

Speed Post

F. No. J-11015/112/2011-IA.II (M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi-110 003

Dated: 22nd July, 2015

To,

M/s Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd.

Village & Post Nani Naroli,
Taluka -Mangrol,
District Surat,
Gujarat-394110.

Sub.: Vastan Limestone Mine with proposed production capacity of 4,25,000 TPA (ROM) by M/s Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd., located near village Vastan, Taluk-Mangrol, District-Surat, Gujarat (80.0ha)- Environmental Clearance regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to your application for the above mentioned proposal for Limestone Mine with proposed production capacity of 4,25,000 TPA (ROM). The mine lease area is located near village Vastan, Taluk Mangrol, District Surat, Gujarat in the mine lease area of 80.0ha.

2. The Ministry had prescribed TOR on 10.01.2012. The Proponent after conducting Public Hearing on 12.03.2013 submitted the EIA/EMP report for seeking environmental clearance. The proposal was appraised before the Expert Appraisal Committee in its Meeting held during August 21-23, 2013 and September 25-26, 2014 wherein the Committee sought information/clarification. Based on the information submitted by the Proponent, the proposal was reconsidered in the EAC meeting held during April 29-30, 2015 wherein the Committee recommended the proposal for Limestone Mining with production capacity of 4,25,000 TPA (ROM) in MLA of 80.0ha.

3. The Committee, in its earlier meeting, noted that it is a violation case as the Project Proponent had started production of limestone without obtaining requisite prior environmental clearance from January 2012 to June 2013 and it was noted that this is a violation for the second time after the TOR was issued. PP informed that the mine is closed since June 2013. The Ministry vide letter dated 26.02.2014 has issued show cause notice to the Project Proponent as to why the proposal to consider EC be not rejected out-right in view of repeated violation, despite writing to the State Govt. to initiate action under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Project Proponent passing Board Resolution not to repeat violation with respect to the previous violation. In this context, Project Proponent vide letter No. GIPCL/SLPP/Vastan Limestone/EC, dated 07.07.2014 requested for a chance of hearing with regard to violation. PP has informed that since EC for entire lignite mining lease area is available where part of OB happens to be low grade limestone, no violation has taken place by merely using this OB material of low grade limestone

for desulphurization instead of throwing it in the waste dump. In view of this, since replies given by the Project Proponent are of technical nature and accordingly Ministry decided to place the Proposal before EAC. The Committee discussed the issues involved in mining of any mineral without formally including it as an additional mineral other than the mineral (s) for which the lease stands granted and the EC issued. The clarification does have technical merit in so far as the act tantamount to O.B. removal, which cannot be treated as violation. In view of the environmental impacts of the use of the material so extracted (desulphurization) being positive, the Committee opined not to press for the violation angle.

4. Mining Plan was approved by IBM, Ajmer vide order no. 682(23)(378)/2005-UDP dated 28/4/2005 for period 2004-05 to 2008-09 and Scheme of Mining was approved vide order no. 682(23) MS-547/09 MCCR (U) UDR.Dt.04/01/2011 for period 2009-10 to 2013-14. The State Government has granted approval for inclusion of mineral limestone to the existing lignite mining lease vide letter No.4/65/98 dated 08.09.1998. The mine lease area is 80.0 ha which waste-land. No forest land is involved. The mine working is opencast by mechanized method with rock breaking techniques using 110mm dia. drill rod rock breaker. The life of the mine is 26years. The ultimate working depth of mine will be 22m RL. The mine working will not intersect the ground water table. The water requirement of the project is estimated as 88kld which will be sourced from the dug well/tube well in the plant site. Out of 88kld, 80.00 kld will be used for water spray, 5.00 kld for green belt development and 3.00 kld for drinking & others uses.

5. The Vastan Lignite Mine was accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry vide J-11015/40/95-IA.II (M), dated 19.06.1996. It has been envisaged that an area of 28.0ha will be acquired outside the mine lease area for waste dumps. The Regional Office of MoEF&CC, vide letter dated 10.03.2015, has submitted the compliance report. The Committee deliberated the compliance report and was satisfied. The Project Proponent has made an expenditure of Rs. 210.52 lakhs for financial year 2013-2014 and 134.40 lakhs for financial year 2014-2015 towards green belt development, Medical services, free school education, Repairing of Road etc. PP has also informed that company has initiated and introduced two courses at 3 ITI's in Surat and Bharuch districts to support Vocational Training Institute and to promote Skill Development for local youth.

6. Project Proponent reported that there is no Wild Life Sanctuary, National Park, Biosphere Reserves, Wildlife Corridors, Tiger/Elephant Reserves/Schedule -I species within 10 kms of the mine lease area. The baseline data was generated for the period during December 2011 to February 2012. All the parameters for water and air quality were seen to be within permissible limits.

7. Public Hearing was conducted on 12th March 2013 which was presided over by Shri Jai Prakash Shivahare, Collector and District Magistrate, Surat. The representatives of Gujarat State Pollution Control Board were also present. The issues raised during the public hearing were discussed during the meeting. The project cost is 245 Crores and the EMP cost is Rs. 17 Lakhs towards capital cost and Rs. 6.20 Lakhs per annum is earmarked towards recurring expense. No court case/litigation is pending against the project.

8. The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and further amendments thereto and hereby accords the environmental clearance

under the provisions thereof to the above mentioned proposal of **M/s Gujarat Industries Power Co. Ltd. for Limestone Mine with proposed production capacity of 4,25,000 TPA (ROM) in the mine lease area of 80.0ha, located near village Vastan, Taluk Mangrol, District-Surat, Gujarat** subject to compliance of the followings terms and conditions and environmental safeguards mentioned below:-

A. Specific conditions

- (i) Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to this project.
- (ii) Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance, if any, under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the Competent Authority, as may be applicable to this project.
- (iii) No mining activities will be allowed in forest area, if any, for which the Forest Clearance is not available.
- (iv) The Project Proponent shall obtain Consent to Operate from the State Pollution Control Board, Gujarat and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (v) Proponent shall appoint an Occupational Health Specialist for Regular and Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the Project and maintain records accordingly; also, Occupational health check-ups for workers having some ailments like BP, diabetes, habitual smoking, etc. shall be undertaken once in six months and necessary remedial/preventive measures taken accordingly. The Recommendations of National Institute for ensuring good occupational environment for mine workers shall be implemented; The prevention measure for burns, malaria and provision of anti-snake venom including all other paramedical safeguards may be ensured before initiating the mining activities.
- (vi) Implementation of Action Plan on the issues raised during the Public Hearing shall be ensured. The PP shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing.
- (vii) The mining operations shall be restricted to above ground water table and it should not intersect groundwater table. In case of working below ground water table, prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Central Ground Water Authority shall be obtained, for which a detailed hydro-geological study shall be carried out; The Report on six monthly basis on changes in Ground water level and quality shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry.
- (viii) The pollution due to transportation load on the environment will be effectively controlled & water sprinkling will also be done regularly. Vehicles with PUC only will be allowed to ply. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through covered trucks only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded. Project should obtain 'PUC' certificate for all the vehicles from authorized pollution testing centres.

- (ix) There shall be planning, developing and implementing facility of rainwater harvesting measures on long term basis in consultation with Regional Director, Central Groundwater Board and implementation of conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with Central Ground Water Board.
- (x) Use of effective sprinkler system to suppress fugitive dust on haul roads and other transport roads shall be ensured. Washing of all transport vehicle should be done inside the mining lease.
- (xi) Implementation of Environment Management Policy of the Company w.r.t. judicious use of Mineral resources for growth & development synchronizing mining & environment with prosperity.
- (xii) The Project Proponent shall also take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered flora/fauna, if any, spotted in the study area.
- (xiii) The illumination and sound at night at project site, disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. Project Proponent must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day light/night hours.
- (xiv) Main haulage road in the mine should be provided with permanent water sprinklers and other roads should be regularly wetted with water tankers fitted with sprinklers.
- (xv) Transportation of the minerals by road passing through the village shall not be allowed. A 'bypass' road should be constructed (say, leaving a gap of at least 200 meters) for the purpose of transportation of the minerals so that the impact of sound, dust and accidents could be mitigated. The Project Proponent shall bear the cost towards the widening and strengthening of existing public road network in case the same is proposed to be used for the Project. No road movement should be allowed on existing village road network without appropriately increasing the carrying capacity of such roads.
- (xvi) Likewise, Alteration or re-routing of foot paths, pagdandies, cart roads, and village infrastructure/public utilities or roads (for purposes of land acquisition for mining) shall be avoided to the extent possible and in case such acquisition is inevitable, alternative arrangements shall be made first and then only the area acquired. In these types of cases, Inspection Reports by site visit by experts may be insisted upon which should be done through reputed Institutes.
- (xvii) CSR activities by Companies including the Mining Establishments has become mandatory up to 2% of their financial Turn-over, Socio Economic Development of the neighborhood Habitats could be planned and executed by the Project Proponent more systematically based on the 'Need based door to door survey'

by established Social Institutes/Workers. The report shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forest and its Regional Office located at Bhopal on six monthly basis.

- (xviii) 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.
- (xix) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

B. General conditions

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of limestone and waste should be made.
- (iii) The Project Proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of surface water and ground water for the project.
- (iv) Regular monitoring of ground water table to be carried out at the upstream and depth of water available in the dug well is to be measured. Monitoring to be done by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers.
- (v) Monitoring of Ambient Air Quality to be carried out based on the 2009 Notification, as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Water sprinkling should be increased at places loading and unloading points & transfer point to reduce fugitive emissions.
- (vi) The upliftment of scheduled caste/scheduled tribe population, specific programmes have been taken in to consideration specially with respect to education, health care, livelihood generation, infrastructure development & promotion of sports & culture for SC/ST population and that these will be intensified in future.
- (vii) The top soil, if any, shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and it should not be kept unutilized for long. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation. The over burden (OB) generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only and it should not be kept active for a long period of time. The maximum height of the dumps shall not exceed 8m and width 20 m and overall slope of the dumps shall be maintained to 45°. The OB dumps should be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. In critical areas, use of geo textiles shall be undertaken for stabilization of the dump. The entire excavated area shall be backfilled and afforested. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas should continue until the vegetation

becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and its Regional Office located at Bhopal on six monthly basis.

- (viii) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the river and other water bodies. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly. The drains, settling tanks and check dams of appropriate size, gradient and length shall be constructed both around the mine pit and over burden dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the river and other water bodies and sump capacity should 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 should 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.
- (ix) Plantation shall be raised in a 7.5m wide green belt in the safety zone around the mining lease, backfilled and reclaimed area, around water body, along the roads etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha. Greenbelt shall be developed all along the mine lease area in a phased manner and shall be completed within first five years.
- (x) Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of over burden dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rain fall data.
- (xi) Effective safeguard measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
- (xii) Regular monitoring of the flow rate of the springs and perennial nallahs flowing in and around the mine lease shall be carried out and records maintained. Regular monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies shall be carried out and record of monitoring data should be maintained and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, its Regional Office, Bhopal, Central Groundwater Authority, Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, State Pollution Control Board and Central Pollution Control Board.
- (xiii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease 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 Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and its Regional Office, Bhopal, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.

- (xiv) The critical parameters such as PM₁₀ (size less than 10 micro meter), PM_{2.5} (size less than 2.5 micro meter), NO_x in the ambient air within the impact zone, peak particle velocity at 300m distance or within the nearest habitation, whichever is closer shall be monitored periodically. Further, quality of discharged water shall also be monitored [(TDS, DO, PH and Total Suspended Solids (TSS))]. The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the company as well as displayed on a display board at the project site at a suitable location near the main gate of the Company in public domain. The circular No. J-20012/1/2006-IA.II (M) dated 27.05.2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, which is available on the website of the Ministry www.envfor.nic.in shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- (xv) Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, 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. Data on ambient air quality should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office located at Bhopal and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (xvi) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.
- (xvii) Measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. should be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- (xviii) 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 should be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- (xix) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (xx) Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- (xxi) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (xxii) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise

expenditure should be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bhopal.

- (xxiii) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bhopal regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xxiv) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal 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.
- (xxv) The Project Proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, its Regional Office, Bhopal, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (xxvi) The project proponent shall submit six monthly report on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, its Regional Office, Bhopal, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (xxvii) 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.
- (xxviii) 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.
- (xxix) 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, Forest & Climate Change at <http://envfor.nic.in> and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located Bhopal.

9. The Ministry or any other Competent Authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

10. 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.

11. 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 made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/ High Court of Gujarat and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

12. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. U. Sridharan)
Director (S)

Copy to:

- 1). **The Secretary**, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110 001.
- 2). **The Secretary**, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Gujarat, Secretariat, Gandhinagar.
- 3). **The Secretary**, Department of Environment, Government of Gujarat, Secretariat, Gandhinagar.
- 4). **The Secretary**, Department of Forests, Government of Gujarat, Secretariat, Gandhinagar.
- 5). **The Chief Wildlife Warden**, Government of Gujarat, Dr. Jivaji Mehta Bhavan, Block No. 14, 1st Floor, Old Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar-382 010.
- 6). **The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests**, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Regional Office, Kendriya Paryavaran Bhawan, Link Road No.3, Ravi Shankar Nagar, Bhopal - 462 016.
- 7). **The Member Secretary**, Central Ground Water Authority, A-2, W3, Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
- 8). **The Chairman**, Gujarat State Pollution Control Board, Sector 10-A, Gandhi Nagar - 382043, Gujarat.
- 9). **The Controller General**, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
- 10). **The District Collector, Surat District, Gujarat.**
- 11). **Guard File.**
- 12). **MoEF&CC website.**



(Dr. U. Sridharan)
Director (S)