer shall be in line with the guidelines as finalized by JSPCB. The person may be taken as contract basis.

8. The committee deliberated and agreed that that with respect to permission in respect of withdrawal of Ground Water and approval of Rain Water Harvesting Scheme the PP's may obtain approval from Ground Water Directorate, Government of Jharkhand or Central Ground Water Board.


The above points were also discussed with the other member and Secretary of SEAC on 24<sup>th</sup> October and they have agreed to the above.

  
(S.B.S Chauhan)  
Member

  
(Dr. R.P. Singh Sangu)  
Member

  
(Prof. (Dr.) M.C. Mahata) *netd.*  
Member

  
(Er. S.K. Singh)  
Member

  
Prof (Dr) Shatrunjay Singh  
Member

  
(S.K. Sinha)  
Secretary

  
(A K Saxena)  
Chairman



The member Secretary  
State level Environment Impact Assessment  
Committee.

Sub:- Clarification regarding the casti shri Ramshwar Singh  
stone mine at Kharlar plot no. ~~345~~ 2916 (P)  
Area 1100 Acre.

Dear Sir,

I want to give the following clarification for  
the above mine.

- (i) The data pertaining to this mine is originally  
from for this mine and the mine plan of BSC-CC  
is prepared afterwards the data of ~~the~~ both the mine  
is same inadvertently. The mine plan of Ramshwar  
Singh is submitted on 4.6.13. This mine plan before  
the receipt of letter from IBM.
  - (ii) The money receipt will be submitted before  
granting of EC.
  - (iii) The money receipt from CIMFR will be given  
to project. Please ~~issue the EC for the~~ recommend  
the cause for issue the EC.  
The following are prescribed.
- (i) Jagdip Agrawal
  - (ii) Gopal Mandak.
  - (iii) Somvarya Construction  
two are

(Dr. H. K. Chakrabarty)



1 वा में,

श्रीमान सचिव/अध्यक्ष

राज्य स्तरीय विशेषज्ञ आमतान समिति,

अशोक नगर राँची,

विषय: - दिनांक 11/10/13 को पर्यावरणीय सहमति  
दिले गए आवेदन को वापस लेने के  
संबंध में

महोदय,

सविशेष निवेदन है कि मैं दिनांक 11/10/13

को पर्यावरणीय सहमति दिले मौजा चापरवार के  
P.No. --- के वास्तु आवेदन दिया था, जिसमें  
Mining plan में कुछ आशुधियाँ होने के वजह से  
मैं इसे वापस ले रहा हूँ। और इस संबंध में  
दिनांक 24.10.13 को कमेटी के समक्ष मौखिक रूप  
से बताने हुए। जिसमें कमेटी के द्वारा यह सुझाव  
दिया गया कि मैं पूरा Mining plan बनाकर कमेटी  
के समक्ष उपलब्ध करूँ।

अतः मैं जल्द-से-जल्द कमेटी के

सामने हुए वही के अलावा मैं अपना mining  
plan बनाकर कमेटी के समक्ष सुपूर्द  
करूँगा। जिस जल्द-से-जल्द Consider किया  
करने का कृपा ही जाय। इसके लिए मैं कमेटी  
का सदैव आभारी रहूँगा।

आपका विश्वास  
शिव अचन सिंह  
(BSC-CSC 24)

24/10/13

Shiv



Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com>

**Fwd: Mine plan for Chapparwar mine**

1 message

mrinal chakraborty <chakrabortymrinal09@gmail.com>  
To: maheshjha.excil@gmail.com

Thu, Nov 15, 2012 at 11:07 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: mrinal chakraborty <chakrabortymrinal09@gmail.com>  
Date: Tue, Nov 6, 2012 at 3:17 PM  
Subject: Re: TOPO SHEET FOR CHAPARWAR FOR E.C  
To: Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com>

TO  
Shti Mahesh Jha  
Sr. Manage  
rBSC-C&C "JV"  
DFCC Project, Bihar

Sub: Environmental clearance of Chaparwar Mines

Dear Sir,

This has reference to my visit to MOEF and subsequent telephonic discussion with . I would like to inform you that as per discussion with MOEF mine plan of the area is to be prepared immediately. As i have informed you that CIMFR is carrying out the job for total cost of Rs.3,67,000 in which 50% advance is paid by you in the form of demand draft for carrying out the EIA/EMP.

Now due to good relation ship of CIMFR with you we are ready to prepare the mine plan also in additional cost of Rs 35,000 and get it approve within 10 days. We propose to get it done thorough private party engaged by CIMFR for the job. Thus you have to pay Rs 2,00,000 lakh lump sump to finish the job at the earliest. If you required any further clarification in this regard please feel free to call me. The team will start the survey of the area as we get clearance from your end.The draft should be drawn in favor of Om mining and mineral Pvt limited payable at Ranchi.

Assuring you our best service  
(Dr>M.K.Chakraborty)

On Fri, Oct 19, 2012 at 4:33 PM, Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com> wrote:

DEAR SIR,

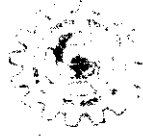
PLEASE FIND THE ATTACHMENT HEARWITH TOPO SHEET FOR CHAPARWAR FOR E.C.

Thanking You,  
With regards

(Mahesh Jha)  
Sr. Manager (Mining)  
BSC-C&C "JV"  
DFCC Project, Bihar

*Handwritten signature and date:*  
Bh  
24/10/13

एनएसआईआर-केन्द्रीय खनन एवं ईंधन अनुसंधान संस्थान  
(वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद)  
बस्का रोड, धनबाद - 826015, झारखण्ड, भारत



CIMFR-Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research  
Council of Scientific & Industrial Research  
Baska Road, Dhanbad - 826015, Jharkhand, India

MKC/EMG/IOM/12-13/

Dated:- July 30, 2012



To  
Shri Mahesh Jha  
Sr Manager (mining)  
BSC-C&C 'JV'  
(A Joint Venture of between B Searc and C & C Construction Ltd)

**Sub: Preparation of EIA/EMP of Stone mines at Chaprawar (Palamu) and Nawada (Bihar)**

Dear Sir

Please refer letter no BSC-C&C/100/12-200 dated 20/7/12 regarding the above mention subject. we are pleased to inform you that we are glad to take up the above mentioned job. CIMFR is the national laboratory and accredited by MOEF and NABET. We have prepared more than 100 EIA/EMP in mining sector and obtained clearance from Ministry Of Environment and Forest, Government of India.

The job involves the following

1. Felling of Form-I to obtain TOR from Govt.
2. Baseline data generation with respect to Air, Noise, Biology, Socio-economic in around 10 Km radius of the project.
3. Environmental Impact Assessment.
4. Preparation of environmental management plan.
5. Hydrological study of the area.
6. Submission of report to respective pollution control board and presentation.
7. Assist in conducting public hearing.
8. Final presentation of the EIA/EMP to MOEF for environmental clearance.

**The charge for the study will be Rs. 6,00,000 (Rs. Six lakh) excluding service tax + 2,00,000 (Two lakh as incidental charges for each project).**

Our other terms and condition are as under. Food and transportation during field study is to be provided by you. The study will be completed within nine month from the receipt of work order along with 50% advance in the form of demand draft drawn in favor of Director CIMFR, payable at Dhanbad, with prevailing service tax.

Hope you will find the offer quite competitive. If you require any further clarification in this regard please feel to call us. Assuring you our best service.

Yours faithfully  
Dr. M.K. Chakraborty

Principal Scientist

6 lakh + 4 lakh

BP/ 24/10/13

EPABX : 0091-326-229-6025  
Fax : 0091-326-229-6025, e-mail : cimfr@yahoo.co.in  
Working Days : Monday to Friday, website : www.cimfrnic.in

12-33% of 3+3  
mine plan - 2 lakh  
Chaparwar - 1 lakh  
3,37,000/- lakh  
36,990 = 37,000/-

Letter No. BSC-C&C "JV"/Misc./2012/285

Date: 13-12-2012

To,

Dr. M.K.Chakraborty,  
Principal Scientist,  
Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research,  
Barwa Road (Dhanbad).

Ref.:- Your Mail Dated 06/11/2012.

Sub.:- Mine Plan For Chaparwar Mine.

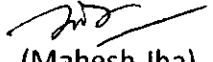
D/Sir,

As per your mail mentioned above we are sending herewith a D.D. of Rs. Two Lakh having D.D. No. 107854 Dated 12-12-2012 Payable to "OM MINING AND MINERAL PVT. LIMITED" payable at Ranchi.

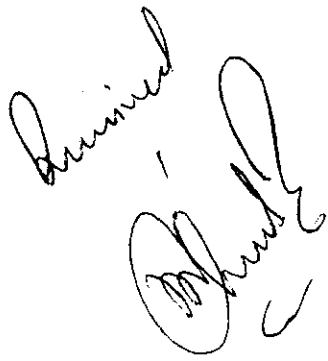
Kindly acknowledge the receipt of the same & further necessary action may be taken for E.C. accordingly.

With Regards.

Your Faithfully

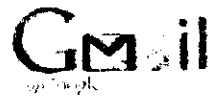
  
(Mahesh Jha)  
Sr. Manager (Mining)  
BSC-C&C "JV"  
Muthani (Kaimur)

  
24/10/13

  
(DR. M. K. Chakraborty)

o/c





Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com>

**Fwd: Mine plan for Chapparwar mine**

1 message

From: **mrinal chakraborty** <chakrabortymrinal09@gmail.com>  
To: maheshjha.excil@gmail.com

Thu, Nov 15, 2012 at 11:07 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **mrinal chakraborty** <chakrabortymrinal09@gmail.com>  
Date: Tue, Nov 6, 2012 at 3:17 PM  
Subject: Re: TOPO SHEET FOR CHAPARWAR FOR E.C  
To: Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com>

TO  
Shti Mahesh Jha  
Sr. Manage  
BSC-C&C "JV"  
DFCC Project, Bihar  
Sub: Environmental clearance of Chaparwar Mines

Dear Sir,  
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Now due to good relation ship of CIMFR with you we are ready to prepare the mine plan also in additional cost of Rs 35,000 and get it approve within 10 days. We propose to get it done thorough private party engaged by CIMFR for the job. Thus you have to pay Rs 2,00,000 lakh lump sum to finish the job at the earliest. If you required any further clarification in this regard please feel free to call me. The team will start the survey of the area as we get clearance from your end. The draft should be drawn in favor of Om mining and mineral Pvt limited payable at Ranchi.  
Assuring you our best service  
(Dr>M.K.Chakraborty)

On Fri, Oct 19, 2012 at 4:33 PM, Mahesh Jha <maheshjha.excil@gmail.com> wrote:

DEAR SIR,

PLEASE FIND THE ATTACHMENT HEARWITH TOPO SHEET FOR CHAPARWAR FOR E.C.

Thanking You,  
With regards

(Mahesh Jha)  
Sr. Manager (Mining)  
BSC-C&C "JV"  
DFCC Project, Bihar

P.M. Sabab

*Pl. prepare the D.D of above amount & deposit (700000)*

*kindly instruct the Accts manager for getting prepared a D.D. of Rs. 2 lakhs on the name of Agency mentioned in this letter for completing the job of E.C. for Chaparwar.*

*Note - As per the earlier letter we had to pay 1,66,500/- the balance amount instead of that as per this letter we have to pay 2 lakh for getting the mine plan prepared, required for E.C.*

*BhV  
24/10/13*

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 29<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY,  
CHHATTISGARH**

The 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Chhattisgarh was held on 24/09/2013 at 11:00 AM onwards at Conference Hall, SEIAA, Secretariat, Commercial Complex, Chhattisgarh Housing Board Colony, Kabir Nagar, Raipur. Shri N.S. Bhadauria, Chairman, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh chaired the meeting. The following members of SEIAA were present in the meeting: -

1. Dr. M.L. Naik, Member, SEIAA
2. Shri P.V. Narsinga Rao, Member Secretary, SEIAA

At the outset, the Member Secretary, SEIAA, Chhattisgarh welcomed the Chairman and member of Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Chhattisgarh. 28<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEIAA, Chhattisgarh was held on 08/07/2013. The minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> meeting has already been approved / signed by the Chairman and all the Members of the SEIAA, Chhattisgarh.

Agenda wise discussions were carried out as follows: -

**Agenda Item No. 1: - Discussion on clarification sought by SEAC on issues related to mining of minor minerals less than 5 ha.**

The SEAC, C.G. has requested the SEIAA, C.G. to clarify on the following points:-

- a) Now onwards, whether the clustering approach is to be implemented in cases of minor minerals below 5 ha lease area other than ordinary earth and brick earth or not?
- b) If yes, whether the cluster as defined in the clause 4(b) ii of the OM of MoEF dated 24.06.2013 is to be adopted for the cases as mentioned above in (a).

The SEIAA, C.G. deliberated the reference of the SEAC, C.G. in the light of the order dated 27/2/2012 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the Office Memorandum of MoEF dated 24/06/2013.

The SEIAA, C.G. is of the opinion that the constitution of both SEIAA, C.G. and SEAC, C.G. have been done under the same EIA Notification, 2006. It was felt the SEIAA, C.G. and SEAC, C.G. are independent entities and enjoy the same status and respect and are not subordinate to each other but are complimentary to each other having independent but differentiated responsibilities. Hence SEIAA, C.G. felt that it is not an immediate constitutional authority for guidance to SEAC, C.G. because it is not in tune with the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006.

However, since the clarification was sought by the SEAC, C.G. and in the interest of speedy disposal of the pending cases the SEIAA, C.G. unanimously decided to deliberate on the issue and inform the SEAC, C.G.

The SEIAA, C.G. after careful consideration of the facts and the material on record regarding the grant of environmental clearance for minor minerals is of the unanimous opinion that since in the Office Memorandum of 24/6/2013 the clustering approach is defined only for mining of "ordinary earth" and "brick earth" having lease area less than 5 ha., it shall be applicable to the said minerals only.

Therefore, the clarification on the points sought by SEAC, C.G. is as follows:-

- a) No.
- b) Question does not arise.

SEAC, C.G. should be informed accordingly.

**Agenda Item No. 2: - Discussion on the proposals received after recommendation of SEAC, Chhattisgarh**