

No.J.11015/185/2005-IA.II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,
C.G.O.Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Dated: 7th October 2005

To
Shri K.Gowrappan,
Vice-President - MO,
M/s Madras Cements Ltd.,
'Auras Corporate Centre', V Floor,
98-A, Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai,
Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004.

Sub: Maravarperungudi Limestone Mine (207.38ha) of M/s Madras Cements Ltd. located in village Maravarperungudi, Tehsil Aruppukottai, District Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu - Application for Environmental Clearance - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No.CO-RRN/2036 dated 12.04.2005 submitting your application, and subsequent letters dated 30.04.2005, 12.05.2005, 16.06.2005, and 06.07.2005 on the above-mentioned subject. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application. It has been noted that proposal is for expansion of the existing **Maravarperungudi Limestone Mine** with a total lease area of **207.38 ha**, which is agricultural land. Of the total lease area, area to be excavated is 168.50 ha, 3.73 ha is for infrastructure, 7.35 ha is for roads, and 27.80 ha is for green belt. No forestland is involved. No ecologically sensitive area falls within 10 km radius of the mine site. The project does not involve displacement of people. Expansion of production capacity of the mine is from **0.148 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 0.46 MTPA of limestone**. Entire mineral transportation of 1840 TPD (working for 9 months in a year) is by road. Working will be opencast by mechanised method using surface miner. Mining upto a depth of only 2m from surface. Mining will not intersect water table. Water requirement of 15 m³/day will be met from rainwater accumulated in another captive mine. An estimated amount of 2.04 mill. tonnes of OB generated would be used for backfilling an area of 113 ha which will be reclaimed and the remaining void of 28 ha will be converted into a water reservoir. No external OB dumps. Modifications to Mining Scheme was obtained on 04.03.2003. The Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board has granted Consent to Establish on 21.03.2005. Public Hearing was conducted on 26.11.2005. Life of the mine at the rated capacity is 3 years. Capital cost of the Project is **Rs. 250 lakhs**.

2.0 The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above-mentioned **Maravarperungudi Limestone Mine** of M/s Madras Cements Ltd. to expand production to **0.46 MTPA of limestone involving lease area of 207.38 ha**, under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 and its subsequent amendments subject to terms and conditions mentioned below:

A. Specific Conditions

- (i) Topsoil and OB generated from the mined out areas will be used for concurrent backfilling. There shall be no additional external OB dumps.
- (ii) The existing OB dump shall be stabilised and reclaimed by plantation.
- (ii) Check dams and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed wherever required to arrest silt and sediment flows within the lease area. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains should be regularly desilted and maintained.

Garland drain (size, gradient & length) and sump capacity should be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above the peak sudden rainfall 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.

- (iii) Drills should be wet operated or with dust extractors.
- (iv) Backfilling should continue concurrently with mining operation and a total of 113 ha of the ML shall be reclaimed by plantation with suitable plant species in consultation with local DFO/ Agriculture Department. Plantation should also be raised along the roads, OB dump sites, along ML boundary etc. At least 2000 plant species/ha should be planted.
The mined out void of 28 ha shall be converted into a water reservoir. The sides of the void shall be gently sloped and plantation done to stabilise the slopes.
- (v) Water sprinkling arrangements to control the fugitive dust generation from the haulage roads and to the crusher.
- (vi) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests within 6 months for approval of the Ministry.
- (vii) Consent to operate should be obtained from State Pollution Control Board before expanding mining activities.

B. General Conditions

- (i) No change in 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 limestone, waste/OB dumps should be made.
- (iii) Ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as buffer zone for SPM, RPM. Location of the ambient air quality stations should be decided based on meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and the frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (iv) Data on 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 undertaken such as water spraying arrangements on haul roads, loading and unloading points, and transportation of minerals, etc. Fugitive dust emissions from all sources should be regularly monitored and data recorded properly.
- (vi) Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operations of HEMM, etc., should be provided with ear plugs/muffs.
- (vii) Industrial waste water (workshop and wastewater from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May 1993 and 31st December 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed before discharge of effluents from the Workshop.

- (viii) 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 and corrective measures taken, if required.
- (ix) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and not diverted for any other purpose. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (x) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xi) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.
- (xii) A copy of the clearance letter should be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- (xiii) The State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and the collector's/Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xiv) 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 issuance 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 and forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.
3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further additional condition for environmental protection.
4. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance.
5. 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 alongwith their amendments and rules.



(Dr.T.Chandini)
Additional Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Tamil Nadu, Fort St.George, Secretariat, Chennai- 600009.
2. The Director, Department of Geology & Mining, Guindy Industrial Estate, CHENNAI-600032., TAMIL NADU.
3. Secretary, Industry, Government of Tamil Nadu, Industries Department, Fort St.George, Secretariat, CHENNAI-600009.

4. Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (SZ), E-3/240, Kendriya Sadan, IV Floor, E&F Wings, 17th Main Road, II Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034.
5. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110032.
6. Chairperson, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, CHENNAI-600032.
7. Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, A-3, W-3 Central Ground Water Authority, Curzon Road Barracks, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
8. Controller General of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, 'Indira Bhawan', Civil Lines, NAGPUR-440 001.
9. District Collector, Virudhunagar, Government of Tamil Nadu.
10. E.I. Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
11. Guard File. 12. Monitoring File. 13. Record File.