Subject: Usage of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe

Dear Sirs

Kindly refer your letter dated 10.02.2015 giving comments on the above subject. Consortium states that Consortium has not violated any clause of OISD or PNGRB and use the ERW Pipe of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe as per the requirement of general engineering practices and contract conditions. Our detailed explanation is as under

The total requirement of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe was 0.477 Km for Lakwa colony approach and no vendor was willing to supply the same for minor requirement. In view of this, Consortium had used4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe to complete the work, which was available with Consortium for the best interest of project. Consortium had also given detailed calculation as per ASME code B 31.8 for the Usage of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe and the pipe was found suitable for the use.

PNGRB acts apply to refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas excluding production of crude oil and natural gas. Whereas our contract pertains to production of crude oil & natural gas, hence PNGRB acts do not pertain to activities pertaining to our area of contract.

The minimum wall thickness for cross country pipeline of NPS 4” and above shall be 6.4mm as per PNGRB clause at page no. 58.

Cross country pipeline is defined as “ are pipelines which carry crude petroleum, petroleum product, LPG and Natural Gas from producer facilities such as tank forms, natural gas processing plants, refineries, pumps/compressor stations, terminals ( marine, rail and trucks) to other delivery and receiving points,……” The use of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe will not come under the definition of cross country pipeline.

As per OISD standard 226 “ the wall thickness less than 6.4mm should not be used for cross country pipelines.”

As explained above , our use of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe does not qualify under cross country pipeline

More over the word used in specification is “should” which is later explained in codes as “The word ‘should’ is used to indicate that the provision is recommendatory as per sound engineering practice’”. Therefore by definition of ‘should’ the recommendation of minimum thickness of 6.4mm is not mandatory and binding.

Consortium had submitted the detailed calculation as per ASME code b 31.8 for usage of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe and was found safe. The fact was also accepted by ONGC.

In view of the above explanation, consortium requests ONGC to please accept Usage of 4.5 inch (600#) 5.6 Thk ERW Pipes instead of 4.5 inch (300#) 6.4mm thickness ERW Pipe

Thanking you