

No.J-11015/271/2006-IA.II (M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,  
New Delhi - 110 003

Dated the 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2007

To,

M/s Birla Corporation Limited  
Satna Cement Works,  
P.O. Birla Vikas,  
District -Satna-485 005,  
Madhya Pradesh  
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**Subject: Expansion of Sagmania Limestone Mining Project of M/s Birla Corporation Limited located in Village Sagmania, Tehsil Raghurajnagar, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh- environmental clearance reg.**

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No. 'Nil' dated 07.08.2006 and subsequent letters dated 28.12.2006, 08.05.2007, 18.05.2007, 17.07.2007 and 25.10.2007 on the subject mentioned above. The proposal is for enhancement of limestone production from 3.3million tonnes per annum (million TPA) to 4.9million TPA. The total mine lease area of the project is 939.78ha, out of which 176.91ha is an agricultural land, 115ha is wasteland, 40ha is surface water bodies and 607.87ha is others. No forestland is involved. Area proposed for mining is 731.78ha, an area of 2.03ha is kept for roads, 21ha for green belt and 184.97ha is undisturbed area. Sirmawal River and Tamas River are located at a distance of 8.5km and 6.5km respectively from the mine lease boundary. No ecologically sensitive area such as National park/wildlife sanctuary/biosphere reserve etc. is reported to be located in the core and buffer zone of the mine and that the area does not form corridor for Schedule-I fauna. Working is opencast by mechanized method involving blasting. The targetted production capacity of the mine is 4.9million TPA production of limestone and life of mine will be 16years. Approximately 14625TPD of mineral will be transported through conveyor. The topography of the area is flat at an elevation ranging from 310m-320m AMSL. The ultimate working depth of mine will be 18m bgl (292m RL). The water table in the core zone varies between 25m-30m bgl (285m-280m RL) during pre monsoon and 20m-25m bgl (290m- 285m RL) during post monsoon. The mine working will not intersect ground water table. There is no population in the core zone, therefore, displacement of population and R&R is not involved. Peak water requirement of the project is estimated as 494 m<sup>3</sup>per day, out of which 290m<sup>3</sup> per day will be met from groundwater and remaining 204 m<sup>3</sup> per day from

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mine sump water. It is estimated that 31.6 million m<sup>3</sup> of waste will be generated during the mine life, which will be concurrently backfilled in the mined out area and the topsoil will be spread over the backfilled area for concurrent plantation. There will be no external over burden dumps. Plantation will be raised in an area of 251ha at the end of the mine life and an area of 565.78ha will be converted into water body at the post mining stage. NOC from the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board obtained on 24.05.2006 for production enhancement from 3.3million TPA to 4.9million TPA of limestone. Public hearing of the project was held on 25.03.2006 for production enhancement from 3.3million TPA to 4.9million TPA of limestone involving lease area of 939.78ha. The Indian Bureau of Mines had approved scheme of mining and PMCP of the project on 05.07.2006 for lease area of 939.78ha. The capital cost of the project is Rs.5700lakhs.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application in accordance with Section 12 of the EIA Notification 2006 read with para 2.1.1(i) of the Circular No.J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 13.10.2006 and hereby accords environmental clearance under the provisions thereof to the above mentioned Sagmania Limestone Mining Project of M/s Birla Corporation Limited for an annual production capacity of 4.9million tonnes production of limestone by opencast mechanised method involving total lease area of 939.78ha subject to implementation of the following conditions and environmental safeguards.

**A. Specific conditions**

- (i) The environmental clearance is subject to approval of the State Landuse Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh for diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural use.
- (ii) All the conditions stipulated by the State Pollution Control Board in their NOC should be effectively implemented.
- (iii) The mining operations shall be restricted to above ground water table and it should not intersect groundwater table. Prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Central Ground Water Authority shall be obtained for mining below water table.
- (iv) The project proponent shall ensure that no natural watercourse shall be obstructed due to any mining operations.
- (v) Top soil should be temporarily stacked with proper slope at earmarked site(s) only with adequate measures and should not be kept unutilized for a period more than 3years. The topsoil should be used for land reclamation and plantation.

- (vi) The entire waste generated shall be concurrently backfilled and there shall be no external over burden dumps. The entire backfilled area of 166ha shall be reclaimed by plantation. The back filling should be carried out in such a manner that it is restored to the normal ground level. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas should continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and its Regional Office, Bhopal on six monthly basis.
- (vii) The void left unfilled in an area of 565.78ha shall be converted into water body. The higher benches of excavated void/mining pit shall be terraced and plantation done to stabilize the slopes. The slope of higher benches shall be made gentler for easy accessibility by local people to use the water body. Peripheral fencing shall be carried out along the excavated area.
- (viii) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed for the working pit to arrest flow of silt and sediment. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains should be regularly desilted, particularly after monsoon, and maintained properly.

Garland drain of appropriate size, gradient and length shall be constructed for mine pit and sump capacity should be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity should also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. Sedimentation pits should be constructed at the corners of the garland drains and desilted at regular intervals.

- (ix) Plantation shall be raised in an area of 251ha including a 7.5m wide green belt in the safety zone around the mining lease by planting the native species around ML area, reclaimed and backfilled area, around water body, roads etc. in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. Atleast 1500 trees per year shall be planted and the density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha.
- (x) Regular water sprinkling should be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of SPM and RPM such as haul road, loading, unloading and transfer points and other vulnerable areas. 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 project authority should implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.

