



GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
National Hockey Stadium, Gate No. 10
Ferozepur Road, Lahore 000902



NO. AD(EIA)/EPA/F-101(EIA)/0911/2020/538
Dated: 25/11/2020

To,

Mr. Muhammad Abdullah,
Deputy Project Director,
Project Management Unit (Rawalpindi Ring Road Project),
Commissioner's Office, Rawalpindi Division,
Katchehri Chowk, Rawalpindi.

Subject:

DECISION OF EPA PUNJAB UNDER REGULATION 12 OF REVIEW OF IEE AND EIA REGULATIONS, 2000 READ WITH SECTION 12 OF PUNJAB ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT, 1997 REGARDING PROJECT "CONSTRUCTION OF RAWALPINDI RING ROAD"

1. Description of Project Construction of ring road over an area of 1923 Acres.
2. Location of Project Road will start from National Highway (N-5) near Rawat (Radio Pakistan) passes through Motorway M 2, Islamabad International Airport, CPEC route and Motorway M 1 and terminates at National Highway (N 5) Sangjani, District Rawalpindi & Attock.
3. Date of filing of EIA 14-07-2020

4. After careful review of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report, consideration of Site Inspection Reports submitted by Deputy Director (Environment), Rawalpindi vide letter No. DD(F)/EPA/RWP/F-61(EIA)/101(RRRR)/2020/365 dated 20-08-2020 & Assistant Director (Environment), Attock vide letter No. ADF/EPA/ATK/020/314 dated 26-08-2020 and in pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee of Experts made in the meeting thereof held on 09-11-2020 and perusal of other relevant record, Environmental Protection Agency, Punjab provisionally accords Environmental Approval under Regulation 12 of Review of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2000 read with Section 12 of Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 for construction of your aforesaid project subject to the following conditions:

- i. The Proponent shall ensure compliance with the Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS);
- ii. Mitigation Measures suggested in the EIA Report and Environmental Management Plan (EMP) shall be strictly adhered to control any negative impacts on soil, ground water, air and biological resources of the Project area;
- iii. The proponent shall maintain the auditable record of measures taken for implementation of Environmental Management Plan and its periodical verification by EPA, Punjab;
- iv. **Monitoring** shall be carried out during the entire period of the project activities. Monitoring Reports shall be submitted to EPA Field office on quarterly basis;
- v. The proponent shall provide a copy of EIA report and copy of this letter to the contractors for their information and compliance with conditions / measures suggested in these documents;
- vi. The construction material shall be piled / stored in such a way that it shall not destroy or damage the flora / environment of the locality;
- vii. The proponent shall sprinkle water on daily basis during construction activities as dust suppressant;
- viii. **Arrangements** shall be made for safe disposal of sanitary refuse and solid waste.
- ix. The proponent shall **redress** the objections / concerns of neighbours / stakeholders on priority basis (if any at any stage);
- x. The proponent shall **obtain NOCs/ Clearance** of all other concerned departments before commencement of the work and **submit** copies of all necessary NOCs/Approvals from other concerned departments along with application for operational phase under Regulation 14 of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2000;
- xi. The proponent may **install** standby power generator (if required) adopting sound proofing techniques and it should be equipped with chimney having proper height to discharge the hot gases / smoke within **PEQS** limits;
- xii. **Camping sites**, during construction, shall be located at a suitable distance away from any settlement to avoid disturbance to the local people and proponent will ensure restoration of camping site to its original condition as well. Sewage generated from camping sites shall be treated in septic tanks.

subject

- xiii. **Compensation** shall be provided to the inhabitants in case of loss of property, shops, businesses etc. in accordance with the rates that are agreed upon as per law. All conflicting issues regarding compensation etc. should be settled amicably before or during the project activities with the approval of competent authority by involving all stakeholders;
- xiv. Energy consumption shall be **reduced** by incorporating green energy sources along with regular power supply;
- xv. The proponent shall do landscaping and **restore** the environment after completion of the construction work;
- xvi. The proponent shall **allocate** sufficient budget for enhancement/beautification of environment;
- xvii. The Proponent shall plant 300,000 trees of 6-7 feet height of indigenous species in the district in consultation with Directorate of (EDH) / Assistant / Deputy Director (Environment), Rawalpindi & Attock, within six months. The Proponent shall also take measures for protection and maintenance of these trees and maintain their proper record for verification by EPA;
- xviii. Majority of unskilled and, up to the extent possible, skilled jobs shall be given to the locals;
- xix. The proponent shall ensure treatment of wastewater generated from labour/ workers camps in compliance with PEQS;
- xx. The proponent shall take **measures** to avoid silting and soil erosion;
- xxi. Open burning of solid waste from the contractors camp shall not be allowed;
- xxii. The proponent shall **avoid** the disturbance of the traffic flow due to heavy traffic during construction phase. Diverging route plans may be advertised before closure of any route. Ample signage shall be added during construction activities. Special route clearance shall be made for the emergency vehicles e.g. ambulances, fire fighting vehicles etc;
- xxiii. The proponent shall **construct** overhead / underground bridges at appropriate distances for the conveniences of pedestrians;
- xxiv. The proponent shall **ensure** provision of urban storm water drainage management system;
- xxv. The proponent shall document and catalogue flora expected to be affected due to development activities and submit a copy of it to EPA Punjab. Proponent shall take all possible measures for protection of flora and fauna in the plan;
- xxvi. The proponent shall ensure provision of **ecological corridors** for safe movement of wildlife;
- xxvii. The proponent shall take all necessary measures to **protect right of way**;
- xxviii. The proponent shall **formulate** a proper traffic management plan and announce before the start of construction activities to avoid traffic jams/public inconvenience during construction phase;
- xxix. The proponent shall take effective measures to protect the patients of the nearby hospitals and residents of the area from noise pollution. For this purpose, noise barriers in sensitive areas shall be installed / constructed in the form of high boundary walls (concrete or wood);
- xxx. The proponent shall restore the site adjacent to the project site to its pre-construction state after construction of the project infrastructure;
- xxxi. This Environmental Approval for the project does not absolve the proponent of the responsibility of obtaining necessary permissions from any other concerned authority which is required under the law.
- xxxii. The proponent shall plan the adequate signage, barriers, yellow tape during construction;
- xxxiii. The proponent shall avoid unnecessary excavations and all excavations work shall be sprinkled with water to control dust;
- xxxiv. The proponent shall **relocate** all the public utilities likely to be affected by the proposed project well ahead of the commencement of the construction work;
- xxxv. The proponent shall take all necessary measures to **safeguard** the social and economic conditions affecting the community life;
- xxxvi. The proponent shall ensure **transplantation** of trees to be cut/affected during construction phase of the project;
- xxxvii. This provisional Approval shall remain valid subject to grant of Approval by District Council, Irrigation Department, Local Government & Community Development Department, National Highway, Forest Department, WAPDA, WASA, PTCL, SNGPL, Traffic Department, and shall automatically stand cancelled in case of non-grant of Approval(s) by any or all of the aforesaid / other related departments;
- xxxviii. The functionality, safety and stability of all the structures/ interchanges/bridges included in the project design shall be responsibility of the proponent, design consultant and contractor. The EPA and expert committee shall not bear any responsibility in this regard, since they are not capacitated to examine/evaluate these aspects;
- xxxix. The proponent shall seek separate environmental approval for other projects / activities mentioned in Schedule-I / Schedule-II of Review of IEE & EIA Regulations, 2000; and
- xl. The Proponent shall follow the SOPs regarding **dengue** larvae eradication and shall ensure removal of stagnant water on daily basis.

5. The Proponent shall, before commencing construction activities, acknowledge acceptance of the stipulated conditions by executing an Undertaking in the form prescribed in Schedule VII of Review of IEE and EIA Regulations 2000.



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6. The Proponent shall be liable for **correctness** and validity of information supplied to this Department by the Environmental Consultant.
7. The Proponent shall be liable for compliance with Regulations 13, 18 and 19 of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2000, regarding Approval, Entry, Inspections and Monitoring.
8. EPA **reserves** the right to impose any other condition based on its monitoring.
9. Any change in the approved Project shall be communicated to EPA, Punjab and shall be initiated after obtaining the requisite approval.
10. This provisional approval shall be treated as **null and void** if any or all of the conditions mentioned hereinbefore, is/are not complied with. This approval does not absolve the proponent of the duty to obtain any other approval or consent that may be required under any law in force.
11. This provisional approval shall be valid (for commencement of construction) for a period of **three years** from the date of issuance under Regulation 17 of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2000.
12. This provisional approval can be **withdrawn** at anytime without any prior notice if deemed necessary in the better Public/ National interest.
13. The proponent shall apply for confirmation of compliance (Operational phase) under Regulation 14 of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2000, only after complying with conditions mentioned in this provisional approval.
14. This decision is issued with the approval of Director General, EPA, Punjab.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (EIA)

NO. & DATE EVEN:

A copy is forwarded to the Deputy Director (Environment), Rawalpindi w.r.t letter No. DD(F)/EPA/RWP/F-61(EIA)/101(RRRR)/2020/365 dated 20-08-2020 & Assistant Director (Environment), Attock vide letter No. ADF/EPA/ATK/020/314 dated 26-08-2020. They are requested to:

- i. Obtain Undertaking from the Project Proponent mentioned at Para 5 for the record of EPA Headquarters and Field Office.
- ii. Ensure compliance with the conditions mentioned in the provisional Environmental Approval and maintain the file / record of correspondence with the Project Proponent properly.
- iii. Ensure monitoring of the project at every stage and inform any violations to the authority so that action can be taken as per Law.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (EIA)