

F.No.11-19/2015-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(IA.III Section)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 3

Date: 7th March, 2019

To,

The Chief Engineer
M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust
Visakhapatnam - 530 035, Andhra Pradesh
E Mail: cevizagport@yahoo.co.in

Subject: Development of Multipurpose Terminal by replacement of existing EQ-2 to EQ-5 berths to cater to 14.00 M draft vessels in Inner Harbor of Visakhapatnam Port Trust on DBFOT basis by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust - Environmental & CRZ Clearance - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online Proposal No. IA/AP/MIS/28607/2015 dated 24th May, 2017, submitted to this Ministry for grant of Environmental and CRZ Clearance in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011, under the Environment (Protection), Act, 1986.

2. The proposal for 'Development of Multipurpose Terminal by replacement of existing EQ-2 to EQ-5 berths to cater to 14.00 M draft vessels in Inner Harbor of Visakhapatnam Port Trust on DBFOT basis by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra-2) in the Ministry in its 19th meeting held during 27-29 June, 2017, 27th Meeting held on 25th January, 2018 and 28th meeting held on 5th March, 2018.

3. The details of the project, as per the documents submitted by the project proponent, and also as informed during the above said EAC meeting, are reported to be as under:-

- (i) The proposal is for Development of Multipurpose Terminal by replacement of existing EQ-2 to EQ-5 Berths to cater to 14.50 M draft vessels in Inner Harbor of Visakhapatnam Port Trust. The work includes:
- a. Demolition of the existing berths which are of monolithic type construction
 - b. Construction of a single straight 522 m quay with 2 nos. berths each capable of berthing a ship up to 230 m long & 14.0 m draft.
 - c. Existing approach channels and area off proposed berths will be deepened from existing 12.10 m to 16.10 m to cater to 14.0 m draft vessels.
 - d. Replacement of existing cranes with higher capacity ones and deployment of additional cargo handling equipment.
- (ii) The proposed Multipurpose Terminal, when fully operational, is expected to handle 6.45 million tonnes per year (Mt/yr) of cargo including 1,00,000 TEU of containers.

- (iii) Water demand will be 201894 m³/month of fresh water + 165000 m³/month of treated sewage for dust suppression. ~149620 m³/month of fresh water supplied by GVMC; 52274 m³/month of fresh water drawn from VPT's own wells & galleries. For future projects additional 120,000 m³/month of fresh water + 30,000 m³/month treated sewage will be required. Fresh water will be provided by GVMC; treated sewage to be drawn from 300000 m³/month cap.
- (iv) Berth demolition wastes (comprising blocks of steel reinforced concrete) and dredge spoils. Sludge, garbage and other solid & other liquid wastes may be discharged from ships. Berth demolition wastes will be dumped in low lying area in western part of the port. Dredge spoils will be dumped far offshore in area identified by Central Water and Power Research Station, Khadakvasla. Wastes discharged from ships will be handed over to the port's licensed contractors who have appropriate waste handling and disposal facilities.
- (v) The proposed project is directly related to Waterfront and hence is a permissible activity as per Clause 3(i)(a) of the CRZ Notification, 2011. The area is an existing berth with all necessary infrastructures i.e. "The area has been developed up to the shoreline". Therefore the area can be classified as CRZ-II.
- (vi) Standard Terms of Reference was granted by MoEFCC vide F.No. 11-19/2015-IA.III dated 27th July, 2015. However, additional Terms of Reference (ToR) was granted by MoEFCC vide F.No. 11-19/2015-IA.III dated 1st October, 2015. Public Hearing was exempted as per para-7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006.
- (vii) Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority has recommended the project vide letter No. 33/AP/APCZMA/2017 dated 20.03.2.017.
- (viii) Investment/Cost of the project is Rs. 537.48 Crores.
- (ix) Employment potential: The project will generate direct as well as indirect employment and open up opportunities for new businesses and industries. However since the proposed project is a modernization project, the employment Generation and economic effects will be small in comparison to the already thriving economy of the area.
- (x) Benefits of the project : A number of benefits are inherently ingrained in the proposed project which are as follows:
 - Efficiency of cargo handling operations will increase by way of larger parcel sizes and deployment new higher capacity cargo handling equipment with much improved serviceability.
 - The cargo mix will also change. The proportion of dry bulk cargo, whose handling leads to fugitive dust generation, will decrease. Thus although cargo handling will increase from ~2 Mt/yr to 6.45 Mt/yr, dust levels at the nearest receptors will increase by only ~2 µg/m³, which will hardly have any impact on the existing air quality.

4. The project/activity is covered under category A of item 7 (e) i.e. Ports, harbours, break waters, dredging' of the schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments, and requires appraisal at Central level by sectoral EAC.

5. The Expert Appraisal Committee (Infra-2), after detailed deliberations on the project, has recommended the project for grant of Environmental and CRZ Clearance. As per recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest

and Climate Change hereby accords Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the project 'Development of Multipurpose Terminal by replacement of existing EQ-2 to EQ-5 berths to cater to 14.00 M draft vessels in Inner Harbor of Visakhapatnam Port Trust on DBFOT basis by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Trust', under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 2011 and amendments thereto and circulars issued thereon and subject to the compliance of the following specific and general conditions as under:-

A. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

- (i) Construction activity shall be carried out strictly according to the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011. No construction work other than those permitted in Coastal Regulation Zone Notification shall be carried out in Coastal Regulation Zone area.
- (ii) All the recommendations and conditions specified by the Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority has recommended the project vide letter No. 33/AP/APCZMA/2017 dated 20.03.2.017 shall be complied with.
- (iii) The project proponent shall ensure that the project is in consonance with the new CZMP prepared by the State Government under the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011.
- (iv) The Project proponent shall ensure that no creeks or rivers are blocked due to any activities at the project site and free flow of water is maintained.
- (v) Dredging shall not be carried out during the fish breeding season.
- (vi) Dredging, etc shall be carried out in the confined manner to reduce the impacts on marine environment.
- (vii) Dredged material shall be disposed safely in the designated areas.
- (viii) Shoreline should not be disturbed due to dumping. Periodical study on shore line changes shall be conducted and mitigation carried out, if necessary. The details shall be submitted along with the six monthly monitoring report.
- (ix) While carrying out dredging, an independent monitoring shall be carried out by Government Agency/Institute to check the impact and necessary measures shall be taken on priority basis if any adverse impact is observed.
- (x) The water requirement (1,36,100 m³/month) for the present project will be met from Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation (GVMC). The ground water if required shall only be tapped with prior permission from CGWA.
- (xi) Marine ecological studies as carried out by M/s Terracon Ecotech Pvt. Ltd., NABET accredited EIA Consultant under the supervision of MECON Ltd. and its mitigation measures for protection of flora & fauna, mangroves, Olive Ridley's Turtles etc as given in the EIA-EMP Report shall be complied with in letter and spirit.
- (xii) A copy of the Marine and riparian biodiversity management plan duly validated by the State Biodiversity Board shall be submitted before commencement of implementation.
- (xiii) A continuous monitoring programme covering all the seasons on various aspects of the coastal environs need to be undertaken by a competent organization available in the State or by entrusting to the National Institutes/renowned Universities with rich experiences in marine science aspects. The monitoring should cover various physico-chemical parameters coupled with biological indices such as microbes, plankton, benthos and

fishes on a periodic basis during construction and operation phase of the project. Any deviations in the parameters shall be given adequate care with suitable measures to conserve the marine environment and its resources.

- (xiv) Marine ecology shall be monitored regularly also in terms of sea weeds, sea grasses, mudflats, sand dunes, fisheries, echinoderms, shrimps, turtles, corals, coastal vegetation, mangroves and other marine biodiversity components as part of the management plan. Marine ecology shall be monitored regularly also in terms of all micro, macro and mega floral and faunal components of marine biodiversity.
- (xv) The project proponents would also draw up and implement a management plan for the prevention of fires due to handling of coal.
- (xvi) Spillage of fuel / engine oil and lubricants from the construction site are a source of organic pollution which impacts marine life, particularly benthos. This shall be prevented by suitable precautions and also by providing necessary mechanisms to trap the spillage.
- (xvii) Necessary arrangements for the treatment of the effluents and solid wastes must be made and it must be ensured that they conform to the standards laid down by the competent authorities including the Central or State Pollution Control Board and under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (xviii) All the recommendations mentioned in the rapid risk assessment report, disaster management plan and safety guidelines shall be implemented.
- (xix) Measures should be taken to contain, control and recover the accidental spills of fuel and cargo handle.
- (xx) Necessary arrangement for general safety and occupational health of people should be done in letter and spirit.
- (xxi) All the mitigation measures submitted in the EIA report shall be prepared in a matrix format and the compliance for each mitigation plan shall be submitted to the RO, MoEF&CC along with half yearly compliance report.
- (xxii) As per the Ministry's Office Memorandum F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated 1st May 2018, the project proponent shall prepare and implement Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Plan.

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- (i) Appropriate measures must be taken while undertaking digging activities to avoid any likely degradation of water quality.
- (ii) Full support shall be extended to the officers of this Ministry/ Regional Office at Chennai by the project proponent during inspection of the project for monitoring purposes by furnishing full details and action plan including action taken reports in respect of mitigation measures and other environmental protection activities.
- (iii) A six-Monthly monitoring report shall need to be submitted by the project proponents to the Regional Office of this Ministry at Chennai regarding the implementation of the stipulated conditions.
- (iv) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary in the interest of environment and the same shall be complied with.

- (v) The Ministry reserves the right to revoke this clearance if any of the conditions stipulated are not complied with the satisfaction of the Ministry.
 - (vi) In the event of a change in project profile or change in the implementation agency, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
 - (vii) The project proponents 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 start of land development work.
 - (viii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been made received while processing the proposal.
 - (ix) A copy of this clearance letter shall also be displayed on the website of the concerned State Pollution Control Board. The Clearance letter shall also be displayed at the Regional Office, District Industries centre and Collector's Office/ Tehsildar's office for 30 days.
6. All other statutory clearances such as the approvals for storage of diesel from Chief Controller of Explosives, Fire Department, Civil Aviation Department, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 etc. shall be obtained, as applicable by project proponents from the respective competent authorities.
7. The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local Newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental and CRZ Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at <http://www.envfor.nic.in>. The advertisement should be made within Seven days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office of this Ministry at Chennai.
8. This clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004 as may be applicable to this project.
9. Any appeal against this 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.
10. Status of compliance to the various stipulated environmental conditions and environmental safeguards will be uploaded by the project proponent in its website.
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 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 proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated 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 MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

13. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

14. 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 Clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC by e-mail.

15. The above stipulations would be enforced among others under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and the EIA Notification 2006, including the amendments and rules made thereafter.

16. This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.


(Kushal Vashist)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary (Environment), Environment and Forest Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh.
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 32.
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, 1st and IInd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council, 34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34.
4. The Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board Paryavaran Bhavan, A-III, Industrial Estate, Sanath Nagar Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
5. The Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Costal Zonal management Authority, Environment Forest Science and Technology Department, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
6. Monitoring Cell, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi.
7. Guard File/ Record File/ Notice Board.
8. MoEF&CC Website.


(Kushal Vashist)
Director