

No.J-11015/27/2000-IA. II (M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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March 19, 2001

To,

**The Chief General Manager (Project)**  
M/s Chettinad Cement Corporation Ltd.,  
Rani Mayammai Nagar,  
Karikkali Post-624 703 via Gujiliamparai,  
Dindigul District,  
TAMIL NADU

Subject: Expansion-cum-modernisation of existing Dholipatti opencast captive limestone mine by M/s Chettinad Cement Corporation Limited - environmental clearance reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No. nil dated 28.11.2000 and subsequent communications dated the 10.01.2001, 17.01.2001 and 30.01.2001 regarding the subject mentioned above. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application. It has been noted that the total lease area of the mine is 138.785 ha. Mining would be restricted to total area of 83.285 ha., which includes 30 ha. area to be mined up to the year 2009. Ultimate mine pit has been planned up to 50 m. No diversion of forestland or displacement of people is involved. Targeted annual production capacity of the mine will be enhanced from the present level of 10,000 tonnes to 1.40 million tonnes. Water requirement of 51m<sup>3</sup>/day will be met from the existing Seethainagar mine reservoir. Approvals from the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and IBM have been obtained. Public hearing was held on 15.09.2000 and the Public Hearing Committee has recommended the project. Capital cost of the project is Rs. 7.50 Crores.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above captive limestone mine to enhance its annual production to 1.40 million tonnes by mechanising the mine. Under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 04.05.1994 and 10.04.1997 subject to the compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:



**A. Specific conditions**

- (i) OB dumps should be stacked at earmarked dump site (s) only and should not be kept active for longer period. ✓
- (ii) Top soil should be stacked properly with adequate measures at earmarked site. It should be used for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out area. ✓
- (iii) The final angle of slope of waste dump (s) should not exceed 28°. A study should also be carried out to work out maximum angle of repose and report submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. ✓
- (iv) Provision should be made to interlock working of dust extractor with water injection system attached to drills so that if one system fails, the other gets automatically started. ✓
- (v) Information on occupational health of employees should be properly recorded and analysed. Any contractions observed especially due to exposure to dust and noise levels should be considered for corrective measures. ✓
- (vi) The pathways presently in use in the area to be mined should be realigned so as to continue the access already available. ✓
- (vii) Check dam and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediments flow from OB and mineral dumps. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, greenbelt etc. The drains should be regularly desilted and maintained properly. ✓
- (viii) While mining is on, regular monitoring of ground water level and quality should be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers. Frequency of monitoring should be four times in a year - pre-monsoon (April / May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) seasons. Data thus collected should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and Central Ground Water Board quarterly. ✓ 2
- (ix) A greenbelt of adequate width by planting the native plant species all around the ML area, roads, OB dump sites etc. should be raised in consultation with local DFO/ Agriculture Department. Plantation should not be less than 500 trees / ha. ✓ 3
- (x) Controlled blasting should be practiced. ✓
- (xi) Crusher should be operated with high efficiency bag filters. ✓



- (xii) A detailed mine decommissioning plan should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance for approval. ✓
- (xiii) No mining should be carried out within 500 m of the Bangalore-Madurai BG railway line. ✓

**B. General conditions**

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. ✓
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of limestone, waste/ OB dumps should be made. ✓
- (iii) Three Ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as buffer zone for SPM, RPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO monitoring. Location of the ambient air quality stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. ✓
- (iv) Data on ambient air quality should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office at Bangalore and the State pollution control Board/ Central pollution Control Board once in six months. ✓
- (v) Adequate measures for control of fugitive emissions should be taken during drilling and blasting operations, loading and transportation of minerals etc. ✓
- (vi) Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 db in the work environment. ✓
- (vii) 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 programme of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.

- (viii) The funds earmarked for Environmental Protection measures should be kept in separate account and not diverted for other purpose. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment & Forests. ✓
- (ix) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated environmental safeguards. The project authorities should send one set of EIA/EMP report and mining plan to ✓




them and extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.

- i) The project authority should inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore as well as to the Ministry of Environmental & Forests regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work. ✓
- ii) A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat/ local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- iii) State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- iiii) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated around the project, 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 may also be seen at web site of the Ministry of Environment & Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>. and a copy of the same should be forwarded to Regional Office of the Ministry located at Bangalore. ✓
- v) The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance.

The above conditions will be enforced, *inter alia*, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.



(K. K. JAIN)  
ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR