

Consortium Partners



SMEC International Pty. Ltd. (ACN-065440619/FCRN-F01483)
NJS Engineers India Pvt Ltd, India (CIN - U74210PN2007PTC129798)
Tata Consulting Engineers Limited, India (CIN- U74210MH1999PLC123010)
SMEC (India) Pvt. Ltd. (CIN: U93000DL1997PTC088574)

Ref: SSNT PMC 400 MLD/ CMWSSB / 5061185/305

Date: 12th March 2021

To,
The Superintending Engineer (Desalination),
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board,
Urban Administrative Building, 2nd Floor, No.75, Santhome High Road,
MRC Nagar, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai 600 028 Tamil Nadu, India



Sub: JICA Assisted Project for Construction of 400 MLD Seawater Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant at Perur (JICA Loan ID-P267)
Reply to your email from SE (Desal), CMWSSB, dated 21.01.2021 – Intake and Outfall pipeline – Reg.

Ref: 1. Our Letter no. Ref : SSNT PMC 400 MLD/ CMWSSB/ 5061185/ 267, dated 09.02.2021
2. Email received from your office dated 21.01.2021
3. Our Letter no. Ref: SMEC/ CMWSSB / 7061563/005, dated 20.01.2020
4. Your Letter no. Lr.no.CMWSSB/SE(Desal)/400 MLD Plant / PMC/2020, dated 13.01.2020
5. Our Contract Agreement with CMWSSB, dated 09.01.2020

Dear Sir,

This is in continuation to our letter under reference no.1 dated 09.02.2021 in response to your email dated 21st January 2021, which has cited that as per the latest CZMP map published by the National Center for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM), Chennai classifies the project area under CRZ IA (as of 29.11.2018) which is defined as Ecological Sensitive Area (ESA). This has raised concern about compliance with the Environmental Clearance (EC) obtained for the project under CRZ Notification.

The following points are for your consideration:

- i. The CRZ clearance from MoEF&CC for 400 MLD Perur DSP was obtained dated 25th Oct. 2018. The clearance was given in the 190th Expert committee meeting of NCZMA of MoEF & CC dated 9th May 2018. The CRZ report prepared by the Institute of Remote Sensing (IRS), Anna University, Chennai was dated February 2014. The final approved CZMP approved were uploaded to the TNCZMA website dated 29.11.2018. Please refer to Annexure – I for the entire Chronology of NCZMA's map preparation and approval process.
- ii. From the above information, it may be inferred that the CRZ clearance was issued based on the map available before 29.11.2018, since the clearance issue date was 25.11.2018 when the classification was CRZ III and CRZ IV as per CRZ clearance letter from MoEF&CC (point 2, viii) and CRZ I (inter tidal zone), CRZ III and CRZ IV as per TNCZMA (point no. E)
- iii. As per CRZ notification the area is now classified as **CRZ IA**. This classification is for ecologically sensitive areas as Sand dunes, Turtle nest grounds (relevant to project site) etc., are present in the project area.
- iv. It may be noted that the present CRZ clearance validity date is up to 25th October 2023 (5 years from the date of issue). The construction phase may commence by around January to March 2022 and may continue beyond the validity period. Therefore, we may need to renew the existing CRZ clearance during the construction phase.

PMC Chennai Office Address:

13th Floor, Purva Primus, No 236, Okhiyampettai, Old Mahabalipuram Road, Thoraipakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600097

PMC for 400 MLD SWRO Desalination Plant at Perur, Chennai

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- v. This is imperative to seek clarification from TNCZMA about the changed status of the CRZ category from October 2018 to present date and whether it has any implication on our project.
- vi. *In order to avoid any NGO related representations to MoEF&CC or NGT in future while the project is under construction phase due to change of CRZ map available in the public domain, PMC suggests CMWSSB to seek fresh No Objection Certificate (NOC) from NCZMA committee of MoEF&CC and TNCZMA through M/s. Indomer (being the EIA/ CRZ consultant) even if there is no proposal to change the outfall length from 750 m to 1800 m. This would avoid reputational risk and delay in project execution.*

As this is a statutory requirement for the project with future implications, therefore, we request you to have a joint discussion with CMWSSB, Environmental Consultant of the project and PMC for way forward for seeking clarification from TNCZMA and MoEF & CC.

Thanking you and assuring our services at all times.

Yours truly,

For Consortium of SMEC International Pty Ltd -TCE Ltd.-NJS Engineers India Ltd.-SMEC (India) Pvt. Ltd.

S.Srinivasarao
Project Coordinator



PMC Chennai Office Address:

13th Floor, Purva Primus, No 236, Okhampettai, Old Mahabalipuram Road, Thoraipakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600097

+91 044 66973300 ✉ indiabd@smec.com 🌐 www.smec.com