F.No. IA3-22/5/2025-IA.III [E-258537]

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan 3rd Floor, Vayu Wing, Jor Bagh Road Ali Ganj, New Delhi-3

Dated: 28th February, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Clarification on the authority of SEIAA and SEAC to amend / transfer the ToRs/ECs and split/ extend the validity/ accept the surrender of ECs granted by MoEF&CC under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 – regarding.

The projects or activities covered in the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006, are broadly categorized into two categories, i.e., Category-A and Category-B. Category-A projects or activities are considered at the Central level in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) based on the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC), while the Category-B projects or activities are considered at the State level in the State level Environmental Impact Assessment Authorities (SEIAAs) based on the recommendations of the State level Expert Appraisal Committees (SEACs).

- 2. Category-B projects or activities may be considered at the Central level in MoEF&CC under the following circumstances:
 - a. In the absence of a duly constituted SEIAA/SEAC at the States/UT level, a Category-B project or activity shall be considered at the Central level as a Category-B;
 - b. Any Category-B project or activity shall be considered at the Central level as Category-A due to the applicability of General Condition.
- 3. Due to the amendments in the EIA Notification 2006 from time to time, changes in thresholds of projects may occur due to decentralization & delegation of powers to SEIAAs/SEACs and due to changes in the applicability of General Conditions, the projects or activities which were earlier considered at the Central level in MoEF&CC, may subsequently fall within the domain of SEIAAs/SEACs. Further SEIAAs and SEACs which were not in existence may also be re-constituted subsequently.

- 4. In view of the above, the Ministry is in receipt of request for clarifying whether the authority to amend such ToRs/ECs granted earlier by MoEF&CC, shall continue to remain with the Ministry or whether SEIAAs/SEACs may entertain such requests.
- 5. In this regard, the Ministry hereby clarifies that SEIAA and SEAC shall be the Competent Authority for issuance of amendments (including corrigendum)/ transfer such ToRs/ECs and split/extend the validity/ accept the surrender, of such ECs granted earlier by MoEF&CC at the Central level under the circumstances highlighted in para 2 above on account of the change of circumstances as mentioned in para 3 above. The concerned SEIAA and SEAC shall process the cases at their respective levels by following the due procedure as laid down in the EIA Notification, 2006.
- 6. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr. J.D. Marcus Knight)

Scientist E

To

- 1. Chairman/Member Secretary, CPCB.
- 2. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the State/UT, PCBs/PCCs
- 3. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the EACs.
- 4. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs.
- 5. All Officers of IA Division.

Copy to:

- 1. PS to Hon'ble MEFCC
- 2. PS to Hon'ble MoS (EF&CC)
- 3. Sr. PPS to Secretary (EF&CC)
- 4. Sr. PPS to DGF & SS (EF&CC)
- 5. PPS to AS(AG) / PPS to JS (RA)
- 6. Website, MoEF&CC /Guard File