

**F.No. 10-47/2009-IA-III**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment & Forests**

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

**Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2009.**

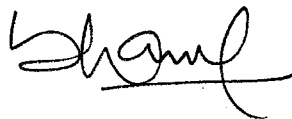
**To**  
**The Executive Director – Central Engineering (Refineries),**  
**M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.,**  
**17, Jamshedji Tata Road,**  
**P.O. Box No.11041,**  
**Mumbai – 400 020.**

**Subject: Environmental and CRZ Clearance for Single Point Mooring (SPM) Facility at Visakhapatnam by M/s. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited – Reg.**

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This has reference to the letter No. CEE/09/AJ/SPVR/084, dated 15.05.2009 seeking prior Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the above project under the EIA Notification, 2006 and Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of provisions under the EIA Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 1991 on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz., the Questionnaire, EIA, EMP and the additional clarifications furnished in response to the observations of the Expert Appraisal Committee constituted by the competent authority in its meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2009.

2. It is inter-alia noted that the project involves the development of deep-water offshore crude import facility i.e. construction of a single point mooring (SPM) terminal off Visakhapatnam harbour at 17° 39' 8.5" N; 83 ° 18' 55.3" E, about 4 KM away from Land fall point (LFP) and at a water depth of around 35 meter below chart datum(CD) to bring in larger crude parcels in VLCC Tankers in order to save freight costs and improve the economics of the refinery. Visakha Refinery of HPCL intends to implement the project at Visakhapatnam to receive imported crude through very large crude carriers (VLCC) to meet crude processing requirements of the refinery. Existing offshore tanker terminal (OSTT) of Visakha Refinery situated in Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) waters is having draft limitations (available draft: 19 meters) wherein crude cargo through VLCC can not be received. It is proposed that the Crude from SPM will be transported through a 48" diameter submarine pipeline of 4.0 KM length up to LFP. The onshore pipeline from LFP will be 1.227 KM (approx) in length of the same diameter and will join the existing 36" crude pipeline of refinery near Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL) facility in VPT area. The proposal also includes use of strategic

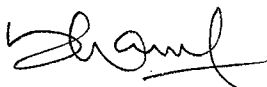


underground crude oil storage cavern project coming up near the LFP for receipt of crude oil. To facilitate this, a tap off from proposed 48" pipeline shall also be provided to crude cavern storage project of ISPRL.

3. The SPM facilities will have (i) buoy with fluid swivel, navigational aids and telemetry system etc. (ii) an anchoring system comprising of 6 numbers of chains attached to anchor piles at sea bed, (iii) under buoy hose system to connect the SPM buoy piping with Pipe Line End Manifold (PLEM), (iv) safety provisions consisting of Navigation aids, life buoys, firefighting equipments, leak detector, radar reflector, and weather protection covers etc, (v) 48" subsea pipeline from PLEM to LFP (vi) 48" onshore pipeline from LFP to crude cavern and hook up to existing 36" crude pipeline and (vii) oil spill response plan shall be developed based on tier -I approach in coordination with the Visakha Port Trust. The offshore submarine pipeline from SPM to LFP approaches shore between existing southern breakwater and Dolphin Nose Hill. After traversing from LFP, the pipeline will pass through tunnel across the hill up to ISPRL Crude Cavern. The entire onshore pipeline will be laid underground as far as possible. The onshore pipeline will be protected from external corrosion by three layer polyethylene (3LPE) and cathodic protection system. The proposed pipeline system will be equipped with pressure safety valves and thermal relief valves. Pipeline marker signs will be placed at major crossings. Line of sight markers will be maintained. The proposed facility comprising of SPM and connecting offshore/onshore pipelines fall within the port limit of VPT. The capital investment on the proposed project is estimated to be Rs. 643.46 crores.

4. The TOR was finalized by EAC in its meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> March, 2008. The project falls under project/activity 6 (b) "Isolated Storage & handling of hazardous chemicals" of EIA Notification, 2006 and also attracts CRZ Notification, 1991. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded the project for the issue of Clearance vide letter C.No. 2287CZMA/2009 dated 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2009. The width of the CRZ on landward side of HTL of the sea is 500 m and the area is classified as CRZ-II as per the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan. The area is under the administrative control of the Visakhapatnam Port and is mainly used for port related activities. The inter-tidal zone area is CRZ-I (ii) which is about 50 m in width and is classified as beach. The total length of the pipeline within CRZ is 1211 m. The NIO in their report clearly stated that the route of the proposed pipeline does not pass through any sensitive and important ecosystems such as mangroves or National Parks. The paragraph 2 (xii) of CRZ Notification permits the facilities for carrying oil, gas and similar pipelines and facilities essential for activities permitted under the CRZ Notification.

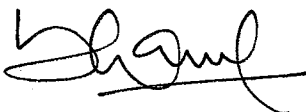
5. The Expert Appraisal Committee, after due consideration of the relevant documents submitted by the project proponent and additional clarifications furnished in response to its observations, have recommended for the issue of Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the



project. Accordingly, the Ministry hereby accord necessary Environmental and CRZ Clearance for the above project as per the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and CRZ Notification, 1991 and its subsequent amendments, subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions as follows:

**6. Specific Conditions:**

- (i) Pipeline will be laid by the conventional open cut method. The tunnel will be constructed by conventional control blasting technique. No chemical shall be used for blasting.
- (ii) A monitoring system shall be provided for Single Point Mooring which will monitor the position of tanker on real time basis including tanker approach speed.
- (iii) Mitigative measures shall be taken to prevent SPM collusion.
- (iv) Oil Spill Contingency Plan shall be put in place.
- (v) All the recommendations as mentioned in the EIA, DMP and Risk Assessment shall be strictly complied.
- (vi) There shall be no temporary/permanent camp sites in CRZ area.
- (vii) Any offshore vessel discharge shall comply the norms of MARPOL.
- (viii) Waste water generated shall be properly treated and reused, with the provision of oil water separator system.
- (ix) Oily waste to be stored in paved dedicated storage area and shall be disposed to authorized oily recyclers.
- (x) Crude oil storage tank from area shall be impervious lined and concrete paved with dyke walls.
- (xi) Under Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR), sufficient budgetary provision shall be made for health improvement, education, water and electricity supply etc. in and around the project.
- (xii) All the conditions stipulated by Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority vide their letter No. 2287 CZMA/2009, dated 18.04.2009 shall be strictly complied with.



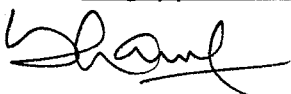
**7. General Conditions:**

- (i) The construction of the structures should be undertaken as per the plans approved by the concerned local authorities/local administration, meticulously conforming to the existing local and Central rules and regulations including the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification dated 19.2.1991 and the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of Andhra Pradesh.
- (ii) In the event of any change in the project profile a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (iii) This Ministry reserves the right to revoke this clearance, if any, of the conditions stipulated are not complied with to the satisfaction of this Ministry.
- (iv) This Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any additional conditions subsequently, if deemed necessary, for environmental protection, which shall be complied with.
- (v) Full support should be extended to the officers of this Ministry's Regional Office at Bangalore and the offices of the Central and Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board by the project proponents during their inspection for monitoring purposes, by furnishing full details and action plans including the action taken reports in respect of mitigative measures and other environmental protection activities.

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 Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 2000 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 and Civil Aviation Department from height point of view, 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 should 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 Andhra Pradesh 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 Bangalore.

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 Environmental Clearance shall lie with the National Environment Appellate Authority, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 11 of the National Environment Appellate Act, 1997.

13. 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.

14. 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 at Bangalore, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the APPCB. The criteria pollutant levels namely; SPM, RSPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or critical sectoral parameters, indicated for the project shall be monitored and displayed at a convenient location near the main gate of the company in the public domain.

15. The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF at Bangalore, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the APPCB.

16. The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> 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 Regional Office of MoEF at Bangalore by e-mail.

  
(Bharat Bhushan)  
Director (IA-III)  
20.10.2009

Copy to:

- (1) The Chairman, Andhra Pradesh Coastal Zone Management Authority and Principal Secretary, Environment, Forests and Sciences and Technology, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
- (2) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 110 032.
- (3) The Member Secretary, Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Hyderabad.
- (4) The CCF, Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests(SZ), Kendriya Sadan, IVth floor, E&F wings, 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bangalore - 560 034.
- (5) IA - Division, Monitoring Cell, MOEF, New Delhi - 110003.
- (6) Guard file.

**(Bharat Bhushan)**  
**Director (IA-III)**