



सत्यमेव जयते

File No: IA-J-11011/382/2024-IA-II(I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA Division



Dated 03/01/2025



To,

Shri Rajeev Soni,
M/s. OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED,
Deendayal Urja Bhavan, 5, Nelson Mandela Marg, Vasant Kunj, SOUTH WEST, DELHI, 110070
head_env@ongc.co.in

Subject: Proposed Onshore drilling for 04 nos. of Exploratory wells in OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1 situated in the districts of Shahdol and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh By M/s ONGC Limited - Consideration of Environmental Clearance.

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Grant of EC under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-regarding in respect of project Proposed Onshore drilling for 04 nos. of Exploratory wells in OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1 situated in the districts of Shahdol and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh by M/s. ONGC Limited submitted to Ministry vide proposal number IA/MP/IND2/495870/2024 dated 19/11/2024.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC24C0302MP5498416N
(ii) File No.	IA-J-11011/382/2024-IA-II(I)
(iii) Clearance Type	EC
(iv) Category	B2
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(b) Off-shore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and production
(vi) Sector	Industrial Projects - 2
(vii) Name of Project	Proposed Onshore drilling for 04 nos. of Exploratory wells in OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1 situated in the districts of Shahdol and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh by M/s. ONGC Limited
(viii) Name of Company/Organization	OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	SHAHDOL, MADHYA PRADESH
(x) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC

(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	no
(xiii) Applicability of Specific Conditions	no

3. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal for proposed Onshore drilling for 04 nos. of Exploratory wells in OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1 situated in the districts of Shahdol and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh By M/s. ONGC Limited.

4. The proposal was considered in EAC (Ind-2) meeting held on 02nd December, 2024 wherein the Project Proponent and the accredited Consultant M/s. ABC Techno Labs India Pvt Ltd. (NABET certificate no. NABET/EIA/2225/RA0290 and validity Nov 16, 2025) made a detailed presentation on the salient features of the project. The minutes of the meeting and all the Application and documents submitted [(viz. Form-1 Part A, Part B, Part C EIA, EMP)] are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed by scanning the QR Code available above or through the following.

5. All offshore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development & production; are listed at S.N. 1(b) of Schedule of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification under category 'B2' and are appraised at State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)/State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), Madhya Pradesh. Due to non-constitution of SEIAA, the proposal is appraised at Central Level by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC).

6. The details of products and capacity are enclosed at Annexure 2.

7. Standard ToR and Public Hearing is not applicable as the project falls under Category 'B2'. It was informed that there is no litigation pending against the proposal.

8. Total land area required is 6.76 hectares for drilling of 4 nos. of exploratory wells. There will be no green belt for proposed exploratory activities at Block SR-ONHP-2021/1. If no Oil & Gas is discovered, then the entire land will be restored back to its original condition before formal relinquishment of the leased land back to the district authorities. The estimated project cost is Rs. 100 Crores. Capital cost of EMP would be Rs 0.81 Crores/well and recurring cost for EMP would be Rs. 0.204 Crores/well. Industry proposes to allocate Rs. 1.50 Crore towards Extended EMP (Corporate Environment Responsibility). Total Employment will be 35 persons as direct & indirect.

9. There are no national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Tiger/Elephant Reserves, Wildlife Corridors etc. within 10 km distance from the proposed well locations in the block SR-ONHP-2021/1. There are no Reserve Forests/Protected Forests within 500 metres radius (Buffer area) of the proposed well locations. Water bodies: River Son is at a distance of 5.5 km in North West direction from B-NDN-A and 3 Km in West Direction from B-RPL-A well location.

10. Total fresh water requirement will be 25 CMD/well which will be met from Local tanker supply. Effluent of 5 CMD/well quantity generated from drilling activities will be treated through mobile Effluent Treatment Plant of capacity 30 KLPD max. Mobile STP (5 KLD Capacity) will be installed to treat sewage generated (3 KLD) from each exploratory drilling location. The drilling activities will be based on Zero Liquid discharge system and no effluent/treated water will be discharged outside exploratory drilling premises.

11. Power requirement will be 2.50 - 3.80 MW and will be met from proposed 4 Nos. of 1430 KVA DG sets will be used as main power source and stack height (8 m) will be provided as per CPCB norms to the proposed DG sets.

12. Details of solid waste/Hazardous waste generation and its management:

Solid Waste details and disposal methods:

Sl. No.	Non-Hazardous Waste	Quantity (TPA)	Method of disposal
1	Kitchen Waste	5 kg/day per well	Will be stored in compost pits on a daily basis or disposed of nearby municipal disposal site via local vendors

2	Recyclable waste like papers, plastics	Negligible	Proper segregation and storage of recyclable waste in designated bins onsite. Recyclables will be periodically sold to local waste recyclers.
3	Packaging wastes	600 kg/well	Proper segregation and storage at designated stackyard onsite. Packaging wastes will be periodically sold to local waste recyclers.
4	Drill cutting generated from Water based Mud and not Contaminated with oil.	550 Ton/well	Drill cuttings which are inert materials of shale, sand, and clay will fall into the lined waste pits. The drilling fluids left over at the end of the particular well will be discharged into the lined waste pits and dried.
5	Waste Drilling Mud	100 m3/well	The mud will be tested for hazardous contaminants and will be disposed as per S No. 72 C.1.a Schedule I Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry of CPCB as modified in 2005.

Hazardous waste details and disposal methods:

Sl. No.	Hazardous waste	Category	Quantity (TPA)	Method of disposal
1	Oily waste used oil & spent Oil	5.1	1.6 KL/year	Used oil will be collected in metal drums kept in secured area and will be disposed through Authorised Recyclers.
2	Wastes/residues containing oil	5.2	5-10 Kg/well	Waste containing oil will be collected and kept in secured area and will be disposed through Authorised Recyclers.
3	Discarded containers/barrels/ liners contaminated with hazardous waste	33.1	30 Nos./year	Will be disposed as per Hazardous Waste Rules, 2016

13. During deliberations, following issues were discussed:

- One drilling well (B-NDN-A) is proposed to be located approximately 550 meters from the tiger corridor. In this regard, the EAC suggested shifting the location towards the west side and desired safeguard measures for the tiger/wildlife corridor. The PP has submitted the revised location of the well along with the proposed safeguard measures to avoid intervention in the tiger corridor.
- The PP shall submit an undertaking that only water-based mud will be used for drilling operations.
- The PP shall increase the budget for the extended EMP to 1.5 Crores.
- Mobile STP (5 KLD Capacity) will be installed to treat sewage generated (3 KLD) from each exploratory drilling location. The drilling activities will be based on Zero Liquid discharge system and no effluent/treated water will be discharged outside exploratory drilling premises.

The committee was satisfied with the response provided by PP on above information. Further, Committee desired to submit the above information in writing. Accordingly, PP has submitted the desired information and EAC found the information/commitments satisfactory.

14. The EAC, constituted under the provision of the EIA Notification, 2006 and comprising of Experts Members/domain experts in various fields, have examined the proposal submitted by the Project Proponent in desired form along with the EMP report prepared and submitted by the Consultant accredited by the QCI/ NABET on behalf of the Project Proponent. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the report. If any part of data/information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.

15. The Committee noted that the EMP report is in compliance of the PFR. The Committee deliberated on the CER plan and found to be addressing the issues in the study area. The EAC has deliberated the proposal and has made due diligence

in the process as notified under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time and accordingly made the recommendations to the proposal. The Experts Members of the EAC have found the proposal in order and have recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance.

16. The environmental clearance granted to the project/activity is strictly under the provisions of the EIA Notification 2006 and its amendments. It does not tantamount/construe to approvals/consent/ permissions etc. required to be obtained or standards/conditions to be followed under any other Acts/ Rules/ Subordinate legislations, etc., as may be applicable to the project. The project proponent shall obtain necessary permission as mandated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as applicable from time to time, from the State Pollution Control Board, prior to construction & operation of the project.

17. Based on the proposal submitted by the project proponent and recommendations of the EAC (Industry-2), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords environmental clearance to the project proposed Onshore drilling for 04 nos. of Exploratory wells in OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1 situated in the districts of Shahdol and Umaria, Madhya Pradesh By M/s. ONGC Limited, under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, and the amendments therein, subject to compliance of the terms and conditions enclosed at Annexure-1.

18. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary at subsequent stages and the project proponent shall implement all the said conditions in a time bound manner. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the environmental clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not found satisfactory.

19. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

20. Any appeal against this environmental 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.

21. 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, the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 read with subsequent amendments therein.

22. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Copy To

1. The Principal Secretary, Department of Housing and Environment, Government of Madhya Pradesh, ParyavaranParisar, E- 5, Arera Colony, Bhopal - 462016 (MP)
2. The Regional Officer, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office, E-5, Kendriya Paryavaran Bhawan, E-5 Arera Colony, Link Road-3, Ravishankar Nagar, Bhopal – 462016 (MP).
3. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board PariveshBhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 32.
4. The Member Secretary, Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board, E-5, Arera Colony, ParyavaranParisar, Bhopal - 462 016 (MP).
5. Compliance & Monitoring Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi - 3.
6. District Collector, Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh.
7. District Collector, Umaria, Madhya Pradesh.
8. Guard File/Monitoring File/ Parivesh Portal /Record File.

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Off-shore And Onshore Oil And Gas Exploration, Development And Production)

1. Off-shore And Onshore Oil And Gas Exploration, Development And Production

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The company shall comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards proposed in the documents submitted to the Ministry. All the recommendations made in the EIA/EMP in respect of environmental management, and risk mitigation measures relating to the project shall be implemented (Annexure - 3).
1.2	No drilling activities shall be carried out within 500 m from the water bodies.
1.3	No pipelines or its part shall be laid in the Forest land/Protected Area without prior permission/approval from the Competent Authority.
1.4	Total fresh water requirement shall not exceed 25 m ³ /day per well which will be met from private tankers. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority.
1.5	The project proponent will treat and reuse the treated water within the factory and no waste or treated water shall be discharged outside the premises. Mobile ETP coupled with RO shall be installed to reuse the treated water in drilling system. Size of the waste shall be equal to the total volume+volume of drill cutting and volume of discarded mud if any. Two feet free board may be left to accommodate rainwater. There shall be separate storm water channel and rainwater shall not be allowed to mix with wastewater. Alternatively, if possible, pit less drilling be practiced instead of above. Produced water generated shall be treated with in the premises as per the Standards for Liquid Effluent of Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry notified in The Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 and shall not be discharged untreated anywhere or in any stream.
1.6	During production, storage and handling, the fugitive emission of methane, if any, shall be monitored using Infra-red camera/ appropriate technology. No flaring shall be carried out during operation phase.
1.7	The project proponent also to ensure trapping/storing of the CO ₂ generated, if any, during the process and handling.
1.8	Approach road shall be made pucca to minimize generation of suspended dust.
1.9	The project proponent shall make all arrangements for control of noise from the drilling activity. Acoustic enclosure shall be provided for the DG sets along with the adequate stack height as per CPCB guidelines.
1.10	The company shall construct the garland drain to prevent runoff of any oil containing waste into the nearby water bodies. Separate drainage system shall be created for oil contaminated and non-oil contaminated.
1.11	Drill cuttings separated from drilling fluid shall be adequately washed and disposed in HDPE lined pit. Waste mud shall be tested for hazardous contaminants and disposed according to HWMH Rules, 2016. No effluent/drilling mud shall be discharged/disposed off into nearby surface water bodies. The company shall comply with the guidelines for disposal of solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids for onshore drilling operation notified vide GSR 546(E) dated 30 th August, 2005.
1.12	Oil spillage prevention and mitigation scheme shall be prepared. In case of oil spillage/

S. No	EC Conditions
	contamination, action plan shall be prepared to clean the site by adopting proven technology. The recyclable waste (oily sludge) and spent oil shall be disposed of to the authorized recyclers.
1.13	The project proponent shall take necessary measures to prevent fire hazards, containing oil spill and soil remediation as needed. At fixed installations or plants use of ground flare shall be explored. At the place of ground flaring, the overhead flaring stack with knockout drums shall be installed to minimize gaseous emissions during operation.
1.14	The project proponent shall develop a contingency plan for H ₂ S release including all necessary aspects from evacuation to resumption of normal operations. The workers shall be provided with personal H ₂ S detectors in locations of high risk of exposure along with self-containing breathing apparatus.
1.15	Blow Out Preventer system shall be installed to prevent well blowouts during drilling operations.
1.16	On completion of the project, necessary measures shall be taken for safe plugging of wells with secured enclosures to restore the drilling site to the original condition. The same shall be confirmed by the concerned regulatory authority from environment safety angle. In case of hydrocarbon not found economically viable, a full abandonment plan shall be implemented for the drilling site in accordance with the applicable DGH / Indian Petroleum Regulations.
1.17	The entire area will be restored back to its original form and tree plantation shall be carried out to further increase the density of plantation. Trees shall be planted in the Green Belt under campaign #Plant4Mother and uploaded on the MeriLiFE portal (https://merilife.nic.in/).
1.18	PP proposed to allocate Rs. 1.5 Crores towards Extended EMP (Annexure - 4) which shall be spent as plan submitted. Further, all the proposed activities under extended EMP shall be carried out in consultation with District Administration.
1.19	No lead acid batteries shall be utilized in the project/site.
1.20	No flood lights shall be used for operation in in night time.
1.21	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be carried out as per the prevailing Acts and Rules. All workers & employees shall be provided with required safety kits/mask for personal protection.
1.22	Oil content in the drill cuttings shall be monitored and report & shall sent to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.23	The project proponent shall prepare operating manual in respect of all activities, which would cover all safety & environment related issues and measures to be taken for protection. One set of environmental manual shall be made available at the drilling site/ project site. Awareness shall be created at each level of the management. All the schedules and results of environmental monitoring shall be available at the project site office. Remote monitoring of site should be done.
1.24	PP shall sensitize and create awareness among the people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MOEFCC on 12 th August, 2021. A report along with photographs on the measures taken shall also be included in the six-monthly compliance report being submitted to

S. No	EC Conditions
	concerned authority.
1.25	Mobile STP (5 KLD Capacity) will be installed to treat sewage generated (3 KLD) from each exploratory drilling location. The drilling activities will be based on Zero Liquid discharge system and no effluent/treated water will be discharged outside exploratory drilling premises. Only water-based mud shall be used for drilling operations.

Standard EC Conditions for (Off-shore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and production)

1. General Conditions

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	No further expansion or modifications in the plant, other than mentioned in the EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments, shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/SEIAA, as applicable. In case of deviations or alterations in the project proposal from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry/SEIAA, as applicable, to assess the adequacy of conditions imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.
1.2	The energy source for lighting purpose shall be preferably LED based, or advanced having preference in energy conservation and environment betterment.
1.3	The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (day time) and 70 dBA (night time).
1.4	The company shall undertake all relevant measures for improving the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding area. CER activities shall be undertaken by involving local villages and administration and shall be implemented. The company shall undertake eco-developmental measures including community welfare measures in the project area for the overall improvement of the environment.
1.5	The company shall earmark sufficient funds towards capital cost and recurring cost per annum to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the State Government along with the implementation schedule for all the conditions stipulated herein. The funds so earmarked for environment management/ pollution control measures shall not be diverted for any other purpose.
1.6	A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the project proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal.
1.7	The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Environmental Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and SPCB. A copy of Environmental Clearance and six monthly compliance status report shall be posted on the website of the company.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.8	The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted 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 environmental clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF&CC by e-mail.
1.9	The project proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry and at https://parivesh.nic.in/ . This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.
1.10	The project authorities 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 the project.
1.11	This Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, Hon'ble NGT and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to this project.

Annexure 2

Details of Products & By-products

Name of the product /By-product	Product / By-product	Quantity	Unit	Mode of Transport / Transmission	Remarks (eg. CAS number)
Drilling of 4 nos. of exploratory wells within OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1	Drilling of 4 nos. of exploratory wells within OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1	4	Numbers	Road	

Co-ordinates of proposed wells for 1(b) projects:

Block	Well	Latitude	Longitude	District	Forest Area (within 500m Buffer radius of well location)
OALP-VII Block SR-ONHP-2021/1	B-PND-A	23°45'51.00"N	81°34'49.00"E	Shahdol	X
	B-RPL-A	23°41'27.27"N	81°16'24.14"E	Shahdol	X
	B-AMJ-A	23°40'27.00"N	81°31'60.00"E	Shahdol	X
	B-NDN-A	23°47'1.81"N	81°15'59.92"E	Shahdol	X

**N. B: Well locations are tentative depending upon additional seismic data.*

Annexure-3

Details of capital and recurring cost of EMP:

Sl. No.	Pollution Control Measures	Cost in Rs. Per well	
		Capital	Recurring
1	Wastewater Effluent Management		
	Septic Tank/Soak Pit		4,00,000
	Water Quality Monitoring	-	15,000
2	Use of Mobile ETP	-	5,00,000
3	Noise and Vibration Mitigation	-	
	Noise Monitoring	-	5,000
	Maintenance & Cost of Equipment	-	5,00,000
4	Solid Waste Management	3,00,000	-
	HDPE Lined waste Pit	3,00,000	-
5	Air Emission Mitigation	-	-
	Approach Road construction (For new Road having 7.0 m Width and 1.0 km length)	40,00,000	4,00,000
	Air Monitoring	-	50,000
6	Other civil constructions like Cutting Pit / waste pit / Garland Drain / fire water reservoir	10,00,000	-
7	Water Spray to prevent Dusting	-	10,000
8	Occupational Health Programme/Training to staff	-	1,30,000
9	General Awareness in local public	-	35,000
10	Site restoration in case of abandoned well (token amount)	25,00,000	-
	Total	81,00,000	20,45,000

Details of extended EMP with proposed activities and budgetary allocation:

Sl. No	Proposed activity	Proposed Budget (in Lacs INR)
1.	Potable drinking water supply	30
2.	Sanitation facility (Construction of Community Toilets with Septic Tank and Soak pit, Construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs), Individual Sanitation in Rural Areas	30
3.	Procurement of Medical Equipment and providing Mobile Medical Ambulance in the Rural Health Centre including maintenance of 5 years etc	35
4.	Promoting Eco-friendly behaviour through use of Green Energy in 2 schools (Solar Lights etc.)	40
5.	Skill development of local people for enhancing their livelihood opportunities, etc. of unskilled villagers	15
	Total	150

