



सत्यमेव जयते

File No: 11-7/2009-IA.III  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
IA Division

\*\*\*



Date 08/05/2025



To,

R. N. Harikrishna  
VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY  
Chief Engineer, Administrative Office Building (AOB), Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Visakhapatnam  
, Vishakhapatnam, VISAKHAPATANAM, ANDHRA PRADESH, 530035  
vptenvironmentcell21@gmail.com

**Subject:** 'Modernization of Existing berth WQ 6 of Visakhapatnam Port, Visakhapatnam over an area of 6.44 Ha by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA)'-Environmental and CRZ Clearance regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This has reference to your online proposal no. IA/AP/INFRA1/529422/2025 submitted to this Ministry on 17/03/2025, seeking Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the aforementioned project as per the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and CRZ notification, 2011 and as amended thereof.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC25A3501AP5464433N
(ii) File No.	11-7/2009-IA.III
(iii) Clearance Type	Fresh EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	7(e) Ports, harbors, breakwaters, dredging
(vi) Sector	INFRA-1
(vii) Name of Project	Proposed Modernization of Existing berth WQ 6 of Vishakhapatnam Port ,Vishakhapatnam
(viii) Name of Company/Organization	VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	VISAKHAPATANAM, ANDHRA PRADESH
(x) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(xi) Applicability of General Conditions as per EIA Notification, 2006	No

3. The proposal is for 'Modernization of Existing berth WQ 6 of Visakhapatnam Port, Visakhapatnam over an area of 6.44

Ha by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA).'

4. Visakhapatnam port of Andhra Pradesh is a brownfield port. The port is located on the eastern coast of India in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The berth WQ-6 is located in the Inner Harbour of Vishakhapatnam Port (Latitude 17°42'25.74"N and Longitude 83°17'29.49"E). Port limits were declared by the Ministry of Shipping (Ports Wing), Government of India, as per Notification G.S.R.451(E) dated 03.06.2003.

5. The project/activity is covered under the category 'A' of item 7(e), i.e., 'Ports, harbours, breakwaters, dredging' of the schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006, and its subsequent amendments. The cost of the project is estimated to be Rs.165.70 Cr.

6. The Visakhapatnam port had obtained the environmental clearance from the Ministry vide letter No.11-7/2009-IA.III dated 31-08-2009 for the Construction of 3 Berths WQ-6, WQ-8, and EQ-10 in the Northern arm of the Internal Harbour of VPT. Consent from the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board(APPCB) vide Order No. APPCB/VSP/VSP/45/CFO/HO/1933 dated 13-04-2022 was obtained for 46.55MTPA, including 1,00,000 TEU of containers with validity up to 31-12-2026.

7. The details of WQ-6 existing and proposed components are as follows:

Sl. No.	Details	Units	WQ-6		
			Existing	Incremental	Final Configuration
1.	Cargo Capacity	MMTPA	6.00	0	6.00
2.	Berth Area and Intermediate Storage Area	Acres (ha)	3.73 (1.51)	0	3.73 (1.51)
3.	Cargo Storage Area	Acres (ha)	12.2 (4.93)	0	12.2 (4.93)
4.	Conveyor length	Km	0	0	0
5.	Cargo Type	-	C.P Coke, LAM Coke, Steel, Granite blocks, Pet Coke, Granulated B.F Slag, Bagged Fly ash, Stone Aggregates in Bulk, Boulders, gypsum, Limestone, bauxite, Manganese ore, fertilizer	Addition of Alumina and Iron pellets	C.P Coke, LAM Coke, PET Coke, Steel, Stone aggregates, Gypsum, Limestone, bauxite, Mn ore, fertilizer, Alumina, Iron pellets
6.	Cargo Handling Mechanism	-	Conventional	Addition in semi-mechanization	Proposed semi-mechanization

8. The details of Cargo handling Equipment for Berth WQ 6 are as follows:

Sl. No.	Description	Specification	Nos.
1	Mobile Harbor Crane	1200 TPH	2
2	Mobile hopper	50 T	2
3	Dumpers & loaders for carrying cargo between yard and berth.		
4	Payloaders and excavators for piling and reclaiming cargo in the yard.		

9. Diversion of forest land: The project does not involve any forest area. Therefore, forest clearance is not required. However, Kailasakonda (Kailasagiri) Forest-3.00 Km NE, Yerrakonda RF-8.32 Km NW, and Sitakonda RF-7.66 Km NE.

10. The southern boundary of the Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary is located approximately 5.99 km northeast of the

project site. However, as per the ESZ boundaries defined by MoEFCC, New Delhi, as per Notification S.O. 1366 (E) dated 28th April, 2017, the project site does not fall within the ESZ of the Sanctuary. Mangroves at 0.97 Km, SW. The endangered species include Leopards, Sambar deer, and pangolin.

11. CRZ Area Details: The CRZ mapping of the project area is carried out by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai, during December 2022 as per CRZ notification 2011.

Sl. No.	Proposed/Existing Activities	Proposed Area (sq. m.)	Proposed Area (ha)	Area of Proposed activity falling within the CRZ category
1	WQ 6 Berth and Backup area	15075.71	1.51	CRZ II

The proposal was granted CRZ recommendation from the State Coastal Zone Management Authority (APCZMA) vide their letter No.534/CRZ/CON/2023 dated 12.04.2024 for Alumina and Iron Pellets to be included in addition to the existing cargo handled, cargo handling capacity will remain unchanged, i.e., 6 MMTPA.

12. IRO, MoEF&CC, Vijayawada has conducted the site visit and issued the Certified Compliance Report vide letter bearing F. No. SO/VIJ/EPA/EC-A/101/VSKP-03/2025/62 dated 27.02.2025.

13. Details of shoreline change: The proposed project has been planned on shore, and there is no dredging, reclamation, and marine disposal involved. Further, VPA has an existing Oil Spill Contingency plan, which is being followed on site.

14. Details of Court cases: Before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), originally OA No.105 of 2023 SZ, was filed at the Principal Bench in Delhi and later transferred to the Southern Zone in Chennai under OA No. 105 of 2023 SZ, was disposed of during the hearing on March 25, 2025. As the case is now closed, it is no longer an active matter.

15. The EAC, taking into account the submission made by the project proponent, had a detailed deliberation in its 397th EAC meeting on 04th April 2025 recommended the proposal for grant of environmental clearance for 'Proposed Modernization of Existing berth WQ 6 of Visakhapatnam Port, Visakhapatnam over an area of 6.44 Ha by M/s Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA)' under clause 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 and CRZ notification, 2011 as amended with the following specific conditions.

16. This issues with the approval of the competent Authority.

### **Copy To**

1. The Principal Secretary, Department of Forests & Environment and Chairman, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi, A.P- [522503](#).
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi — 32
3. The Member Secretary, AP Pollution Control Board, Chalamalavari Street, Kasturibaipet, Vijayawada — 520 010.
4. Inspector General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada Green House Complex, Gopalareddy Road, Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh.
5. Monitoring Cell, MoEF&CC, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, New Delhi-03.
6. Guard File/Record File
7. Notice Board.

### **Annexure 1**

#### **Specific EC Conditions for (Ports, Harbors, Breakwaters, Dredging)**

##### **1. Specific Conditions**

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) shall be subject to the outcome of the court proceedings.
1.2	The Project Proponent (PP) shall conduct health impact studies through a reputed institute to assess the effects on the local community and evaluate the effectiveness of proposed mitigation measures.
1.3	The Project Proponent (PP) shall conduct training and capacity building for personnel involved in oil spill response and hazardous waste management.
1.4	Construction activity shall be carried out strictly according to the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 2011.
1.5	All the storage proposed in the CRZ area shall be in line with the CRZ notification, 2011.
1.6	There should not be any groundwater extraction in the CRZ areas.
1.7	The wind net should be erected in the upwind direction to reduce the wind speed hitting the coal stock. The wind net should not be erected as a rigid structure. It should be allowed to get sagged in order to avoid the swirling effect.
1.8	The PP shall prepare a Mangrove Restoration and Conservation Plan in consultation with the state forest department and submitted to the IRO of MoEFCC along with its first 6-monthly compliance report. The plan shall be implemented at the project cost, and the status of the implementation of the same shall be submitted along with the subsequent six-monthly EC and CRZ compliance report. The conservation plan shall adhere to the strategies to restore and revive the mangrove areas through ecological restoration and re-densification.
1.9	PP shall prepare a plan to improve the Meghadri Gedda Creek and Meghadri Gedda River fragile ecosystem and a marine ecological restoration plan with the nationally reputed institute and submit it to the IRO of MoEFCC along with its First 6-monthly compliance report. Periodical assessment on the status of the water quality of the creek, soil characteristics, etc., should be done by engaging reputed agencies having expertise in the field, and status report should be incorporated in six-monthly compliance reports.
1.10	The project proponent shall prepare the wildlife conservation and mitigation plan with the nationally reputed institute like ZSI, WII or any other nationally reputed institute and submit it to the IRO of MoEFCC along with its first 6-monthly compliance report. The plan shall be implemented at the project cost, and the status of the implementation of the same shall be submitted along with the subsequent six-monthly EC and CRZ compliance report. All recommendations made in the wildlife conservation plan shall be implemented in consultation with the state forest department. The user agency shall also implement the recommendations made by the state forest department if any, w.r.t. wildlife conservation plan.
1.11	Marine ecological monitoring and its mitigation measures for the protection of phytoplankton, zooplanktons, macrobenthos, estuaries, sea-grass, algae, seaweeds, Crustaceans, Fishes, coral reefs and mangroves, etc. shall be carried out.
1.12	All the recommendations and conditions specified by the Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority (APCZMA) vide letter No. 532/CRZ/CON/2023- dated 12-04-2024

S. No	EC Conditions
	shall be complied with.
1.13	All liquid waste arising from the proposed development will be disposed of as per the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board. There shall not be any disposal of untreated effluent into the sea/coastal water bodies. It shall be ensured that the wastewater generated is treated in the STP as committed by the project proponent. The treated wastewater shall be reused for landscaping, flushing, and/or HVAC cooling purposes, etc., within the development. The project proponent should also make alternate arrangements for situations arising due to the malfunctioning of the STP. There shall be regular monitoring of standard parameters of the effluent discharge from the STP under intimation to the SPCB.
1.14	Cargo handling area shall be provided with the adequate number of high-efficiency dust extraction systems. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points, should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
1.15	Storage of the cargo shall be accommodated with a Stacker reclaimed inside provided with DFS (Atomized Automatic Sprinkling System) including peripheral drainage system, internal roads, firefighting system, etc.
1.16	Effective safeguard measures, such as regular water sprinkling, shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having a high level of particulate matter such as around loading and unloading points and all transfer points. Extensive water sprinkling shall be carried out on haul roads. It should be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.
1.17	The project proponent shall install at least 4 systems to carry out Ambient Air Quality monitoring for common/criterion parameters relevant to the main pollutants released (e.g. PM10 and PM2.5 in reference to PM emission, and SO2 and NOx in reference to SO2 and NOx emissions) within and outside the port area at least at four locations (one within and three outside the port area at an angle of 120°each), covering upwind and downwind directions.
1.18	Appropriate Air Pollution Control (APC) system shall be provided for all the dust-generating points, including fugitive dust from all vulnerable sources, so as to comply with the prescribed fugitive emission standards.
1.19	The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in Form-II, EIA/EMP report, and also that have been made during their presentation to EAC.
1.20	Necessary arrangements for the treatment of the effluents and solid wastes/ facilitation of reception facilities under MARPOL 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. The provisions of the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016. E-Waste Management Rules, 2016, and Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 shall be complied with.
1.21	The Hazardous waste generated shall be properly collected and handled as per the provisions of Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016.
1.22	The wastewater generated from the activity shall be collected, treated, and reused properly.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.23	No Solid Waste will be disposed of in the Coastal Regulatory Zone area. The Solid Waste shall be properly collected, segregated, and disposed as per the provision of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016.
1.24	The project proponent shall install necessary oil spill mitigation measures in the shipyard.
1.25	No hazardous chemicals shall be stored in the Coastal Regulation Zone area.
1.26	Project Proponent shall strive to enhance the Green Belt beyond 33% and that the trees planted in this regard would be planted under the campaign " एक_पेड़_मैं_के_नाम ", and the details of the trees planted would be uploaded on the portal <a href="https://merilife.nic.in">https://merilife.nic.in</a> .
1.27	Necessary approvals be taken during implementation and commissioning from statutory bodies concerned.
1.28	All other terms and conditions Mentioned in the EC letter no. 11-7/2009-IA.III dated 31-08-2009 shall remain unchanged.
1.29	The Disaster Management Plan shall be revised as the Emergency/Crisis Management Plan.

