

GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA
FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT.

No.ENV-I-78/96(Pt). 13467 /P&E., Dated Bhubaneswar 17-7-97.
From

Shri S. Rath,
Commissioner-cum-
Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner-cum-
Secretary to Government,
Industries Department,
B h u b a n e s w a r.

Sub:- Environmental clearance to grass-root
refinery project in Orissa.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. III.HI.141/97-13111 dated 21st June, 1997, in which Environment Department, Government of Orissa were requested to recommend approval for SPM, dredging pipeline route etc. in connection with the proposed oil refinery to be set up by the Indian Oil Corporation at Village:- Abhayachandrapur in the district of Jagatsinghpur, Orissa, I am to say that the environmental issues pertaining to the proposal were discussed threat-bare on the basis of clarifications given by the IOC Ltd. in the meeting held on 3rd June, 1997.

The entire area proposed for the refinery does not belong to Coastal Regulation zone (CRZ) except 100 metres wide strip on each side of the Santara creek (approximately 0.6 km²). The portion which comes under the Coastal Regulation Zone has been classified as CRZ-III as per the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) approved by the State Government based on the CRZ Notification of 1991 and subsequent Government of India guidelines contained in MOEF letter No. J-17011/11/92-IA-III of September, 27, 1996 to the Chief Secretary, Orissa. The set back limit in this area on either side of the creek (Santara) has therefore been taken as 100 metres. No construction will be taken up in this 100 metres wide area by the project proponent. The area may be used for plantation and development of green belt.

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The pipeline route from SPM to refinery as well as from refinery to the proposed jetty in Paradeep Port, as per clause-2(xii) of the CZR, 1991, is a permissible activity. SPM itself being in the high seas, does not come under the purview of the Coastal Zone Regulation.

Dredging of sand will be carried out in the Jatadhari Muan river bed and not in the adjoining CRZ areas. The Environmental Impact Assessment carried out by the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, indicates that the impact of such dredging operation would be of reversible and temporary nature and it would in no way be harmful to the Environment and in fact would give better scope for exchange of marine waters and better chances of fisheries development. This is similar to the views of the State Pollution Control Board. After careful consideration of the clarifications as indicated above, the Government in Environment Department have been pleased to recommend approval for dredging in Jatadhari Muan river and pipeline route (SPM to refinery and from refinery to the proposed jetty) under the CZMP approved by the State Government. We further recommend approval of the refinery site based on the CZMP approved by the Government of Orissa, subject to maintaining 100 metres wide setback limit on either side of Santara creek.

Yours faithfully,

hmm 17.7.97

COMMISSIONER-CUM-SECRETARY TO GOVT.

D. Jayak.