

Date: 14.11.2024

Ref.: AA-ONHP-2017/5/EC/Dec-24/1

Head of Office
Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati
Ministry of Env., Forest and Climate Change
4th Floor, Housefed Building
G.S. Road Rukminigaon
Guwahati - 781022 (Assam)

Sub: Six-monthly Report on progressive compliance to Environmental Clearance (EC) conditions for Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Appraisal and Early Production in AA-ONHP-2017/5 Block in Jorhat, Majuli and Sivasagar Districts of Assam.

Ref: File no. SEIAA.1855/2021 dated 07.02.2022, EC Identification No. EC22B002AS164784

Dear Sir,

We are pleased to submit a point wise compliance status report of the conditions stipulated in the Environmental Clearance accorded by SEIAA, Assam for AA-ONHP-2017/5 Block for the period of April 2024 to September 2024.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
For Vedanta Limited (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)


Dilip Kumar Bera
DGM- Environment ★



Enclosures: As above

Copy to:

1. The Member Secretary, Pollution Control Board, Assam
2. Regional Office, Central Pollution Control Board, Nongthymmai, Shillong, Meghalaya.
3. The Chairman, SEIAA (Assam).

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CIN: L13209MH1965PLC291394

**SIX MONTHLY REPORT
ON PROGRESSIVE COMPLIANCE TO ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CONDITIONS**

Project name:	Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal & Early production in AA-ONHP-2017/5 Block in Jorhat, Majuli & Sivasagar districts of Assam
Environmental Clearance letter no.:	EC22B002AS164784 dated 07.02.2022
Reporting period:	April 2024 to September 2024
Project activity during reporting period:	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activities carried out in the reporting period.
Overall status of activities w.r.t. project defined in EC:	Project defined in EC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drilling of Exploratory & Appraisal Wells: 14 Nos. • Early Production: 8000 BOPD crude oil & 1.6 MMSCFD natural gas.
	Overall Status: No Exploration & Appraisal well drilling and Early production activities carried out in the AA-ONHP-2017-5 block till date.

S. No.	EC Conditions	Compliance Status
I.	Statutory Compliance	
i.	The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.	Not applicable. No forest land involved in project activity.
ii.	The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.	No protected area, no well location within ESZ.
iii.	The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan & Wildlife Management Plan and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. The recommendations of the approved Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. The implementation report shall be furnished along with the six-monthly compliance report. (in case of the presence of Schedule-I species in the study area)	Site specific wildlife conservation plan has been prepared.
iv.	The Project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish / Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee.	Consent to establish/ operate will be obtained prior to drilling activity.
v.	The project proponent shall obtain authorization under the Hazardous and other Waste Management Rules, 2016 as amended from time to time.	Hazardous waste authorization will be obtained prior to drilling activity.
vi.	The Company shall strictly comply with the rules and guidelines under Manufacture, Storage, and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 as amended time to time. All transportation of Hazardous Chemicals shall be as per the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA), 1989	Not applicable.
II.	Air quality monitoring and preservation	
i.	The project proponent shall install 24X7 continuous emission monitoring system at process stacks to monitor stack emission with respect to standards prescribed in Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 and connected to	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.

S. No.	EC Conditions	Compliance Status
	SPCB and CPCB online servers and calibrate these systems from time to time according to equipment supplier specification through labs recognized under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or NABL accredited laboratories.	
ii.	The project proponent shall monitor fugitive emissions in the plant premises at least once in every quarter through labs recognized under environment (Protection) Act, 1986.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
iii.	The project proponent shall install system to carryout Ambient Air Quality monitoring for common/criterion parameters relevant to the main pollutants released (e.g. PMIO and PM25 in reference to PM emission, and SO2 and NOX in reference to SO2 and NOX emissions) within and outside the plant area at least at four locations (one within and three outside the plant area at an angle of 120 each), covering upwind and downwind directions.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
iv.	To control source and the fugitive emissions, suitable pollution control devices shall be installed to meet the prescribed norms and/or the NAAQS. Sulphur content should not exceed 0.5% in the coal for use in coal fired boilers to control particulate emissions within permissible limits (as applicable). The gaseous emissions shall be dispersed through stack of adequate height as per CPCB/SPCB guidelines.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
v.	Storage of raw materials, coal etc shall be either stored in silos or in covered areas to prevent dust pollution and other fugitive emissions.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
vi.	National Emissions Standards for Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. 608(E) dated 21 st July 2010 and amended from time to time shall be followed.	Not relevant to the oil & gas exploration & production projects.
vii.	The National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16 th November 2009 shall be complied with.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
III.	Water quality monitoring and preservation	
i.	The project proponent shall provide online continuous monitoring of effluent, the unit shall install web camera with night vision capability and flow meters in the channel/drain carrying effluent within the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving ZLD)	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
ii.	As already committed by the project proponent, Zero Liquid Discharge shall be ensured, and no waste/treated water shall be discharged outside the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving the ZLD).	To be complained with
iii.	The effluent discharge shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, or as specified by the State Pollution Control Board while granting Consent under the Air/Water Act, whichever is more stringent.	To be complied with

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iv.	Total freshwater requirement shall not exceed the proposed quantity or as specified by the Committee. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority/ CGWA in this regard.	No ground water will be extracted for this project.
v.	Process effluent/any wastewater shall not be allowed to mix with storm water. The storm water from the premises shall be collected and discharged through a separate conveyance system.	To be complied with
vi.	The company harvest rainwater from the roof tops of the buildings and storm water drains to recharge the ground water and utilized the same for different industrial operations within the plant.	Drilling is a very short-term activity. Rainwater harvesting not feasible during exploration phase.
vii.	The DG sets shall be equipped with suitable Pollution control devices and the adequate stack height so that the emissions are in conformity with the extant regulations and the guidelines in this regard.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
IV.	Noise monitoring and preservation	
i.	Acoustic enclosure shall be provided to DG set for controlling the noise pollution.	To be complained with
ii.	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.	Noted for compliance
iii.	The ambient noise levels should conform to the standards prescribed under E(P)A Rules, 1986 viz, 75 dB(A) during daytime and 70 dB(A) during night-time.	Noted for compliance
V.	Energy conservation measures	
i.	The energy sources for lighting purposes shall preferably be LED based	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
VI.	Waste management	
i.	Hazardous chemical shall be stored in tanks, tank farms, drums, carboys etc. Flame arresters shall be provided on tank farm and the solvent transfer through pumps.	Not relevant to the oil and gas exploration & production projects, therefore not applicable.
ii.	Process organic residue and spent carbon, if any, shall be sent to cement industries. ETP sludge, process inorganic & evaporation salt shall be disposed off to the TSDF.	Not Applicable
iii.	The Company shall undertake waste minimization measures as below: -	
	a. Metering and Control of quantities of active ingredients to minimize waste.	Not Applicable
	b. Reuse of by-products from the process as raw materials or as raw material substitutes in other processes.	Not Applicable
	c. Use of automated filling to minimize spillage.	Not Applicable
	d. Use of Close Feed system into batch reactors.	Not Applicable
	e. Venting equipment through vapors recovery system.	Not Applicable
	f. Use of high-pressure hoses for equipment clearing to reduce wastewater generation.	Not Applicable
VII.	Greenbelt	

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i.	The green belt of 5-10 m width shall be developed in more than 33% of the total project area, mainly along the plant periphery, in downward wind direction, and along roadsides etc. Selection of plant species shall be as per the CPCB guidelines in consultation with the State Forest Department.	Exploratory drilling is a very short-term activity. To be complied with, in case of commercially viable discovery of hydrocarbons and during production phase.
VIII. Safety, public hearing and human health issues		
i.	Emergency preparedness plan based on the Hazard identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) and Disaster Management Plan shall be implemented.	ERP has been prepared and will be made available at site.
ii.	The unit shall make the arrangement for protection of possible fire hazards during manufacturing process in material handling. Firefighting system shall be as per the norms.	Adequate fire protection measures will be made at site.
iii.	The PP shall provide Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) as per the norms of Factory Act.	PPEs will be provided at site.
iv.	Training shall be imparted to all employees on safety and health aspects of chemicals handling. Preemployment and routine periodical medical examinations for all employees shall be undertaken on regular basis. Training to all employees on handling of chemicals shall be imparted.	Regular trainings and awareness programme will be conducted at site.
v.	Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, creche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.	Not applicable. No housing for construction workers proposed at drill site.
vi.	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per the Factories Act.	Regular health check-up will be done at site.
vii.	There shall be adequate space inside the plant premises earmarked for parking of vehicles for raw materials and finished products, and no parking to be allowed outside on public places.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
IX. Corporate Environment Responsibility		
i.	The project proponent shall comply with the provisions contained in this Ministry's IOM vide F.No. 22-65/2017-1A III dated 1 st May 2018, as applicable, regarding Corporate Environment Responsibility.	Various programs/ activities will be undertaken to the nearby community.
ii.	The company shall have a well laid down environment policy duly approved by the Board of Directors. The environment policy should prescribe for standards operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/ violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements/ deviation / violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions and / or shareholders / stake holders. The copy of the board resolution in this regard shall be submitted to the MOEF& CC as a part of six-monthly report.	Health, safety, environment & sustainability policy duly signed by the CEO of the company has been prepared and will be implemented at site.

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iii.	A separate environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly to the head of the organization.	Environment team with qualified & experienced professional has been setup in the company. Head of the environment reports to SBU president, who reports to CEO.
iv.	Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
v.	Self-environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.	No exploratory & appraisal well drilling and early production activity till date. To be complied with during project activity in future.
X. Miscellaneous		
i.	The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.	Advertisement has been published in 'Assam Tribune' and 'Dainik Janambhumi' newspapers on 04.09.2022 & 03.09.2022 respectively.
ii.	The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.	To be complied.
iii.	The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.	Environmental Compliance is being prepared and uploaded on website on regular basis.
iv.	The project proponent shall monitor the criteria pollutants level namely, PM 10, SO2, NOX (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or criteria sectoral parameters, indicated for the projects and display the same at a convenient location for disclosure to the public and put on the website of the company.	Noted for compliance
v.	The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.	Complied. Six-monthly compliance report is being prepared and submitted regularly.
vi.	The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and out on the website of the company.	To be complied with.

S. No.	EC Conditions	Compliance Status
vii.	The project proponent 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, commencing the land development work and start of production operation by the project.	To be complied with.
viii.	The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.	Complied.
ix.	The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert Appraisal Committee.	Noted
x.	No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).	Noted
xi.	Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.	Noted
xii.	The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.	Noted
xiii.	The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.	Noted
xiv.	The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.	Noted
xv.	The above conditions shall 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, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.	Noted
xvi.	Any appeal against this EC 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	Noted. PLI is available.