

F. No. J-11011/66/2011-IA II (I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(I.A. Division)

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

E-mail: vp.upadhyay@nic.in

Telefax: 011: 2436 2875

Dated: 14th March, 2013

To

Dr.J.S. Sharma,
Deputy General Manager,
Oil Natural Gas Corporation Limited,
Corporate HSE, 8th floor, Core -4, Scope Minar,
Laxmi Nagar, Delhi - 110092.

Email: sharma_is@ongc.co.in; sharmaiswarup@hotmail.com; Fax No. 011-22406681

Sub: Exploratory Drilling of Oil Well R-JAG-A1 (Indara # I), NELP VI Block GV-ONN-2004/1 at Village Indara, District Mau, Uttar Pradesh by M/s Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGCL)- regarding Environmental Clearance

Sir,

This has reference to your letter no. Nil dated 13.7.2012 along with copies of EIA/EMP report seeking environment clearance under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application for the above project. It is noted that M/s Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGCL) have proposed for the Exploratory Drilling of one oil well as R-JAG-A1 (Indara # I), NELP VI Block GV-ONN-2004/1 at Village Indara, District Mau, Uttar Pradesh for exploration of hydrocarbon. Co-ordinates of the location are Latitude 26°00'29.98"N, Longitude 83°37'45.90"E. The land requirement for the drilling site would be 4.52 acres. Water based mud will be used for the drilling operation. The exploration Block GV-ONN-2004/1 was awarded to M/s ONGC with 100% equity participation of ONGC. The Block falls in Azamgarh, Mau, Jaunpur and Gazipur Districts of the Uttar Pradesh covering an area of 8354 Sq. Km. Production Sharing Contract (PSC) was signed on 2nd March, 2007 and Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) was granted to ONGC with effect from 11th December, 2007. No National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary exists within 10km radius of the project site. Total cost of the project is Rs. 50.00 Crores.

3. It is noted that the exploratory drilling will be temporary and a short duration activity and includes site preparation, well foundation, rig building, drilling and restoration of the well site. This activity takes 11-12 months under normal conditions. The depth of the well would be 3500 m. If exploratory drilling is successful, M/s ONGCL may go for developmental activities for which separate application for environmental clearance will be submitted. Electric type rig will be deployed for undertaking drilling in the Block. The power requirement will be met through 4 Captive DG sets (1200KVA). For this purpose Diesel (6-8KLPD) will be used.

4. It is noted that to minimize impact of emissions from DG sets, stack height will be kept as per CPCB norms. Water spraying will be done at site to reduce the spreading of dust particles. Noise control measures like acoustic hood, silencers and enclosure etc. will be provided. PPEs (ear plugs and ear muffs) will be used in noise prone areas.

5. The total water requirement will be 25 m³/day for drilling and will be met from tube well tankers. Water based mud will be used. Wastewater generation would be 15-20 m³/day. This will be treated in mobile effluent treatment plant (ETP) and then recycled.

6. It is noted that drill cuttings (200-250 m³) will be generated during drilling. Drill cuttings will be water washed and disposed in impervious lined pit at site. Cuttings will be dried and then covered with top layer of soil. Oil sludge will be collected in oil pit during production testing. Spent oil will be sold to authorized recyclers / re-processors.

7. All the off-shore and on-shore oil and gas exploration, development & production plants are listed at S.N. 1(b) under Category 'A' of the Schedule of EIA Notification, 2006 and appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry) of MoEF.

8. The proposal was considered by the Reconstituted Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry) in its 4th meeting held during 8-9th January, 2013. The Committee recommended the proposal for environmental clearance subject to stipulation of specific conditions along with other environmental conditions. Public Hearing/Public Consultation meeting was conducted by the Uttar Pradesh State Pollution Control Board on 12.10.2012.

9. Based on the information submitted by you, presentation made by you and your consultant M/s Pollution Control Research Institute, Haridwar, the Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above project under the provisions of EIA Notification dated 14th September 2006 subject to strict compliance of the following Specific and General conditions:

A. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS :

- i. Approach road should be made pucca to mitigate generation of suspended dust.
- ii. Ambient air quality shall be monitored at the nearest human settlements as per the National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009 for PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x, CO, CH₄, HC, Non-methane HC etc.
- iii. Mercury shall be analyzed in air, water and drill cuttings twice during drilling period.
- iv. The company shall make the arrangement for control of noise from the drilling activity. Acoustic enclosure should be provided to DG sets and proper stack height should be provided as per CPCB guidelines.
- v. Total water requirement should not exceed 25 m³/day and prior permission should be obtained from the Competent Authority.
- vi. The company shall construct the garland drain all around the drilling site to prevent runoff of any oil containing waste into the nearby water bodies. Separate drainage system should be created for oil contaminated and non-oil contaminated. Effluent should be properly treated and treated wastewater should conform to CPCB standards.

- vii. Drilling wastewater including drill cuttings wash water should be collected in disposal pit lined with HDPE lining evaporated or treated and should comply with the notified standards for on-shore disposal. The membership of common TSDF should be obtained for the disposal of drill cuttings and hazardous waste. Otherwise, secured land fill should be created at the site as per the design approved by the CPCB and obtain authorization from the SPCB. Copy of authorization or membership of TSDF should be submitted to Ministry's Regional Office at Lucknow.
- viii. Good sanitation facility should be provided at the drilling site. Domestic sewage should be disposed off through septic tank/ soak pit.
- ix. Oil spillage prevention scheme should be prepared. In case of oil spillage/contamination, action plan should be prepared to clean the site by adopting proven technology. The recyclable waste (oily sludge) and spent oil should be disposed of to the authorized recyclers.
- x. The company should comply with the guidelines for disposal of solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids for onshore drilling operation notified vide GSR.546(E) dated 30th August, 2005.
- xi. The Company should take necessary measures to prevent fire hazards, containing oil spill and soil remediation as needed. Possibility of using ground flare should be explored. At the place of ground flaring, the overhead flaring stack with knockout drums should be installed to minimize gaseous emissions during operation.
- xii. The company should develop a contingency plan for H₂S release including all necessary aspects from evacuation to resumption of normal operations. The workers should be provided with personal H₂S detectors in locations of high risk of exposure along with self containing breathing apparatus.
- xiii. The Company should carry out long term subsidence study by collecting base line data before initiating drilling operation till the project lasts. The data so collected should be submitted six monthly to the Ministry and its Regional Office at Lucknow.
- xiv. Blow Out Preventer (BOP) system should be installed to prevent well blowouts during drilling operations. BOP measures during drilling should focus on maintaining well bore hydrostatic pressure by proper pre-well planning and drilling fluid logging etc.
- xv. Emergency Response Plan (ERP) should be based on the guidelines prepared by OISD, DGMS and Govt. of India.
- xvi. The company should take measures after completion of drilling process by well plugging and secured enclosures, decommissioning of rig upon abandonment of the well and drilling site should be restored to the original condition. In the event that no economic quantity of hydrocarbon is found a full abandonment plan should be implemented for the drilling site in accordance with the applicable Indian Petroleum Regulations.
- xvii. Occupational health surveillance of the workers should be carried out as per the prevailing Acts and Rules.
- xviii. In case the commercial viability of the project is established, the Company should prepare a detailed plan for development of oil and gas fields and obtain fresh environmental clearance from the Ministry.

