F. No 11-58/2011-IA-III
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(IA Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated: January 3, 2014.

To,
M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd,
Hinduja House, 171, Dr. Annie Besant Road,
Worli, Mumbai – 400 018

Subject: CRZ clearance for the Seawater intake & outfall system and Rail line for Coal transportation at Palavalasa, Visakhapattinam by M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd -Reg.

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This has reference to letter No: 9532/CZMA/2007 dated 27.07.2011 and 26.07.2012 from Special Chief Secretary, Environment Forests Science and Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh and your subsequent letter No. HNPCL/VPP/MOEF/2011/01 dated 26.05.2011, 03.11.2011, seeking prior CRZ Clearance for the above project under the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of provisions under the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011 on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz., the Questionnaire, recommendation of State Coastal Zone Management Authority, and the additional clarifications furnished in response to the observations of the Expert Appraisal Committee constituted by the competent authority in its meeting held on 21st–23rd September, 2011, 15th – 16th December, 2011, 5th –7th March, 2012, 28th -29th January, 2013 and 18th -19th February, 2013.

2. It is interalia, noted that the proposal involves for construction of Seawater intake & outfall system and Rail line for coal transportation at Palavalasa, Visakhapattinam. HNPCL is in process of developing a coal based 1040 MW (2 x 520 MW) Thermal Power Plant at Palavalasa village district Visakhapatnam in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The site is located near existing Simhadri Thermal Power Project of NTPC towards South-East adjacent to sea. Open Cycle (Once Through) cooling system has been envisaged for the power. An intake structure with a length of approx 900 m is envisaged. It will consist of offshore intake well of 22 m dia with pump house. The pump house will be constructed by well sinking method and will house adequate number of pumps to withdraw 1,80,000 m^3/hr of sea water. The water shall be abstracted from a suitable depth, and then pumped through pipes of 3600 mm dia that shall run over Jetty in the offshore stretch and sub-terrain in the onshore stretch. A double-storey switchgear and electro-chlorination building of dimensions 30m x 20m x 5m (each floor) is proposed beyond 500m line from HTL. Two storage tanks of 8m diameter and 7 m height each are also proposed beyond 500m line from HTL. From the seal pit, the discharge pipelines (3600 mm dia) shall run sub-terrain in the onshore stretch and on Jetty for offshore stretch. The water shall be discharged into the sea through multi-port diffusers.

3. The Andhra Pradesh Coastal zone Management Authority has recommended the project vide letter No: 9532/CZMA/2007 dated 27.07.2011.

4. The project was examined in the Ministry. It is noted that mud flat area to the extent of approximately 5000 sqm beyond 150 m set back line was filled up by project activities against the recommendation of APCZMA. The matter was examined according to the OM dated 12.12.2012 on violation and PP was addressed to submit Board resolution as required under the OM. The State Government was addressed to initiate action on violation. PP has submitted board resolution on 05.08.2013. Since there was delay in taking action by the State Government, the Zonal Officer, CPCB, has filed a complaint in the Court of 3rd Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate at Gajuwaka, Vishakhapatnam vide Matter No. DDR 8189 of 2013 on 31.12.2013. Copy of the Board Resolution is placed on the Ministry's website.

5. The Expert Appraisal Committee, after due consideration of the relevant documents submitted by the project proponent and additional clarifications furnished in response to its observations, have recommended for the grant of CRZ Clearance for the project. Accordingly, the Ministry hereby accord necessary CRZ Clearance for the above project as per the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2011, subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions as follows:

6. **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS** :

(i) "Consent for Establishment" shall be obtained from State Pollution Control Board under Air and Water Act and a copy shall be submitted to the Ministry before start of any construction work at the site.

(ii) Shall maintain the existing vegetation cover in the area between HTL and 500m line which is approximately 180 acres, belonging to government, located adjacent to the project area, in consultation with the State Government and there shall be no industrial development within this area as committed.

(iii) The railway line has been shifted from mud flat area and as per the modified line only 160 m is within mudflat area as against the original plan on 1500m. Railway line in CRZ area shall be on stilt.

(iv) There shall be no construction in mudflat except part of railway line on stilt as committed.

(v) Adequate spare diffuser arms for operation and maintenance of the marine outfall system shall be provided.

(vi) Pipelines shall be laid with more care to minimize the impact to sand dunes

(vii) The double story switchgear, electro chlorination building and two numbers of storage tanks proposed between 200 and 500 m from HTL shall be located beyond 500 m from HTL as committed.

(viii) Periodic monitoring of water quality in terms of temperature, chlorine content if applicable, salinity etc at the outfall location shall be carried out. If the impact of temperature and salinity is found significant in future, necessary remediation

measures shall be taken by extending the outfall as well as the intake lines and/or providing augmentation in inland cooling facilities

(ix) Installation of trash bar/screen shall be put in place at the intake well to avoid fish entrapment.

(x) All the conditions laid by the SCZMA shall be strictly adhered to.

(xi) Construction activity shall be carried out strictly as per the provisions of CRZ Notification, 2011. No construction work other than those permitted in Coastal Regulation Zone Notification shall be carried out in Coastal Regulation Zone area.

(xii) The project shall be executed in such a manner that there shall not be any disturbance to the fishing activity.

(xiii) It shall be ensured that there is no displacement of people, houses or fishing activity as a result of the project.

(xiv) The project proponent shall set up separate environmental management cell for effective implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards under the supervision of a Senior Executive.

(xv) The funds earmarked for environment management plan shall be included in the budget and this shall not be diverted for any other purposes.

7. **GENERAL CONDITIONS:**

(i) Appropriate measures must be taken while undertaking digging activities to avoid any likely degradation of water quality.

(ii) Full support shall be extended to the officers of this Ministry/Regional Office at Bengaluru by the project proponent during inspection of the project for monitoring purposes by furnishing full details and action plan including action taken reports in respect of mitigation measures and other environmental protection activities.

(iii) A six-Monthly monitoring report shall need to be submitted by the project proponents to the Regional Office of this Ministry at Bengaluru regarding the implementation of the stipulated conditions.

(iv) Ministry of Environment & Forests or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions or modify the existing ones, if necessary in the interest of environment and the same shall be complied with.

(v) The Ministry reserves the right to revoke this clearance if any of the conditions stipulated are not complied with the satisfaction of the Ministry.

(vi) In the event of a change in project profile or change in the implementation agency, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(vii) The project proponents shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.

(viii) A copy of the clearance letter shall be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/ representation has been made received while processing the proposal.

(ix) State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industries Center and Collector's Office/Tehsildar's office for 30 days.

8. These stipulations would be enforced among others under the provisions of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability (Insurance) Act, 1991 and EIA Notification 1994, including the amendments and rules made thereafter.

9. All other statutory clearances such as the approvals for storage of diesel from Chief Controller of Explosives, Fire Department, Civil Aviation Department, Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 etc. shall be obtained, as applicable by project proponents from the respective competent authorities.

10. The project proponent shall advertise in at least two local Newspapers widely circulated in the region, one of which shall be in the vernacular language informing that the project has been accorded Environmental Clearance and copies of clearance letters are available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen on the website of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at http://www.envfor.nic.in. The advertisement should be made within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Clearance letter and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional office of this Ministry at Bangaluru.

11. Environmental clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004 as may be applicable to this project.

12. Any appeal against this environment 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.

13. Status of compliance to the various stipulated environmental conditions and environmental safeguards will be uploaded by the project proponent in its website.

14. A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parisad/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.

15. The proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated EC 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 MoEF, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB.

16. 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 EC conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF by e-mail.

(Lalit Kapur)
Director (IA-III)

Copy to:

1 Smt Janaki R.Kondapi, Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to Government, E.F.S & T. Department Government of Andhra, Pradesh Secretariat, Hyderabad- 500 002
2 The Chairman, CPCB, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 32.
3 The Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority, IAS, Special Chief Secretary to Government, E.F.S & T. Department Government of Andhra, Pradesh Secretariat, Hyderabad- 500 002
4 The Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Paryarana Bhawan, A-III, Industrial Area , Sanathnagar, Hyderbabad - 500 018, Andhra Pradesh.
5 The C.C.F., Regional Office (SZ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Kendriya Sadan, IV Floor, Environment & Forests Wings, Office (SZ), 7th Main Road, II Block, Koramangala, Bengaluru - 560 034.
6 Guard File.
7 Monitoring Cell.