

No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

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Dated 22nd March, 2010

Office Memorandum

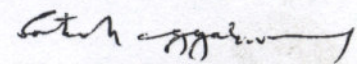
Sub: Time limit for validity of Terms of Reference (TORs) prescribed under EIA Notification, 2006 for undertaking detailed EIA studies for developmental projects requiring environmental clearance - Regarding.

The EIA Notification, 2006 has prescribed a time limit for validity environmental clearance granted to a project. However, no time limit has been specifically provided under the EIA Notification for the TORs prescribed for undertaking detailed EIA studies. As a result, the TORs once prescribed would continue to be valid indefinitely, which is definitely not desirable because the TORs are very much site specific and are dynamic to some extent depending upon the site features, its land use and the nature of development around it. The matter has been considered in the Ministry of Environment & Forests.

It has been decided that from 1.4.2010, the prescribed TORs would be valid for a period of two years for submission of the EIA/EMP Reports, after public consultation where so required. This period will be extendable to the 3rd year, based on proper justification and approval of the EAC/SEAC, as the case may be. Thus, an outer limit of three years has been prescribed for the validity of TORs with effect from 1.4.2010.

In case of the proposals, which had been granted TORs prior to the issue of this O.M., the EIA / EMP reports should be submitted, after public consultation where so required, no later than four years from the date of the grant of the TORs, with primary data not older than three years.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(S.K. Aggarwal)
Director

To

1. All the Officers of IA Division
2. Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
3. Member Secretaries of all SPCBs / UTPCCs

Copy to:-

1. PS to MEF
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
3. PPS to AS(JMM)
4. Advisor (NB)
5. Website, MoEF
6. Guard File