Sub: Clearance to Mahagaon (Minor) Project, Taluka Darvha,
District Yavatmal under Sec.11 (f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005

Ref. ED, VIDC, Nagpur’s Letter No. 904833/विपारित/कार्य-3(9)/
(33/2017) dated 17/11/2017

Please find herewith a copy of MWRRA Order No. 09/2018 dated
22/06/2018 in the above cited matter.

Encl: As Above

(S. D. Kulkarni)
Director

Copy to
1. Principal Secretary (WRP & D), Water Resource Department, Mantralaya,
Madam Kama Marg, Mumbai - 400 032.
2. Executive Director, Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation, Sinchan
Seva Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440 001.
3. Chief Engineer (WR), Water Resources Department Sinchan Bhavan, Shivaji
Nagar, Camp, Amravati - 444 603.
4. Superintending Engineer, Yavatmal Irrigation Circle, Vaghapur Road,
Yavatmal - 445001.
Order No. 09/2018

Date: June 22, 2018

Clearance to Mahagaon Minor Irrigation Project, Taluka Darvha, District Yavatmal under Section 11 (f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005.

BACKGROUND

1. Executive Director, Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation (VIDC), Nagpur vide letter No. २०५३३/विनाविष्कार/कार्यालय-३(६)/ (२३/२०१७) dated 17/11/2017 has submitted the proposal of Mahagaon Minor Irrigation (MI) Project, Taluka Darvha, District Yavatmal for the clearance of the project under Section 11 (f) of the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (MWRRA) Act, 2005.

2. Mahagaon MI Project is proposed on local nalla in Painganga sub-basin of Godavari basin in backlog region i.e. in Yavatmal District. The project envisages creating storage of 5.665 Mm³ & irrigating 651 ha area. The project has received Administrative Approval (AA) on December 21, 2006 and 1st Revised Administrative Approval (RAA) on August 14, 2009. At present, about 80% Headworks of the project has been completed & work of canal and distributory is balance.

3. Government Resolution No. Misc./2015/(425/2015)/ Medium Project dated November 16, 2016 has mandated prior approval of the MWRRA under Section 11(f) of MWRRA Act 2005 before RAA is granted by the Competent Authority, if the project undergoes change in scope. Second RAA to the said project is under consideration of the Government. The proposal for Second RAA has been scrutinized by State Level Technical Advisory Committee, who has recommended the proposal with its observations. As per the provisions in Para 2.2. of the Government Resolution dated November 16, 2016, project do not undergoes change in scope and hence do not require Authority’s clearance for second RAA.
However, Secretary level sub-committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) has consented the proposal of second RAA in the meeting dated April 18, 2017 with condition that the clearance of MWRRA be obtained as the original AA to the project was accorded after the constitution of MWRRA. The proposal is therefore scrutinized under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005 with respect to the following parameters:

(i) The Integrated State Water Plan (ISWP) - Godavari basin, wherein the project is located, is prepared by River Basin Agency and approved by the State Water Council on November 30, 2017. The said project was shown in the list of Priority - 1 projects under VIDC, Nagpur. Thus the project can be considered to be in conformity with the ISWP.

(ii) Chief Engineer (HP) Nashik has certified water availability of 7.25 Mm³ at 50% dependability to this project on September 29, 2006. Thus the project is hydrologically viable.

(iii) At the time of AA, the Project Cost was Rs. 14.6868 crore. The B/C ratio was then 1.24 which was more than 1.0, a norm for Minor projects. The Cost per Thousand Cubic Meter (TCM) was then Rs. 25,922 which is within the norm of Rs. 32,684 for projects in Backlog District as per WRD GR dated September 4, 2006. As the project was fulfilling the then B/C ratio & Cost per TCM norms, the proposal was economically viable.

(iv) As per SLTAC report, Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), Government of India, New Delhi’s Notification of September 14, 2006 was then applicable and as per that SEIAA’s Environment Clearance was required. But now as per MoEF’s June 25, 2014 Notification, Environment Clearance is not required for projects having less than 2000 ha irrigable area as the said project’s CCA is 765 ha. Also there is no forest land affected by this project.

(v) At the time of AA of said project, the Hon’ble Governor’s directives of 2006-07 were applicable. There was no ban on taking new projects in irrigation backlog region at the time of AA of said project. Thus the said project was then compatible with the then Hon’ble Governor’s directives.

Thus, all the criteria which are necessary for according MWRRA’s clearance under Section 11(f) are then fulfilled.
5. At the time of AA of the said project, though the Authority was established & working, it has not set the procedure for clearance of the projects under Section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act, 2005. Also the Water Resource Department issued direction to EDs of GMIDC, Aurangabad & VIDC, Nagpur to get MWRRA’s clearance before according AA to the project on May 9, 2007.

6. Hence, the proposal was put for the consideration of the Authority in its meeting dated June 13, 2018 wherein, the issue of giving clearance to said project was discussed. The Authority after confirming that the project satisfies relevant pre-requisite criteries and considering existing status of the project resolved that clearance to said project be given and hence the following order is being issued.

ORDER

(a) The MWRRA is, therefore, pleased to accord clearance under section 11(f) of the MWRRA Act to Mahagaon (Minor) Project, Taluka Darvha, District Yavatmal to the Administrative Approval given by the State Government to the said project on December 21, 2006.

(b) The Project Proponent shall be responsible for compliance of provisions in Environmental (Protection) Act 1986 and Notification issued by Ministry of Environment and Forest from time to time.

7. This clearance is issued under registered No. 107 and is referenced under MWRRA/2017/PRCL/VIDC/97/433 dated 22/06/2018 in the office of the Authority.

(S. T. Sangle)
Member (Economics)

(V. J. Tiwari)
Member (Law)

(V. M. Kulkarni)
Chairman