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27/9/13

No. J-15012/5/2013-IA-I
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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

Dated 1st August, 2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Consideration of projects for grant of environment clearance under EIA Notification, 2006, which involve forest land - Procedure to be followed - partial modification reg.

Ministry of Environment & Forests had earlier issued Office Memorandum vide No.J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) dated 9th September, 2011 prescribing the procedure to be followed for consideration of projects for environmental clearance, which involve forest land.

2. It has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that in case of hydro-power projects, the actual siting of the dam would be guided by geo-technical studies carried out after the TOR stage, and hence, difficulty in estimating forests submergence prior to TOR stage. Thus, for such projects, it may not be feasible to submit application for forest clearance before the issuance of the TORs. The matter has been examined and it has been decided that the following provision shall be added at the end of sub-para(i) of para 3 of aforesaid O.M. dated 9th September, 2011:

"Provided that in case of hydro-power projects, MoEF will consider granting TOR without insisting on submission of application for forest clearance. In case it is decided to grant TOR, the same will be issued subject to a condition that application to obtain prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land required for such projects will be submitted as soon as the actual extent of forest land required for the project is known to the project proponent, and in any case, within 6 months of issuance of TORs. However, no proposal will be put up before EAC without submission of application for forest clearance, wherever applicable."

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr. P.B. Rastogi)
18/11/13
Director

To:

1. All the Officers of IA Division.
2. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs.
3. Chairman, CPCB
4. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all SPCBs/UTPCCs

Copy to:

1. PS to MEF
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
3. PPS to DG (Forest)
4. Advisor (IA)
5. Website, MoEF
6. Guard File

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CEO-1/17
cc

CM
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M.S.

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11/10/13
EO cc
to be circulated to all the officers

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page.