

PCB/HO/CIRCULAR/51/2019

Date: 04 /05/2022

CIRCULAR

Sub: - Validity of Environmental Clearance for mining projects - reg.

- Ref: -1. MoEF&CC notification no. S.O.1807(E) dated 12/04/2022.
 - 2. Representation dated 21.04.2022 submitted by Registered Metal Crusher Units Owners Association.

The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, vide notification cited 1st above has made amendments regarding the validity of Environmental Clearance. As per the notification, the prior Environmental Clearance (EC) granted for mining projects shall be valid for the project life as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by competent authority, from time to time, subject to a maximum of thirty years, whichever is earlier.

Hence, while processing consent renewal applications pertaining to granite quarries, the applicant may be directed to produce letter from the Mining & Geology Department stating the life of the mine as per the approved mine plan. This may be counterchecked with the mine life mentioned in the EC. Thereafter, the EC validity may be taken equal to that of the life of the mine as stated by the Geologist or thirty years, whichever is earlier.

In case, the life of mine is more than 30 years, the notification under reference cited, permits extension for another twenty years beyond 30 years or for the life of mine whichever is earlier, and this extension is granted in installments as per the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee every 5 years.

Based on the above, consent to operate may be renewed, as usual, for a period of five years or up to the validity of the EC in case the validity of EC is less than 5 years. All other criteria for processing of consent renewal applications for quarries remain unchanged. Consent renewal applications shall be processed accordingly.

То

- 1. The Chief Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Trivandrum/Ernakulam/Kozhikode.
- 2. The Senior Environmental Engineer, Environmental Surveillance Centre, Eloor.
- 3. The Environmental Engineer, District Office, Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alapuzha, Idukki, Kottayam, Ernakulam-1, Ernakulam-2, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur, Wayanad, Kasargod.

Copy to:-

- 1) All Technical Staff in HO
- 2) IT Cell (for uploading in the website)
- 3) C.A to CHN & MS

Forwarded by order

Senior Environmental Engineer-3