

No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

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

Dated 26th April, 2011

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Procedure for consideration of proposals for grant of environmental clearance under the EIA Notification, 2006, which involve Forests - regarding.

In continuation of this Ministry's earlier OM of even No. dated 31.03.2011 regarding above mentioned subject, the Ministry Environment and Forests has further deliberated the matter and decided that for all mining projects involving forests and for such non-mining projects which involve more than 40 ha of forests, the project proponent shall submit following documents at the appraisal of its application for environmental clearance in accordance with the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006.

- (i) High Resolution Satellite Imagery of the proposed area clearly showing the land use and other ecological features of the study area (core and buffer zone).
- (ii) A Certificate from the Competent Authority in the State Forest Department confirming the involvement of forest land, if any in the project area, or otherwise, based on land use classification (revenue record) as also in terms of the definition of forest as pronounced in the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of T.N. Godavarman Vs. Union of India. In the event of any claim by the project proponent regarding the status of forests, the site may be inspected by the State Forest Department along with the Regional Office of the Ministry to ascertain the status of forests, based on which the Certificate in this regard as mentioned above be issued. In all such cases, it would be desirable for representative of the State Forest Department to assist the Expert Appraisal Committees.

2. Stipulations will be made in line with the above in the Term of Reference (TOR) for all future projects and for projects for which TOR is yet to be prescribed. For pipeline projects, the matter will be looked in to by EACs/SEACs at the appraisal stage. In case of projects where recommendations have already been given by EACs/SEACs for grant of EC, the competent authority will take a view on merit on each case.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Dr. S.K. Aggarwal)
Director

To

1. All Officer of the IA Division
2. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the EACs/ SEIAAs/SEACs

Copy to :

1. PS to MEF
2. PPS to Secretary(E&F)
3. PPS to SS(JMM)
4. Adviser(NB)
5. Website of the MoEF
6. Guard File