

Ardent steel limited
CIN- U27310CT2007PLC007671

Ref. No.572/ASL /MoEF & CC / 2022-23

Date: 30th June 2023

To
The Director,
Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India
Eastern Regional Office,
A/3, Chandrasekhar Pur,
Bhubaneswar-751023

Sub: Submission of Half Yearly Environmental Clearance Compliance Report for Enhancement in Production capacity of Existing Iron Ore Pellet Plant of 6,00,000 TPA of M/s. Ardent Steel Limited in village - Phuljhar, Block - Bansapal, Dist. - Keonjhar, Odisha

Ref: EC Letter No. J-11011/112/2013-IA. II(I), date 29th March, 2016

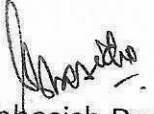
Dear Sir,

As per the conditions given in the Environmental Clearance accorded to our Existing Iron Ore Pellet Plant of capacity 6,00,000 TPA at village Phuljhar of Keonjhar district, we are herewith submitting the Half Yearly Environmental Clearance Compliance Report for the period of October' 2022-March'2023.

Thanking you.

Yours Faithfully

For Ardent Steel Limited


Dr. Subhasish Das
(Whole Time Director)

Encl: As above.



**HALF YEARLY COMPLIANCE REPORT TO THE CONDITIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE
(FOR THE PELLETIZING PLANT 0.60 TPA)**

EC Letter No. J-11011/112/2013-IA.II(I), date 29th March, 2016

THE PERIOD OCTOBER'2022 – MARCH'2023

M/S ARDENT STEEL LIMITED

Vill: Phuljhar, Block: Banspal, Dist: Keonjhar, Odisha – 758085



Ardent steel limited

Vill: Phuljhar, Block: Banspal, Dist: Keonjhar, Odisha.

COMPLIANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE OF THE IRON ORE PELLETISATION PLANT OF
M/S ARDENT STEEL LIMITED
Vill: Phuljhar, Block: Banspal, Dist: Keonjhar, Odisha – 758085

A. SPECIFIC CONDITION

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
i.	Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried and schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.	Periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project has been conducted in regular basis. Photo copy of health checkup reports are attached as Annexure – 1.
ii.	The project proponent shall ensure supply of safe drinking water to the nearby villages.	We are providing safe drinking water with the help of tankers within the radius of 3 km radius of the plant in the villages like Andharikhaman, Phuljhar (Barik Sahi, Majhi Sahi, Mahanta Sahi & Bhuiyan Sahi), etc Apart from this, hand pumps have been set up in Kaliapal, Chhatna, Dhalidihi villages.
iii.	The project proponent shall install 24 X 7 air monitoring devices to monitor air emissions, as provided by the CPCB and submit report to Ministry and its Regional Office.	24 X 7 air monitoring devices to monitor air emissions has been installed. Last six-month monitoring data is attached as Annexure – 2.
iv.	Continuous stack monitoring facilities for all the stacks shall be provided and sufficient air pollution control devices viz. Electrostatic precipitator (ESP), bag house, bag filters etc. shall be provided to keep the emission levels below 50 mg/Nm ³ and installing energy efficient technology.	Continuous stack monitoring facilities for the stacks has been installed. Sufficient air pollution control devices viz. Electrostatic precipitator (ESP), bag house, have been provided to keep the emission levels below 50 mg/Nm ³ for ESP and 30mg/Nm ³ for Bag Houses.
v.	The National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009 shall be followed.	Agreed, we are following the National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009. Monitoring data during the reporting period of October-2022 to March 2023 is enclosed as Annexure-3.
vi.	Gaseous emission levels including secondary fugitive emissions from all the sources shall be controlled within the latest permissible limits issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. 414(E) dated 30th May, 2008 and regularly monitored. Guidelines/ Code of Practice issued by the CPCB shall be followed.	Agreed, we have taken steps to control fugitive emission. Fugitive emission monitoring data during the reporting period enclosed at Annexure – 4.

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
vii.	Vehicular pollution due to transportation of raw material and finished product shall be controlled. Proper arrangements shall also be made to control dust emission during loading and unloading of the raw material and finished product.	<p>60 nos. of Water Sprinklers have been installed along the road as well as loading and unloading points to control the dust emission.</p> <p>Vehicles having valid PUC certificates are engaged in transporting raw materials /finished products. These materials are transported in covered condition.</p> <p>All roads inside the plant are concrete. A 10 KL capacity mobile water tanker has been engaged to sprinkle water on road. Truck mounted sweeper machine is engaged to clean dust.</p>
viii.	'Zero' effluent discharge shall be strictly followed and no wastewater shall be discharged outside the premises.	Agreed, we are following 'Zero' effluent discharge concept. We are not discharging any water to outside the premises.
ix.	Regular monitoring of influent and effluent surface, sub-surface and ground water shall be ensured and treated wastewater shall meet the norms prescribed by the State Pollution Control Board or described under the E(P) Act whichever are more stringent.	<p>Surface & Ground water monitoring data during the reporting period enclosed as Annexure – 5(a) & Annexure – 5(b).</p> <p>As per the monitoring reports submitted, the parameters are within the prescribed limits.</p>
x.	<p>Proper handling, storage, utilization and disposal of all the solid/hazardous waste shall be ensured and regular report regarding toxic metal content in the waste material and its composition, end use of solid/hazardous waste shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office, SPCB and CPCB.</p> <p>The proponent shall submit a copy of the agreement with the authorized vender to the regional office as a part of compliance.</p>	<p>The hazardous wastes (HW) generated in plant are used oil and oil sludge. These wastes are collected and stored in HW storage area made as per CPCB guidelines.</p> <p>The HW waste authorization certificate issued by the SPCB; Odisha is attached as Annexure – 6.</p> <p>This certificate is valid up to 31.03.2024.</p>

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
xi.	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per the Factories Act and analysis shall be submitted to the regional office of the Ministry.	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per the Factories Act. Analysis report is enclosed as Annexure - 7
xii.	A time bound action plan shall be submitted to reduce solid waste generated due to the project related activities, its proper utilization and disposal.	Complied, proper utilization and disposal has been submitted vide letter no. ASL/MOEF/ 2017-18, dated 19.01.2018.
xiii.	Proper utilization of fly ash shall be ensured as per Fly Ash Notification, 1999 and subsequent amendment in 2003 and 2009. All the fly ash shall be provided to cement and brick manufacturers for further utilization and Memorandum of Understanding shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional at Chennai.	Not applicable for our industry as we don't have flash.
xiv.	A Risk and Disaster Management Plan shall be prepared and a copy submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office, SPCB and CPCB within 3 months of issue of environment clearance letter.	An updated plan has been submitted vide letter no. ASL MoEF/ 2019-20 dated 18.06.2019. This updated Risk and Disaster Management Plan has also been submitted at Directorate of Factories & Boilers, Odisha.
xv.	The project proponent shall provide for solar light system for all common area, street lights, villages, parking around project area and maintain the same regularly.	Solar light system for all common area, street lights, villages, parking around project area has been provided and we are maintaining the same regularly.
xvi.	The project proponent shall provide for LED lights in their offices and residential areas.	LED lights are provided in our offices and residential areas.
xvii.	Green belt shall be developed at least in 33% of the total project area with at least 10meter wide green belt on all sides along the periphery of the project area and along road sides etc. by planting native and broadleaved species in consultation with local DFO, local community and as per the CPCB guidelines.	1000 nos sapling have been planted in plant premises. Neem/Maha Limba-130.Sirisa-200, Sisu-125, Jamun-35, Karanja-60, Arjun-35, Amla-10, Kusum-10, Harida-30, Patuli-30, Baula-25, Jeutha-10, Krushna Chuda-100, Mango-100, Ashok-100, Total=1000

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xviii.	<p>At least 2.5% of the total cost of the project shall be earmarked towards the Enterprise Social Commitment based on Public Hearing issues, locals need and item-wise details along with time bound action plan shall be prepared and submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office. Implementation of such program shall be ensured by constituting a Committee comprising of the proponent, representatives of village Panchayat and District Administration. Action taken report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry's Regional Office.</p>	<p>The project cost at that time (2010) was Rs.133.96 crores which presently has increased to Rs.199.00 crores due to inflation. The standalone pellet plants were waived off for conducting public hearing vide MoEF Notification No SO 2572(E), dated 14th September 2015. However, the company has already spent about Rs.5,98,62,000.00 on Enterprise social commitment up to the year 2017, which is about 4.47% of project cost & is more than 2.5% as stipulated.</p> <p>In the year 2021-22 period Rs 50.61 lac and 2022-23 Rs 239.28 lac has been spent on Enterprise social commitment which includes construction of hospital building in Phuljhar, improvement in education facility in the village & maintenance of ambulance.</p>
xix.	<p>The proponent shall prepare a detailed CSR Plan for every year for the next 5 years for the existing-cum-expansion project, which includes village-wise, sector-wise, (Health, Education, Sanitation, Health, Skill Development and infrastructure requirements such as strengthening of village roads, avenue plantation, etc.) activities in consultation with the local communities and administration. The CSR Plan will include the amount of 2% retain annual profits as provided for in Clause 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 which provides for 2% of the average net profits of previous 3 years towards CSR activities for life of the project. A separate budget head shall be created and the annual capital and revenue expenditure on various activities of the Plan shall be submitted as part of the Compliance Report to RO. The details of the CSR Plan shall also be uploaded on the company website and shall also be provided in the Annual Report of the company.</p>	<p>The details of CSR activities being uploaded on company's website along with six monthly compliance reports (ardentsteel.com).Rs. 23928739 was spent for CSR activities during FY 2022-23. These include expenses for reconstruction of school building in Phuljhar, electrification of Phuljhar village GP & donation to NGO for improvement of education.</p>
xx.	<p>The Company shall submit within three months their policy towards Corporate Environment Responsibility which shall inter-alia address (i) Standard operating process/procedure to bring into focus any infringement/deviation /violation of environmental or forest norms/ conditions, (ii) Hierarchical system or Administrative order of the Company to deal with environmental clearance conditions and (iii) System of reporting of non-compliance/violation environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or stakeholders or shareholders.</p>	<p>The company has submitted the policy towards Corporate Environment Responsibility (in the EAI /EMP Report) which address (i) Standard operating process/procedure to bring into focus any infringement / deviation violation of environmental or forest norms/ conditions, (ii) Hierarchical system of Administrative order of the Company to deal with environmental clearance conditions and (iii) System of reporting of non-Compliance / violation environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the Company and/or stakeholders or shareholders.</p>

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
xxi.	Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, Safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.	Provision has been provided for the housing of construction labour near the plant with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, toilets,STP, Safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing in the form of temporary structures shall be removed after the completion of the project.

B. GENERAL CONDITION

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
i.	The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the Odisha Pollution Control Board and the State Government.	We are following the stipulations of SPCB, Odisha strictly.
ii.	No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).	Agreed, our future expansion will only be carried out after prior approval of MoEF & CC.
iii.	At least four ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the downward direction as well as where maximum ground level concentration of PM10, PM2.5, SO2 and NOx are anticipated in consultation with the SPCB. Data on ambient air quality and stack emission shall be regularly submitted to this Ministry including its Regional Office at Bhubaneswar and SPCB / CPCB once in six months.	Stack emission and Ambient Air Quality at four locations are monitored regularly. The monitoring report from October 2022 to March-2023 is attached as Annexure – 2 and Annexure-3 .
iv.	Industrial wastewater shall be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May, 1993 and 31st December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. The treated wastewater shall be utilized for plantation purpose.	Collection tank followed by series of settling tank are provided to reuse the industrial waste water.
v.	The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards (85 dBA) by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels should conform to the standards prescribed under EPA Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (daytime) and 70 dBA (nighttime)	The noise monitoring report from October 2022 to March-2023 is attached as Annexure – 8 . It has been observed that Noise level is within the prescribed limit. The monitoring reports are submitted to Regional Office of MoEF & CC, Bhubaneswar along with six monthly compliance reports on regular basis.
vi.	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records maintained as per Factories Act.	Occupational health surveillance of the workers has been done on a regular basis and records are being maintained as per Factories Act.

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
vii.	The company shall develop rain water harvesting structures to harvest the rain water for utilization in the lean season besides recharging the ground water table.	Rain Water Harvesting and Ground Water Recharge has been provided. Detail is provided in: Annexure – 10 .
viii.	The project proponent shall also comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards recommended in the EIA/EMP report. Further, the company must undertake socio-economic development activities in the surrounding villages like community development programmes, educational programmes, drinking water supply and health care etc.	We are complying the environmental protection measures and safeguards recommended in the EIA/EMP report. Further, we are doing the socio-economic development activities in the surrounding villages like community development programmes, educational programmes, drinking water supply and health care etc.
ix.	Requisite funds shall be earmarked towards capital cost and recurring cost/annum for environment pollution control measures to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) as well as the State Government. An implementation schedule for implementing all the conditions stipulated herein shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the Ministry at Bhubaneswar. The funds so provided shall not be diverted for any other purpose.	Funds have been earmarked towards capital cost and recurring cost/annum for environment pollution control measures to implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) as well as the State Government.
x.	A copy of clearance letter shall be sent by the proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zila Parishad/ Municipal Corporation, Urban Local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal. The clearance letter shall also be put on the web site of the company by the proponent.	Copy of environmental clearance letter has given to Phuljhar Panchayat and a receipt from Gram Panchayat on this subject has also been obtained. A copy of the EC letter is also available in the website.
xi.	The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and shall update the same periodically. It shall simultaneously be sent to the Regional Office of the MoEFCC at Bhubaneswar. The respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The criteria pollutant levels namely; PM10, SO2, NOx (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or critical sectoral parameters, indicated for the projects shall be monitored and displayed at a convenient location near the main gate of the company in the public domain.	The compliance report, monitoring report, CSR Activities report are being uploaded on company's website (ardentsteel.com) regularly. We have installed a display board at the main gate. Along with the temperature, it is also displaying the environmental monitoring values.

SL NO	CONDITION	COMPLIANCE
xii.	The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the Regional Office of MoEFCC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and the SPCB. The Regional Office of this Ministry at Bhubaneswar /CPCB /SPCB shall monitor the stipulated conditions.	The six-monthly EC compliance report is being submitted regularly.
xiii.	The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be put on the website of the company along with the status of compliance of environmental conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Office of the MoEFCC at Bhubaneswar by e-mail.	The environmental statement for each financial year is submitted regularly to SPCB, Odisha.
xiv.	The Project Proponent shall inform the public that the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Ministry and copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) at http://envfor.nic.in . This shall be advertised within seven days from the date of issue of the clearance letter, at least in two local newspapers that are widely circulated in the region of which one shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the regional office at Bhubaneswar.	It has already been intimated to public and also submitted a copy to the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha.
xv.	Project authorities shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of commencing the land development work.	The project has been completed before obtaining the EC. Financial Closure: 21 .10.2008 Financial approval: 21.10.2008 Purchase of 1st land: 31.05.2008 Start of Construction:01.09.2008 Proof for the above already submitted earlier.