

F. No. 19-103/2012-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(IA-III Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi -110 003

Dated: 1st Nov, 2012

Office Memorandum

Subject: Simplification of clearance procedure for SEZs

With a view to simplify the clearance procedure for SEZs relating to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, it has been decided to further streamline/simplify various procedures including those relating to grant of Environmental Clearance to the SEZ projects under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006. It has been decided to have the following framework in place, in line with that prescribed for NIMZs under the National Manufacturing Policy, 2011:-

- (i) In respect of laws and regulations pertaining to environment, Central/State Governments may delegate the power as allowed by the relevant statutes to an official of the State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) posted in the zone.
- (ii) The Environmental Clearances for SEZs units under the EIA Notification, 2006 shall be considered on a high priority.
- (iii) Individual units may be exempted from public hearing in cases where the SEZ as a whole has undergone public hearing. In cases where the type of individual unit/process was not originally considered as a part of the SEZ project at the time of the public hearing for SEZ, a fresh public hearing will be required for that individual unit/process at appropriate time
- (iv) Facilitative instructions and guidelines may be issued at the Central and State level from time to time aiming at promotion of SEZs while safeguarding environmental integrity.


(Lalit Kapur)

Director (IA-III)

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To

- i. All the Officers of IA Division
- ii. Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/ SEACs
- iii. Chairman CPCB
- iii. Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all SPCBs / UTPCCs

Copy to:

- i. PS to MEF
- ii. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
- iii. PS to JS (AT)
- iv. Website MoEF