No. SEIAA/M.S./2012/2844  Dated 6.7.2012

To

The General Manager-cum-Mining Officer,
District Industries Centre,
Amritsar


This has reference to your application for obtaining Environmental Clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 for mining of minor minerals in an area of 7.28 hectares, in the revenue estate of Village Wazir Bhullar, Tehsil Baba Bakala & District Amritsar and subsequent presentation given before the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) seeking prior environmental clearance for subject cited project as required under the EIA Notification, 2006. The proposal has been appraised as per procedure prescribed under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz., Form-1 & pre-feasibility report and the additional clarifications furnished in response to the observations of the SEAC.

It is inter-alia noted that the proposal involves mining of 5,000 Tons/year of minor minerals from the river Beas in an area of 7.28 hectares in the revenue estate of Village Wazir Bhullar, Tehsil Baba Bakala, District Amritsar for the khasra Nos. 72/15,73/11,12,88/1, 2,3,90/16,25,92/5, 93/5,91/3,8,9,11,12,19, 20,88/14,15,16.

The case was considered by the SEAC in its 37th meeting held on 27.02.2010 and the ‘Terms of Reference’ for preparation draft rapid EIA report and EMP
were issued to the General Manager-cum-Mining Officer for the said project. The public hearing of the project was conducted by the Punjab Pollution Control Board on 29.02.2012 at the project site. The General Manager-cum-Mining Officer submitted the final rapid EIA report to SEIAA, Punjab after incorporating the material environmental concerns expressed during public hearing. Accordingly, the case was considered by the SEAC in its 59th meeting held on 20.05.2012, wherein, the project proponent brought out the following salient features of the project proposal:

- No mining activity will be undertaken during the monsoon season and during night time. During the entire lease period, the deposit will be worked from the top surface to 3 m below ground level. The ultimate depth of the open cast pits will not exceed 3 m below river bed level or above ground water, whichever is less.

- Calculations of sediment yield have been done by the Dendy-Bolton formula and it has been found that the extraction rate is less than the replenishment rate.

- The manpower requirement for the proposed project will be about 12 persons.

- There is no protected area notified under Wildlife (Preservation) Act, 1972, critically polluted area, notified eco-sensitive area under section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and interstate/international boundary within a radius of 10 km from the project site.

- Mining shall be done as per the Development plan prepared for this project and as per the Mines & Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 / other Acts/rules related with mining of minor minerals.

- The water requirements for drinking purpose and dust suppression will be about 0.5 KLD & 0.3 KLD, respectively. Therefore, the total water requirement will be about 0.8 KLD. This water will be drawn from the nearby area.

- No nesting of turtles was observed during their primary observation period although secondary data, reports, nesting of turtles in the region.
➢ An Environmental Monitoring Cell has been proposed, which will be headed by the General Manager- cum-Mining Officer to implement the Environmental Management Plan and Rs. 5.1 lakhs have been kept for implementation of EMP.

➢ The various activities such as construction of community toilets, distribution of books/ bags/uniforms to economically deprived children, holding Medical camps including distribution of free medicines, distribution of blankets to the economically weaker section during winter season, will be undertaken under Corporate Social Responsibility in the surrounding villages.

After consideration of the case by the SEAC, certain observations were conveyed to the project proponent and were requested to submit revised final rapid EIA study report after incorporating the reply of the observations of the Committee, which was submitted on 09.06.2012.

The case was considered by the SEAC in its 60th meeting held on 17.06.2012, wherein, the General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, Amritsar requested the Committee to give 7 days time for submission reply of the observations mentioned by the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer of the public hearing. The Committee accepted the request of the General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, Amritsar and decided to defer the case till the said document is submitted.

Thereafter, General Manager-cum-Mining Officer submitted the requisite reply. Accordingly, the case was considered by the SEAC in its 61st meeting held on 27.6.2012 and after detailed deliberations, the Committee observed that the project proponent has provided adequate and satisfactory clarifications of the observations raised by it. Therefore, the Committee decided to forward the case to the SEIAA with the recommendation to grant Environmental Clearance to the General Manager-cum-Mining Officer.

The case was considered by the SEIAA in its 38th meeting held on 22.06.2012 and the Authority noted that the case stands recommended by SEAC and looked into all the aspects of the project proposal in detail and was satisfied with the same. Therefore, the Authority decided to grant environmental clearance under EIA
Notification dated 14.9.2006 to the General Manager-cum-Mining Officer, Amritsar, for mining of 5000 Tons/year of minor minerals in an area of 7.28 Hectares in the river Beas in the revenue estate of Village Wazir Bhullar, Tehsil Baba Bakala, District Amritsar in aforesaid mentioned khasra numbers, subject to the following conditions in addition to the proposed measures:

A. Specific conditions:

(i) The environmental clearance will be valid for a period of five years as per the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 as amended subsequently, for mining of minor minerals in the aforesaid location and khasra numbers.

(ii) Mining shall be as per the Development plan prepared for this project and as per the Mines & Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 / other Acts/rules related with mining of minor minerals.

(iii) The Mining Officer shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from the Punjab Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.

(iv) The Mining Officer shall observe after every 15 days for nesting of any turtle in the area. Based on the observations so made, if turtle nesting is observed, necessary safeguard measures shall be taken in consultation with the State Wildlife Department. For the purpose, awareness shall be created amongst the mine workers about the nesting sites so that such sites, if any, are identified by the workers during operations of the mine for taking required safeguard measures. Further, in case, a Schedule-I or Schedule-II species as per Wildlife Act is reported, the Mining Officer will get a conservation plan prepared in consultation with Department of Wildlife and ensure its implementation.

(v) A study shall be got carried out atleast once in a year through an expert agency like CWC relating to replenishment of the mineral (siltation study) so as to ensure that the quantity of mineral to be removed does not exceed the siltation to avoid over exploitation of mineral which may adversely affect the dynamics of the river. This study shall be steered by the State Government, based on which the capacity of the mine will be decided by the concerned Department of the State Govt. while granting mining lease. A copy of the said study report shall be submitted to Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment & Forests at Chandigarh and SEIAA, Punjab.
(vi) The Mining Officer shall ensure that the mining shall be carried out by the contractor/lessor as per the EMP prepared and development / mining plan prepared as per the Mines & Mineral (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 / other Acts/rules related with mining of minor minerals. It shall be ensured that no mining shall be carried out during the monsoon season.

(vii) Effective safeguard measures shall be taken by Mining Officer to ensure that the AAQ levels at various locations are within permissible limit as prescribed by MoEF/PPCB.

(viii) The Mining Officer shall ensure that wherever deployment of labour attracts the Mines Act, the provision thereof shall be strictly followed.

(ix) The Mining Officer shall undertake plantation/afforestation work by planting the native species in the nearby area adjacent to mine lease.

(x) The Mining Officer shall ensure that effective safeguard measures, such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of particulate matter such as loading and unloading point 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.

(xi) The Mining Officer shall undertake adequate safeguard measures during extraction of river bed material and ensure that due to this activity the hydro-geological and ecological regime of the surrounding area shall not be affected. Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out around the mine lease area by establishing a network of existing wells and installing new piezometers during the mining operation. The periodic monitoring [(at least four times in a year- pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January); once in each season)] shall be carried out in consultation with the State Ground Water Board/Central Ground Water Authority and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office at Chandigarh, the Central Ground Water Authority, the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board and Punjab Pollution Control Board. If at any stage, it is observed that the groundwater table is getting depleted or rising due to the mining activity, necessary corrective measures shall be carried out.
(xii) The Mining Officer shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of water (surface water and groundwater), if any, required for the project.

(xiii) Appropriate mitigative measures shall be taken by the Mining Officer to prevent pollution of the river/choe in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. It shall be ensured that there is no leakage of oil and grease in the river from the vehicles used for transportation.

(xiv) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. The mineral transportation shall be carried out through the covered trucks only and the vehicles carrying the mineral shall not be overloaded.

(xv) No drilling and blasting operation shall be carried out.

(xvi) Mineral handling area shall be provided with the adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system/dust suppression system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.

(xvii) Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.

(xviii) Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.

(xix) Digital processing of the entire lease area using remote sensing technique should be done regularly once in three years for monitoring the change of river course, if any and report submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office located at Chandigarh, SEIAA, Punjab and Punjab Pollution Control Board.

(xx) The critical parameters such as RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM$_{10}$) and NO$_x$ in the ambient air within the impact zone shall be monitored periodically. Further, quality of discharged water shall also be monitored [(TDS, DO, PH, Faecal Coliform and Total Suspended Solids (TSS)]. The monitored data shall be uploaded on the website of the company as well as displayed on a display board at the project site at a suitable location near the
main gate of the Company in public domain. The Circular No. J-20012/1/2006-IA.II(M) dated 27.05.2009 issued by Ministry of Environment and Forests, which is available on the website of the Ministry www.envfor.nic.in shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.

(xxi) The Mining Officer shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of rare and endangered flora & fauna found in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna shall be prepared in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. All the safeguard measures brought out in the Wildlife Conservation Plan so prepared specific to this project site shall be effectively implemented. Necessary allocation of funds for implementation of the conservation plan shall be made and the funds so allocated shall be included in the project cost. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh.

(xxii) The Mining Officer shall submit within 3 months their policy towards Corporate Environment Responsibility which should inter-alia address (i) Standard operating process/ procedure to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of environmental or forest norms/ conditions, (ii) Hierarchical system or Administrative order of the company to deal with environmental issues and ensuring compliance of EC conditions and (iii) System of reporting of non compliance/violation of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the company and/or stakeholders or shareholders.

(xxiii) Vehicles hired to be used for transportation of mined material should be in good condition and should conform to applicable air and noise emission standards.

(xxiv) Ambient noise levels should conform to prescribed standards both during day and night. Incremental pollution loads on the ambient air and noise quality should be closely monitored.

(xxv) The Risk assessment and disaster management plan should be prepared.

(xxvi) The Mining Officer shall submit the site plan showing the earmarked area for storage of mined material.

(xxvii) The Mining Officer shall ensure that the compensation to the private land owner(s) for the mined area shall be made as per the prevalent policy of the State Govt.
B. **General conditions:**

(i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

(ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral sand, bajri and boulders (minor mineral) and waste should be made.

(iii) Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM$_{10}$) and NOx monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.

(iv) Data on ambient air quality RSPM (Particulate matter with size less than 10micron i.e., PM$_{10}$) & NOx should be regularly submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests including its Regional office located at Chandigarh and the Punjab Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.

(v) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.

(vi) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.

(vii) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.

(viii) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office located at Chandigarh.
(ix) The Mining Officer should inform to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment & Forests located at Chandigarh regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.

(x) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Chandigarh shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

(xi) The Mining Officer shall submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office Chandigarh, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the environmental 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 the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh, the respective Zonal Office of Central Pollution Control Board and the State Pollution Control Board.

(xii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila 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.

(xiii) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industries Centre and the Collector’s office/ Tehsildar’s.

(xiv) 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 environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Chandigarh by e-mail.
(xv) The Mining Officer shall adhere to the commitments made in the Environment Management Plan and Corporate Social Responsibility.

(xvi) The Mining Officer should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at http://envfor.nic.in and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Chandigarh.

(xvii) The MoEF/SEIAA or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

(xviii) The Ministry may cancel the environmental clearance granted to this project under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006, if, at any stage of the validity of this environmental clearance, it is found/come to the knowledge of the Ministry that the project proponent has deliberately concealed and/or submitted false or misleading information or inadequate data for obtaining the environmental clearance.

(xix) Any appeal against this environmental 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.

(xx) The Mining Officer shall demarcate the mining lease area in the presence of revenue authorities and concerned Village Panchayat or their representatives.

(xxi) The Mining Officer shall get the micro chemical analysis of the mined material done from an approved laboratory once in a year and shall submit the analysis results to the Ministry of Environment & Forests/Central Pollution Control Board/Punjab Pollution Control Board.

(xxii) The Mining Officer will ensure that the conditions imposed by Department of Irrigation and Department of Forest and Wild life preservation, if any, will be adhered to by the contractor.

(xxiii) The Mining Officer shall ensure that the contractor shall engage people of local area for mining purpose as far as possible, so as to have opportunities of employment for them.
xxi) The Mining Officer may apply for transfer of environmental clearance under EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 to the contractor/lessor finalized by the Department of Industries & Commerce to SEIAA, Punjab. However, no activity shall be undertaken by the lessor/contractor till the environmental clearance is transferred in his name and he is lawfully bound to comply with the conditions of the environmental clearance.

Sd/-

Member Secretary (SEIAA)

REGISTERED

Endst. No. 2845-54 Dated 6.7.2012

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information & further necessary action please.

1. The Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.
2. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi.
3. The Chairman, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., The Mall, Patiala.
4. The Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.
5. The Chairman, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala.
7. The Chief Town Planner, Department of Town and Country Planning, Punjab, 6th Floor, PUDA Bhawan, Phase-8, Mohali
8. The Director of Industries & Commerce, Punjab, Udyog Bhawan, 18- Himalaya Marg, Chandigarh.
9. Monitoring Cell, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

   a) Name of the applicant General Manager-cum-Mining Officer
   b) Fax Number 0183-2586287
   c) E-mail gmdicasr@gmail.com

10. The Asstt. Environmental Engineer (Computer), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Patiala for displaying the environmental clearance on the web site of the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority.

Sd/-

Member Secretary (SEIAA)