



भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

BY SPEED POST

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F. No. J-12011/58 /2007-IA-I

Date: 19th May 2011

To

The Deputy General Manager
Shongtong-Karcham Hydro-Electric Project
Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd
Kjnfed Building, Reckong Peo - 172 107
District Kinnaur
Himachal Pradesh

Subject: Shongtong-Karcham 402 MW Hydroelectric Power Project in District Kinnaur of Himachal Pradesh by M/s Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. - Environmental Clearance regarding.

Sir,

-This has reference to your letter No. HPPCL/DGM/SKHEP/DB-10/09-1775-79, dated 22.8.2009 and subsequent letters dated 3.10.2009, 30.11.2009, 9.2.2010, 10.3.2011 and 19.3.2011 on the above mentioned subject.

2. It is noted that the project envisages construction of 22m high diversion barrage across river Satluj near village Powari for generation of 402 MW hydropower. This is run-of-the-river scheme. The catchment area at barrage site is 47,968 sq. km. The total land requirement for the project is about 77,3326 ha out of which 63.5015 ha is forest land & 13.8311 ha is private land. Stage-I Forest Clearance has been accorded for diversion of 63.501 ha of forest land. An underground powerhouse is proposed on the left bank of the river near village Ralli with 3 units of 134 MW each. A total of 158 families are likely to be affected due to this project. The total cost of the project is Rs. 1507.30 Crores.

3. The above proposal was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee for River Valley & Hydroelectric Power Projects in its meetings held on 14.9.2009, 15.12.2009 and 19.2.2010. The Public Hearing for the Project was conducted on 28th - 29th July, 2009.



जहाँ है हटियाली।
वहाँ है खुहाली।।

पर्यावरण भवन, सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स, लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110 003
PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, C.G.O. COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 003
Website: envfor.nic.in

4. After appraising the Project Proposal from environmental angle, the Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance as per the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendment in 2009, subject to the following conditions:

Part A: Specific Conditions

(i) The following Catchment Area Treatment Plan, as proposed in the EIA/EMP Report shall be completed in 5 years-

Treatment Measures	1 Year	II Year	III Year	IV Year	V Year	Total
A) Biological Measures						
Afforestation/ Gap Plantation (ha.)	81	80	80	80	80	401
Pasture Development (ha.)	476	475	470	470	470	2361
Nursery Development (nos.)	5	5	-	-	-	10
B) Engineering Measures						
Step Drain (Rmt)	57	57	57	57	57	285
Check Dams (nos.)	5	5	5	5	5	25

- (ii) The details of the land holding of project affected persons whose land is being acquired shall be submitted to this Ministry. The benefits for the land losing households will be as per the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, 2007 (NRRP, 2007) or as per the State Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy, whichever is higher. Adequate publicity for the compensation package shall be given in the affected villages. All R&R issues shall be completed before commissioning of the Project.
- (iii) All commitments made during the public hearing shall be fulfilled completely.
- (iv) A scientific study from a reputed institute for deciding the minimum environmental flow to be released during the lean season should be undertaken. Till the study is completed, 20 % of the average flow of four consecutive leanest months of 90% dependable year shall be maintained as environmental flow. After the study is completed, whichever is higher figure shall be adopted.

- (v) The equipment likely to generate high noise levels during the construction period or otherwise shall meet the ambient noise standards as notified under the Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000, as amended in 2010 under Environment Protection Act (EPA), 1986.
- (vi) Consolidation and compilation of the muck shall be carried-out only in the designated muck dumping sites, approved by the State Pollution Control Board. As per the proposed muck disposal plan given in your EIA/EMP, about 3.57 Mm³ will be generated out of which 0.47 Mm³ will be reutilized for back filling and 1.05 Mm³ as construction material/protection works and remaining 2.04 Mm³ shall be disposed off at 8 designated disposal areas. This shall be strictly implemented. The dumping sites shall be at least 30 m horizontally away from the high flood level of the river.
- (vii) The proposed Compensatory Afforestation Programme on 128 ha of land with identified plant species @1500 plants per hectare shall be taken-up immediately. The allocated funds for this purpose shall not be diverted to any other purpose.
- (viii) Greenbelt development in 40 ha of land along the approach roads, residential areas, office complex, barrage site and other working areas with various native plant species shall be undertaken immediately. The allocated budget of Rs. 40 lakhs for this purpose shall not be diverted to any other purpose.
- (ix) The revised Fisheries Management Plan submitted vide letter no. HPPCL/ESMU-2/Shongtong/09-1658-61 dated 9th February, 2010 shall be undertaken in consultation with the Fisheries Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh. Breeding and hatching of indigenous fish i.e. Snow Trout will be carried out separately. The same shall also be followed in the proposed hatchery at Sangla with separate bays.
- (x) The proposed Wildlife Management & Development and Conservation of Biodiversity Plans at a cost of Rs. 764.50 lakhs shall be taken-up strictly as outlined in the EIA/EMP Report and implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department without any diversion of funds. A report of implementation shall be included in the sixth monthly compliance report to be submitted to the Ministry.
- (xi) About 1.5% of the total project cost shall be spent for the Local Area Development.
- (xii) Any other clearance from any other organization/department, if required, shall be obtained.

Part-B: General Conditions

- (i) Adequate arrangement for providing free fuel like kerosene/wood/LPG shall be made for the labour engaged in the construction work so that indiscriminate felling of trees is prevented.
 - (ii) Medical facilities as well as recreational facilities shall also be provided to the labours.
 - (iii) Labours to be engaged for construction work shall be thoroughly examined by health personnel and adequately treated before issuing them work permit.
 - (iv) No fugitive dust emissions should be observed at the construction sites. Water sprinkling arrangements shall be made to suppress the fugitive emissions.
 - (v) Potable drinking water and proper sanitary facilities shall be provided for the labour force and the local area people.
 - (vi) Restoration of construction area including dumping sites shall be ensured by leveling, filling up of burrow pits, landscaping etc. The area shall be properly treated with suitable plantation.
 - (vii) Separate financial provision shall be made in the total budget of the project for implementation of the above suggested safeguard measures. The same shall be informed to the Ministry.
 - (viii) Environmental parameters shall be monitored and six monthly monitoring reports shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry and State Pollution Control Board for their review.
 - (ix) A Multi-Disciplinary Committee (MDC) to monitor environmental safeguards during the construction shall be constituted by the Ministry on the suggestions of the Proponent. Six monthly monitoring report of this Committee shall be displayed on the web-site of the Proponent.
 - (x) Videography of the project area shall be carried out to ascertain that no damage occurs to the houses of the villagers/local people and in case any damage occurs, the PP shall pay compensation for the damages.
5. The Project Proponent shall provide full cooperation and all required documents / data to the Officials of relevant Regional Office of MOEF who would be monitoring the implementation of environmental safeguards.

6. Besides the above stated conditions, the Project Proponent and Government of Himachal Pradesh shall also implement all other environmental safeguards, as proposed in the EIA/EMP report and other reports from time to time.

7. The environmental management plan shall be strictly adhered to and a sum of Rs. 84.891 Crores, the budgetary provisions for implementation of EMP shall not to be diverted for any other purpose.

8. Any change in the scope of the project shall be intimated to the Ministry and fresh approval if required, shall be taken from the Ministry.

9. The Ministry reserves the right to add additional safeguard measures subsequently, if found necessary and to take action including revoking of the 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.

10. This clearance letter is valid for a period of 10 years from the date of issue of this letter for commencement of construction work.

11. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/ Municipal Corporation, Urban local body and the local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the website of the Company by the proponent.

12. The project proponent should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated in the region around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board / Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://www.envfor.nic.in>.

13. After 5 years of the commissioning of the Project, a study shall be undertaken regarding impact of the project on the environment and downstream ecology. The study shall be undertaken by an independent agency, decided in consultation with the Ministry.

14. The Project Proponent shall submit six monthly compliance reports of the stipulated EC conditions and the monitoring data (both in hard copies as well by e-mail) to the respective Regional office of MoEF and the State Pollution Control Board. Both monitoring and compliance reports shall be up-loaded on the Website of the Proponent.

Yours faithfully,


(Sanchita Jindal)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti, Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-1.
2. The Adviser (Power), Planning Commission, Yojna Bhawan, New Delhi-1.
3. Principal Secretary (Power), Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
5. The Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-1.
6. The Chief Engineer, Project Appraisal Directorate, Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110 066.
7. The Northern Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Bays No. 24-25, Sector-31 A, Dakshin Marg, Chandigarh-160 022.
8. Member Secretary, Himachal Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, Him Parivesh, Phase-III, New Shimla-171 009, Himachal Pradesh.
9. EI- Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi-110 003.
10. Guard file.


(Sanchita Jindal)
Director