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No. J-12011/45/2012-IA-I
Ministry of Environment & Forests
Government of India
(IA-I Division)

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| Paryavan Bhavan C.O. Complex, Lodi Road New Delhi - 110 003 | |

To

Date: 3rd April, 2013

The Member Secretary,
State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)
3rd Floor, Panagal Maaligai
No-1, Jeeva Road, Saidapet
Chennai - 600 015

Subject: Drinking Water Supply Project for Chennai Metropolitan City - formation of new reservoir at Kannankottai & Thervai Kandigal Village in Gummidipoondi Taluk, Thiruvallur District of Tamil Nadu by M/s. Public Works Department, Government of Tamil Nadu -- regarding.

Sir,

This is with reference to your letter no. SEIAA-TN/F-620/2012 dated 25.10.2012 and subsequent letter no. 101/DB/DO/C611/2012 dated 16.11.2012 and 21.11.2012 on the above mentioned project.

2. The said proposal has been examined in the Ministry as well as appraised by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for River Valley & Hydroelectric Projects in its meeting held on 26-27th December, 2012. The comments and observations of EAC may be seen in the Minutes of the meeting, which are available on the website of this Ministry. The EAC was informed the following:

2.1 The project is to divert surplus water from Krishna Canal of Andhra Pradesh by forming a reservoir by merging these 2 existing water impoundments to store 1 TMC capacity of water storage in the reservoir and the stored water ultimately will be used for drinking water supply to Chennai Metropolitan city. The proposed reservoir site is lower elevation to the Krishna Canal water level which facilitates the recharging through gravity flow. The off-take canal is linking the Krishna Canal and reservoir is also taking water through gravity flow. The canal alignment is about 8.3 km. The total land requirement is about 602 ha. Total forest land involved in the project is 22 ha. Total project cost is about Rs.330 Crores.

2.2 There are no human settlements/household nearby and thus R&R issues are not involved in the project.

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2.3. The project neither comprises any hydro electric power generation component nor any irrigation component with command area development.

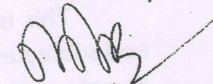
3. Thus, this being purely a drinking water supply scheme, it does not attract the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendment, 2009. The following steps, however be taken/ensured by the State Government while implementing the project :

- (i) Necessary clearance for diversion of forest land for the project to be obtained from the designated authority before commencement of the project.
- (ii) Any other mandatory clearance/statutory permission from any other organization/department to be obtained by the project proponent.
- (iii) Environmental safeguard measures/management plans may be implemented appropriately and in a timely manner.

4. The Ministry of Environment & Forests reserve the right to reconsider the matter, if so warranted

5. This issue with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,



(B. B. Barman)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Water Resources Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai Region, Chepauk, Chennai - 600 005.
2. The Secretary (Environment & Forests), Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
3. Regional Office (SZ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Kendriya Sadan, IV-Floor, E&F Wing, 17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bengaluru- 560 034
4. The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board, No-76, Mount Salai, Gundy, Chennai - 600 032.
5. EI Division, Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi - 110 003
6. NIC Cell, MOEF for uploading in MoEF's portal
7. Guard File.