



DIRECTOR GENERAL
 Phone: 05822-921082
 Fax: 05822-921686
 Email: dgepa.ajk@gmail.com



Protection of Environment is our
 Moral and Legal Obligation

Azad Jammu & Kashmir Environmental Protection Agency

Ref #: EPA/1142-44/2017

Date: 13-04-2017

1. **Name & Address of Proponent** Hussain Asghar, Managing Director Green Mount Mines, Opposite Examination Centre, Punjab University, 1-Bheikewal, Main Wahdat Road Lahore.
2. **Description of Project** Exploitation of Bentonite.
3. **Location of Project** Mawa Kaneli, Chaksawri, Mirpur AJK.
4. **Date of filling of Application** 27-04-2016.

CONDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL APPROVAL

(Under Section-11 of AJK-Environmental Protection Act, 2000 read with IEE/EIA Regulations, 2009)

DG EPA

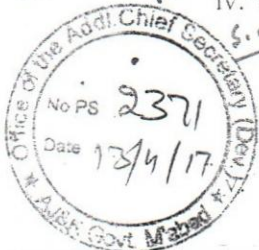
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5. After successful review of IEE report of the project and exercising powers conferred under Azad Jammu & Kashmir Environmental Protection Act, 2000, the Director General EPA is pleased to accord Conditional Environmental Approval for "Exploitation of Bentonite" at *Mawa Kaneli, Chaksawri District Mirpur, AJ&K* in favor of **Hussain Asghar, Managing Director Green Mount Mines, Main Wahdat Road Lahore**, subject to the fulfillment of following conditions;

- i. This Approval is valid to the extent of Exploitation of Bentonite in specified area and, any deliberate attempt or activity to exploit any mineral/ore other than under the cover this Approval, shall be deemed as a violation;
 - ii. Proponent shall adhere to National Environmental Quality Standards (NEQSS) and, during exploitation activities, shall ensure not to cause negative impacts on soil, ground water, ambient air quality, noise, natural drainage, hill torrents and biological resources etc.;
 - iii. Proponent shall strictly adhere to the bye-laws of Wildlife Department and shall ensure the safety of wild animals and their habitats both at the project site and in its vicinities;
 - iv. The spoil generated during exploitation activities should be dumped at pre designated places, approved by EPA. In order to avoid or avert damage to *green vegetation cover, water bodies, perennial & non-perennial drains, irrigation channels, communication routes and productive lands*; free rolling or dumping of spoil on fragile or degraded land shall be strictly prohibited;
- During extraction or labor camp activities, the proponent shall avoid any act that may contaminate *water bodies, aquifers and community water sources like wells, springs and water supplies*;

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The machinery and equipment, if any used for or during exploitation activities, must be fitted with noise abating devices and shall have the conformity to NEQSS;

vii. In case of loss of agriculture land, crop, property etc. proponent shall make compensation in accordance with the rates that are agreed upon under prevalent laws;



- viii. In case the articles of Archeological importance like artifacts, coins and other archeological relics are discovered, work at the site should immediately be stopped and the concerned department should be consulted for appropriate action.;
 - ix. The proponent shall ensure regular monitoring of environmental parameters at work sites throughout the project life. The quality characterization parameters of ambient air, water, soil and noise should be preferably done;
 - x. The proponent shall be liable to submit Monitoring Reports on quarterly basis to EPA with latest status of implementation of EMP, environmental monitoring and Conditions of this Approval;
 - xi. The proponent shall in-place proper Occupational Health & Safety arrangements and labor must be provided with requisite safety gears;
 - xii. The Labor Camp(s) shall be provided with independent commodity services rather putting the existing services or resources under stress, simultaneously, minimizing the prospects of intrusion into local communities' privacy;
 - xiii. Any spillages of oil or lubricants and waste generated during mineral extraction activities or from labor camp should be managed properly under the directions or guidelines of EPA;
 - xiv. Plantation should be a regular activity of the project. This mineral extraction activity is set to disturb/destroy the green vegetation cover of the area, therefore, the loss of one plant be compensated by planting at least 10 (1:10 ratio).
 - xv. The proponent shall prefer local communities for all jobs. The job or employment record should be made a part of quarterly reports;
 - xvi. The Proponent shall be liable for the correctness and validity of the information furnish by the environmental consultant;
 - xvii. The EPA will undertake monitoring or site inspection as and when required. The proponent shall be liable to facilitate the EPA team during such visits;
6. This Approval does not absolve the proponents to obtain any other Approval or clearance that may require under any law/rules enforced in AJ&K;
7. This Approval shall stand NULL AND VOID if any of the conditions, mentioned herein before, is not fully complied with.

Tracking No. 0032

Dated: 13-04-2017

R. Bin
13.4.17
(Raja Muhammad Razzaque)
Director General

CC.-

1. Secretary Environment/ACS (Dev), GoAJK, Muzaffarabad.
2. Deputy Director, EPA, Zonal Office Mirpur for ensuring compliance on EMP and conditions of the Approval.
3. Master file.