



ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का एक उद्यम)
Oil India Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)

Conquering Newer Horizons

NEF PROJECT, OIL INDIA LIMITED
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Ref. No. NEF: 06/1 - 482/2015

Date : 28.07.2015

To,

The Chief Conservator of Forest (Cons) & Nodal Officer (FCA)
Department of Environment & Forests,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh

Sub: Proposal for issuance of permission under FC Act, 1980 towards grant of Ningru Extension Petroleum Mining Lease covering 75.00 sq km of forest area in Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh

Ref: i. MoEF&CC's guidelines vide F. No. 8-118/2006-FC dated 24.06.2015
ii. MoEF&CC's letter F No. 8-118/2006-FC dated 21.07.2015

Sir,

With reference to Ministry's guidelines dated 24.06.2015 and letter dated 21.07.2015 referred above, we submit herewith our Forest Clearance proposal in prescribed format (Form-A) under Section 2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the Ningru Extension Petroleum Mining Lease area covering 75.00 sq km in Changlang District of Arunachal Pradesh towards issuance of formal approval of the PML by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh.

2.0 Oil India Limited (OIL) applied for conversion of the erstwhile Ningru Extn. Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) block into a Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) block in June, 2003. Though Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG), Govt. of India accorded its approval on the conversion in May, 2004, *Formal Approval by State Government* on the same has been kept on hold by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh (AP) pending prior approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3.0 As you are aware, in respect of Petroleum Mining where PMLs are granted under PNGR, 1959, only a small percentage of the lease area (2 to 3%) is used for actual non-forestry purposes for drilling of wells and other associated activities. Moreover, as grant of such PML does not automatically authorize the User Agency to undertake any non-forestry activities in the area without first obtaining Forest Clearance under F(C) Act, 1980 for diversion of forestland required for its drilling and other related activities, being a special category case, OIL approached Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to review the prevailing NPV norms. Hon'ble Supreme Court passed its order dated 08.08.2014 on the basis of the Report of Central Empowered Committee dated 25.02.2014. The court permitted approval of Forest Clearance towards grant of the PML on payment of 2% NPV of the total lease area.

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4.0 As such, with regard to above, we wish to clarify that our subject Forest Clearance proposal is exclusively towards issuance of Ningru Extn. Petroleum Mining Lease only without calling for any physical diversion of forestland within the lease area. In line with Hon'ble Supreme Court's order/ CEC's report and Ministry's guidelines dated 24.06.2015 referred above, after obtaining the PML, OIL will submit location-wise Forest Clearance proposal(s) as and when required under Section 2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the forest land involved in its actual drilling and other activities requiring physical diversion of forest land.

5.0 We now sincerely request your kind needful for issuance of Forest Clearance under Section 2(iii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as per Ministry's recent guidelines dated 24.06.2015 for the Ningru Ext. PML area towards its formal grant by Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, so that OIL can restore its E&P activities in the area at the earliest possible time, which have been kept in abeyance for more than a decade.

6.0 The Forest Clearance proposal along with all requisite documents is submitted online through Ministry's web-portal as per norms.

With sincere regards,

Yours faithfully,
OIL INDIA LIMITED



(R K Borah)
Chief Engineer, Tpt (NEF)
For Head - NEF

Enclo: As above

Copy : Director of Geology & Mining, Govt. of AP, Itanagar

(R K Borah)
Chief Engineer, Tpt (NEF)
For Head - NEF