

**IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL, SOUTHERN ZONE  
BENCH, CHENNAI**

**APPEAL NO. 35 of 2023**

**IN THE MATTER OF: -**

**K.S . Thanikachalam**

**.... Applicant**

**Versus**

**The Member Secretary, SEIAA and Ors.**

**.... Respondent**

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF STATE LEVEL  
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY (SEIAA)**



Filed by:  
**G.M. SYED NURULLAH SHERIFF**  
**Senior Standing Counsel**  
**MoEF & Cc.**  
**Mob. No. 9444015330**  
**Counsel for Respondent no. 1**

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL****SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI****Appeal No.35 of 2023 (SZ)****K.S. Thanikachalam****Vs****State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)****&****State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC)****INDEX**

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**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL****SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI****Appeal No.35 of 2023 (SZ)**

K.S. Thanikachalam,  
No.77, Thomson pet,  
Kauveripattinam,  
Krishnagiri Taluk,  
Krishnagiri District – 635112.  
Kanyakumari District Tamilnadu.

**... APPELLANT**

Vs

1. State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA),  
Rep. by its Member Secretary,  
3rd Floor, Panagal Maaligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.  
Email: [seiaamstn@gmail.com](mailto:seiaamstn@gmail.com)  
Phone No. 044-24359973
2. State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC),  
Rep. by its Chairman,  
3rd Floor, Panagal Maaligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.  
Email: [seacchairmantn@gmail.com](mailto:seacchairmantn@gmail.com)  
Phone No. 044-24359973.

**... RESPONDENTS****Member Secretary**

STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN

Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

**COUNTER AFFIDAVIT FILED ON BEHALF OF SEIAA – TAMIL NADU,**  
**THE 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> RESPONDENTS**

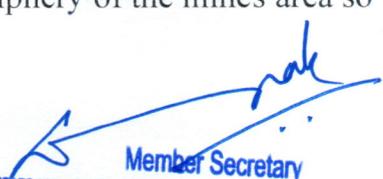
I, Deepak S. Bilgi, I.F.S., Age 44 years working as Member Secretary, State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Tamil Nadu (SEIAA-TN) having office at Third Floor, Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai – 600015 solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am filing this counter affidavit on behalf of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Respondent/SEIAA-TN herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and the circumstances of the case from the records available in this office.
2. I deny the averments and allegations stated in this Appeal No.35 of 2023 except those that are specifically admitted hereunder and put the applicant to strict proof of the same.
3. It is respectfully submitted that the project proponent Thiru. K.S. Thanikachalam has applied to State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority – Tamil Nadu (SEIAA-TN) for obtaining Environmental Clearance for the Proposed activity of Black Granite Quarry over an extent of 1.00.0 Ha in S.F.No.99/3A1 (part) of Nammandahalli village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamilnadu. Vide online Application No.SIA/TN/MIN/131794/2019 dated 16.12.2019.
4. I respectfully submit that; The proposal was placed in the **226<sup>th</sup> meeting of State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) held on 17.08.2021**. Based on the presentation made and the documents furnished by the Project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the project proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions. In addition to standard conditions stipulated by the MoEF & CC.
  1. Restricting the maximum depth of mining Upto 18m of Black Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of

  
 Member Secretary  
 STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN  
 Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,  
 Saidapet, Chennai - 15

the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.

- II. The proponent shall provide 10m as safety distance from the boundary of the proposed mining area on the western direction.
- III. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.
- IV. The unit shall not carryout blasting operations as mode of mining at any stage of the process.
- V. The proponent shall form proper benches as per the approved mining plan during the operation of the quarry considering the hydro-geological regime of the surrounding area as well as for safe mining.
- VI. The Proponent should install cautionary board at the entry and important locations of the mining site displaying caution notice to the public about the danger of entering the mining lease.
- VII. The proponent shall conduct annual physical fitness test and eye test for the employees to ensure health & safety during occupation.
- VIII. Fugitive emission measurements should be carried out during the mining operation and the report on the same may be submitted to TNPCB once in six months.
- IX. The Proponent shall ensure that the Noise level is monitored during mining operation at the project site and adequate noise level reduction measures undertaken.
- X. The proponent shall erect fencing all around the boundary of the proposed area with gates for entry/exit as per the conditions and shall furnish the photographs/map showing the same before obtaining the CTO from TNPCB.
- XI. Greenbelt needs to be developed in the periphery of the mines area so

  
Member Secretary  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN  
Panagal Maligal, No.1, Jeeris Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

that at the closure time the trees would have grown well.

- XII. Groundwater quality monitoring should be conducted once in every six months and the report should be submitted to TNPCB.
- XIII. After mining is completed, proper levelling should be done by the Project proponent & Environmental Management Plan furnished by the Proponent should be strictly followed.
- XIV. The Project proponent shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re- grassing of the mining area and any other area which have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition that is fit for the growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.
- XV. Proper barriers to reduce noise level, dust pollution and to hold down any possible fly material (debris) should be established by providing greenbelt and/or metal sheets along the boundary of the quarrying site and suitable working methodology to be adopted by considering the wind direction.
- XVI. The operation of the quarry should not affect the agriculture activities & water bodies near the project site and a safety distance of 50m from the water body should be left vacant without any mining activity.
- XVII. Transportation of the quarried materials shall not cause any hindrance to the Village people or damage to the existing Village Road.
- XVIII. The Project Proponent shall comply with the mining and other relevant rules and regulations wherever applicable.
- XIX. The proponent shall develop an adequate greenbelt with native species on the periphery of the mine lease area before the commencement of the mining activity, in consultation with DFO of the concerned district/agriculture.
- XX. The project proponent should provide a detailed plan regarding the green belt area surrounding the mining area at least with a width of 3m.



Member Secretary

STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN

Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeanis Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

- XXI. The quarrying activity shall be stopped if the entire quantity indicated in the Mining plan is quarried even before the expiry of the quarry lease period and the same shall be monitored by the District Authorities.
- XXII. Prior clearance from Forestry & Wild Life including clearance from committee of the National Board for Wildlife as applicable shall be obtained before starting the quarrying operation, if the project site attracts the NBWL clearance.
- XXIII. To ensure safety measures along the boundary of the quarry site, security guards are to be posted during the entire period of the mining operation.
- XXIV. The mine closure plan submitted by the project proponent shall be strictly followed after the lapse of the mine.
- XXV. As per the MoEF & CC Office Memorandum F.No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020 the proponent shall furnish the detailed EMP mentioning all the activities as proposed in the CER and furnish the same before placing the subject to SEIAA.
- XXVI. All the conditions imposed by the Deputy Director, Geology & Mining, Dharmapuri District in the mining plan approval and the precise area communication should be strictly followed.
5. I respectfully submit that; Subsequently, the subject was placed before the **Authority in its 463<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 24.09.2021**. After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows.
1. On verifying the proposal, it was noticed that the validity of the approved mining scheme submitted by the proponent for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 expired on 11.09.2021 (Rc.No.5804/MM5/2018 dated 12.09.2018- Condition No. XX.). As on date there is no valid mining scheme.



Member Secretary  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN  
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- II. The proponent has submitted the copy of VAO letter dated 19.08.2021 stating that there are some houses within 300m radius from the proposed quarry, but they are unapproved.

In view of the above, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to SEAC for reappraisal.

6. I respectfully submit that; The proposal was again placed for appraisal in the **241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC** held on 03.11. 2021. The SEAC has recorded as follows;

*“The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by the VAO vide Lr. Dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated as un-approved there are people staying there, in view of which SEAC considered their safety and health. As per 300m radius rule, the project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area was expired on 11.09.2021. Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance”.*

7. I respectfully submit that; Subsequently, this subject was placed before the Authority in its **484<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29.01.2022 & 31.01.2022**. After detailed discussion, the Authority decided to request the Member Secretary, SEIAA to communicate the SEAC minutes to the project proponent. In the event of representation being received, we may forward back to SEAC for further course of action.
8. I respectfully submit that; meanwhile, the Project proponent has made a representation to SEIAA vide Lr. Dt. 28.02.2023 for reconsideration of the decision. Hence, the proposal was placed in the 619<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting held on 18.05.2023. The Authority has gone through the reply submitted by the Project proponent. As decided by SEAC in the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on

  
Member Secretary  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN  
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeenis Road,  
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03.11.2021, the representation of the Project proponent vide his letter dated, 28.02.2023 has no justification/merits for reconsideration. SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and decided to request the Member Secretary to grant rejection letter to the proponent as per the **241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021.**

9. I respectfully submit that; In view of the above, **the rejection letter was granted vide letter dated 23.06.2023. Hence this file is closed and recorded.**

Therefore, humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to record and pass orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem to fit and proper in light of the facts and circumstances of this case and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai  
on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024  
& Signed his name in my  
presence

**FIRST & SECOND  
RESPONDENT**

**BEFORE ME**

  
**MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEIAA-TN**

Member Secretary  
STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY - TN  
Panagal Maligai, No.1, Jeemis Road,  
Saidapet, Chennai - 15

**STATE EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE – TAMIL NADU**

Minutes of the Meeting of 226<sup>th</sup> State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) held on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (Tuesday) at SEIAA Conference hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Panagal Mallgal, Saidapet, Chennai 600 015 for Appraisal of Building and Construction Projects, Townships and Area Development projects & Mining projects through video conference.

Agenda No: 226-01

(File No: 7457/2020)

Proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam - For Environmental Clearance.

(SIA/TN/MIN/131794/2019, dated: 16.12.2019)

The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021. The project proponent gave a detailed presentation. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The project proponent, Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F. Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Minerals Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. The production for the five years states that the total quantity of recoverable as 20% of 2452 Cu.mand the ultimate depth of mining is 18m.

Based on the presentation made and the documents furnished by the Project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the project proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions. In addition to standard conditions stipulated by the MoEF & CC:

1. Restricting the maximum depth of mining upto 18m of Black

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

**R. KANNAN**  
Member Secretary  
SEAC - TN  
Chennai-18

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC- TN

Dr. S. MOHAN  
Chairman  
SEAC - TN  
Chennai-15



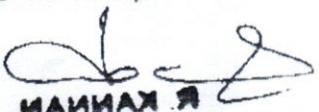
MAHARAJA SRI  
MURUGAN TEMPLE  
CHENNAI

Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.

2. The proponent shall provide 10m as safety distance from the boundary of the proposed mining area on the western direction.
3. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.
4. The unit shall not carryout blasting operations as mode of mining at any stage of the process.
5. The proponent shall form proper benches as per the approved mining plan during the operation of the quarry considering the hydro-geological regime of the surrounding area as well as for safe mining.
6. The Proponent should install cautionary board at the entry and important locations of the mining site displaying caution notice to the public about the danger of entering the mining lease.
7. The proponent shall conduct annual physical fitness test and eye test for the employees to ensure health & safety during occupation.
8. Fugitive emission measurements should be carried out during the mining operation and the report on the same may be submitted to TNPCB once in six months.
9. The Proponent shall ensure that the Noise level is monitored during mining operation at the project site and adequate noise level reduction measures undertaken.
10. The proponent shall erect fencing all around the boundary of the proposed area with gates for entry/exit as per the conditions and shall furnish the photographs/map showing the same before obtaining the CTO from TNPCB.
11. Greenbelt needs to be developed in the periphery of the mines area so that at the closure time the trees would have grown well.
12. Groundwater quality monitoring should be conducted once in every six

  
 MEMBER SECRETARY  
 SEAC -TN

**R. KANNAN**  
 Member Secretary

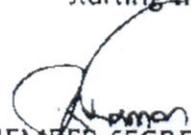
  
**DR. S. MOHAN**  
 Chairman  
 SEAC - TN

Dr. S. MOHAN  
 Chairman  
 SEAC - TN



months and the report should be submitted to TNPCB.

- 13. After mining is completed, proper leveling should be done by the Project proponent & Environmental Management Plan furnished by the Proponent should be strictly followed.
- 14. The Project proponent shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing of the mining area and any other area which have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition that is fit for the growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.
- 15. Proper barriers to reduce noise level, dust pollution and to hold down any possible fly material (debris) should be established by providing greenbelt and/or metal sheets along the boundary of the quarrying site and suitable working methodology to be adopted by considering the wind direction.
- 16. The operation of the quarry should not affect the agriculture activities & water bodies near the project site and a safety distance of 50m from the water body should be left vacant without any mining activity.
- 17. Transportation of the quarried materials shall not cause any hindrance to the Village people or damage to the existing Village road.
- 18. The Project Proponent shall comply with the mining and other relevant rules and regulations wherever applicable.
- 19. The proponent shall develop an adequate greenbelt with native species on the periphery of the mine lease area before the commencement of the mining activity, in consultation with DFO of the concerned district/agriculture.
- 20. The project proponent should provide a detailed plan regarding the green belt area surrounding the mining area atleast with a width of 3m.
- 21. The quarrying activity shall be stopped if the entire quantity indicated in the Mining plan is quarried even before the expiry of the quarry lease period and the same shall be monitored by the District Authorities.
- 22. Prior clearance from Forestry & Wild Life including clearance from committee of the National Board for Wildlife as applicable shall be obtained before starting the quarrying operation, if the project site attracts the NBWL clearance.

  
 MEMBER SECRETARY  
 SEAC -TN

**R. KANNAN**  
 Member Secretary  
 SEAC - TN  
 Chennai-15

  
 CHAIRMAN  
 SEAC- TN

**Dr. S. MOHAN**  
 Chairman  
 SEAC - TN  
 Chennai-15

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23. To ensure safety measures along the boundary of the quarry site, security guards are to be posted during the entire period of the mining operation.
  24. The mine closure plan submitted by the project proponent shall be strictly followed after the lapse of the mine.
  25. As per the MoEF & CC Office Memorandum F.No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020 the proponent shall furnish the detailed EMP mentioning all the activities as proposed in the CER and furnish the same before placing the subject to SEIAA.
  26. All the conditions imposed by the Deputy Director, Geology & Mining, Dharmapuri District in the mining plan approval and the precise area communication should be strictly followed.

**Agenda No: 226-02**

**(File No: 8304/2021)**

**Proposed Rough Stone & Gravel quarry lease area over an extent of 4.06.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 119/5B3, 119/5B4A, 119/5A, 119/5B2, 43/1 & 43/2 of Thirakoil & Desur Village, Dharapuram Vandavasi Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Varthini Blue Metal - For Environmental Clearance.**

**(SIA/TN/MIN/196063/2021, dated:02.02.2021)**

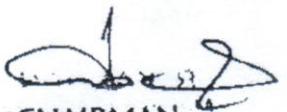
The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (parivesh.nic.in).

The SEAC noted the following:

1. The project proponent, M/s. Varthini Blue Metal, has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Rough Stone & Gravel quarry lease area over an extent of 4.06.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 119/5B3, 119/5B4A, 119/5A, 119/5B2, 43/1 & 43/2 of Thirakoil & Desur Village, Dharapuram Vandavasi Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Minerals Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

**R. KANNAN**  
Member Secretary

  
CHAIRMAN,  
SEAC - TN

Dr S. MOHAN  
Chairman  
SEAC - TN

**MINUTES**

**463<sup>rd</sup> MEETING**

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMIL NADU**

**Date: 24.09.2021**

S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam

Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 100.0Ha at S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District.

2. The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021 and the SEAC has recommended the proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions among others

- a. Restricting the maximum depth of mining up to 18m of Black Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.
- b. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.

3. On verifying the proposal, it was noticed that the validity of the approved mining scheme submitted by the proponent for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 expired on

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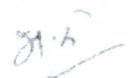
MEMBER SECRETARY

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MEMBER

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CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

	Clearance for the Proposed of Gravel & Pebbles Quarry lease over an extent of 1.41.5Ha at S.F.Nos.48/1, 48/4A & 48/5 of Karukkai Village, Panruti Taluk, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu by Tmt.Elangovai		decided to <b>grant Environmental Clearance</b> subject to the conditions as recommended by SEAC & normal condition in addition to the following condition. 1. As per the MoEF&CC office memorandum F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020 the proponent has furnished the detailed EMP, mentioning all the CER activities for Rs. 0.33 Lakhs as committed. All the activities proposed shall be carried out before obtaining CTO from TNPCB.
25.	To consider the proposal for the grant of Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Rough stone & Gravel quarry lease over an extent of 1.24.0Ha at S.F.Nos.62/1A, 62/1B, 62/2C, 62/2D, 62/4, 62/5, 62/6, 62/7, 62/9, 62/10 & 62/11 of Ezhacheri Village, Vembakkam Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District by Thiru. R. Elumalai	7347	After detailed discussions, the Authority accepted the recommendation of SEAC and decided to <b>grant Environmental Clearance</b> subject to the conditions as recommended by SEAC & normal condition in addition to the following condition. 1. As per the MoEF&CC office memorandum F.No.22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020 the proponent has furnished the detailed EMP, mentioning all the CER activities for Rs. 0.54 Lakhs as committed. All the activities proposed shall be carried out before obtaining CTO from TNPCB.
26.	To consider the proposal for the grant of Environmental Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at	7457	After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows. 1. The project proponent Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has submitted the proposal for Environmental

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

3. It was also noted that only B2 category of projects listed under the schedule of EIA Notification, 2006 as amended is exempted from public hearing.

The Project Proponent requested to withdraw the project in parivesh website. Hence the SEAC decided that the Project Proponent shall furnish a letter stating the reason for withdrawal to SEIAA/SEAC.

The proposal was placed in the 420<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting held on 04.02.2021. After detailed discussion, the Authority noted that since the SEAC has decided to request the project proponent to furnish a letter to SEIAA and SEAC, stating the reason for withdraw, the Authority decided to request the Member Secretary, SEIAA to address the proponent to furnish a letter to SEIAA and SEAC stating the reason for withdrawal of proposal and on receipt the letter, the same may be forwarded to SEAC for further course of action

The proposal was again placed for appraisal in this 241<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021.

The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. SEAC has noted and accepted the proponents reason for withdrawal of the said application. SEAC after detailed deliberations has decided that the request of proponent for withdrawal of may be accorded.

**Agenda No: 241-09**

**(File No: 7457/2020)**

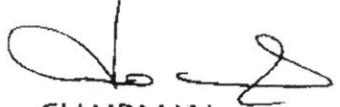
**Proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam - For Environmental Clearance.**

**(SIA/TN/MIN/131794/2019, dated: 16.12.2019)**

The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021. The project proponent gave a detailed presentation. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (Parivesh.nic.in).

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

R. KANNAN  
Member Secretary  
SEAC - TN

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC - TN

S. MOHAN  
Chairman  
SEAC - TN

1024

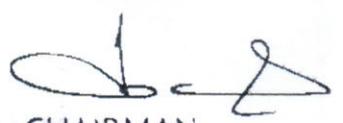
The SEAC noted the following:

1. The project proponent, Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F. Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B2" of Item 1(a) "Mining of Minerals Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. The production for the five years states that the total quantity of recoverable as 20% of 2452Cu.m and the ultimate depth of mining is 18m.

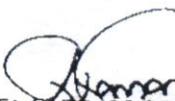
Based on the presentation made and the documents furnished by the Project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the project proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions. In addition to standard conditions stipulated by the MoEF & CC:

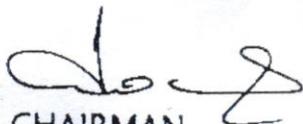
1. Restricting the maximum depth of mining upto 18m of Black Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.
2. The proponent shall provide 10m as safety distance from the boundary of the proposed mining area on the western direction.
3. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.
4. The unit shall not carryout blasting operations as mode of mining at any stage of the process.
5. The proponent shall form proper benches as per the approved mining plan during the operation of the quarry considering the hydro-geological regime of the surrounding area as well as for safe mining.
6. The Proponent should install cautionary board at the entry and

  
 MEMBER SECRETARY  
 SEAC - TN  
 K. K. KANNAN  
 Member Secretary  
 SEAC - TN  
 Chennai-15

  
 CHAIRMAN  
 SEAC - TN  
 L. S. MOHAN  
 Chairman  
 SEAC - TN  
 Chennai-15

- important locations of the mining site displaying caution notice to the public about the danger of entering the mining lease.
7. The proponent shall conduct annual physical fitness test and eye test for the employees to ensure health & safety during occupation.
  8. Fugitive emission measurements should be carried out during the mining operation and the report on the same may be submitted to TNPCB once in six months.
  9. The Proponent shall ensure that the Noise level is monitored during mining operation at the project site and adequate noise level reduction measures undertaken.
  10. The proponent shall erect fencing all around the boundary of the proposed area with gates for entry/exit as per the conditions and shall furnish the photographs/map showing the same before obtaining the CTO from TNPCB.
  11. Greenbelt needs to be developed in the periphery of the mines area so that at the closure time the trees would have grown well.
  12. Groundwater quality monitoring should be conducted once in every six months and the report should be submitted to TNPCB.
  13. After mining is completed, proper leveling should be done by the Project proponent & Environmental Management Plan furnished by the Proponent should be strictly followed.
  14. The Project proponent shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re- grassing of the mining area and any other area which have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition that is fit for the growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.
  15. Proper barriers to reduce noise level, dust pollution and to hold down any possible fly material (debris) should be established by providing greenbelt and/or metal sheets along the boundary of the quarrying site and suitable working methodology to be adopted by considering the wind direction.

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC -TN  
D. S. MOHAN

16. The operation of the quarry should not affect the agriculture activities & water bodies near the project site and a safety distance of 50m from the water body should be left vacant without any mining activity.
17. Transportation of the quarried materials shall not cause any hindrance to the Village people or damage to the existing Village road.
18. The Project Proponent shall comply with the mining and other relevant rules and regulations wherever applicable.
19. The proponent shall develop an adequate greenbelt with native species on the periphery of the mine lease area before the commencement of the mining activity, in consultation with DFO of the concerned district/agriculture.
20. The project proponent should provide a detailed plan regarding the green belt area surrounding the mining area atleast with a width of 3m.
21. The quarrying activity shall be stopped if the entire quantity indicated in the Mining plan is quarried even before the expiry of the quarry lease period and the same shall be monitored by the District Authorities.
22. Prior clearance from Forestry & Wild Life including clearance from committee of the National Board for Wildlife as applicable shall be obtained before starting the quarrying operation, if the project site attracts the NBWL clearance.
23. To ensure safety measures along the boundary of the quarry site, security guards are to be posted during the entire period of the mining operation.
24. The mine closure plan submitted by the project proponent shall be strictly followed after the lapse of the mine.
25. As per the MoEF & CC Office Memorandum F.No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated: 30.09.2020 and 20.10.2020 the proponent shall furnish the detailed EMP mentioning all the activities as proposed in the CER and furnish the same before placing the subject to SEIAA.
26. All the conditions imposed by the Deputy Director, Geology & Mining,

  
 MEMBER SECRETARY  
 SEAC -TN  
 R. KANNAN  
 Member Secretary  
 SEAC - TN  
 Chennai-1

  
 CHAIRMAN  
 SEAC- TN  
 Dr. S. MOHAN  
 Chairman

Dharmapuri District in the mining plan approval and the precise area communication should be strictly followed.

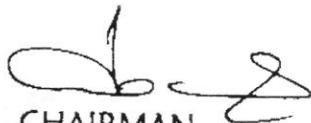
The subject was placed before the Authority in its 463th meeting held on 24.09.2021. After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows.

1. The project proponent Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has submitted the proposal for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District.
2. The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226th meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021 and the SEAC has recommended the proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions among others
  - a. Restricting the maximum depth of mining up to 18m of Black Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.
  - b. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.
3. On verifying the proposal, it was noticed that the validity of the approved mining scheme submitted by the proponent for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 expired on 11.09.2021(Rc.No.5804/MM5/2018 dated 12.09.2018- Condition No.XX). As on date there is no valid mining scheme.
4. The proponent has submitted the copy of VAO letter dated 19.08.2021 stating that there are some houses within 300m radius from the proposed quarry, but they are unapproved.

In view of the above, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

R. KANNAN  
Member Secretary

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC- TN

Dr. S. MOHAN  
Chairman

SEAC for reappraisal and furnish the recommendation to SEIAA for taking further course of action.

The proposal was again placed for appraisal in this 241<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021.

The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by VAO Lr.Dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated as un-approved there are people staying there, SEAC <sup>in</sup> view <sup>of</sup> their safety and health to be considered as per 300m radius rule, the project project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area was expired on 11.09.2021. Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance.

Agenda No: 241-10

(File No: 7546/2020)

Proposed Quartz & Feldspar quarry lease over an extent of 1.31.1Ha at S.F.No. 826/2(P) at Siddhampoondi Village, Paramathi - Velur Taluk, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Silver Rock Minerals – For Terms of Reference.

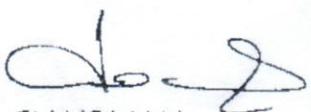
(SIA/TN/MIN/52630/2020, dated: 20.03.2020)

The proposal was placed in this 220<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 20.07.2021. The details of the project furnished by the proponent are given in the website (Parivesh.nic.in).

The project proponent gave detailed presentation. SEAC noted the following:

1. The Proponent, M/s. Silver Rock Minerals has applied seeking Terms of Reference for the proposed Quartz & Feldspar quarry lease over an extent of 1.31.1Ha at S.F.No. 826/2(P) at Siddhampoondi Village, Paramathi - Velur Taluk, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu.
2. The project/activity is covered under Category "B1" of item 1(a) "Mining Projects" of the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006.

  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEAC -TN

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEAC- TN  
Dr. S. MOHAN  
Chairman

**MINUTES**

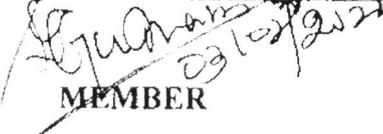
**484<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

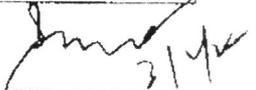
**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMIL NADU**

**Date: 29.01.2022 & 31.01.2022**

			Department of Geology & Mining about ToR withdrawal and to ascertain violation if any.
44.	To consider for grant of issue of Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam	7457	<p>After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project proponent Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has submitted the proposal for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District</li> <li>2. In the minutes of the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021, the SEAC reported as follows among others. <p>“The SEAC has noted the remarks &amp; decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by VAO Lr.Dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated has un-approved there are people staying there. SEAC of view their safety and health to be considered as per 300m radius rule, the project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area</p> </li> </ol>

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

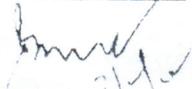
  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

			<p>was expired on 11.09.2021. Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance”</p> <p>In view of the above, the Authority decided to request the Member Secretary, SEIAA to communicate the SEAC minutes to the project proponent. In the event of representation being received, we may forward back to SEAC for further course of action</p>
<p>45.</p>	<p>To consider for grant of issue of Terms of Reference under Violation for the Proposed Quartz &amp; Feldspar quarry lease over an extent of 1.31.1 Ha at S.F.No. 826/2(P) at Siddhampoondi Village, Paramathi - Velur Taluk, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu by M/s. Silver Rock Minerals</p>	<p>7546</p>	<p>After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Proponent, M/s Silver Rock Minerals has applied seeking Terms of Reference for the proposed Quartz &amp; Feldspar quarry lease over an extent of 1.31.1 Ha at S.F.No. 826/2(P) at Siddhampoondi Village, Paramathi- Velur Taluk, Namakkal District, Tamil Nadu</li> <li>2. In the minutes of the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021, the SEAC reported as follows among others.             <p>“The SEAC has noted the remarks &amp; decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has noted that proponent has continued quarrying activity in the proposed mine lease area after 15/01/2016 to 10/01/2017 without obtaining Environmental Clearance and remitted fine/penalty of</p> </li> </ol>

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER  
03/10/2022

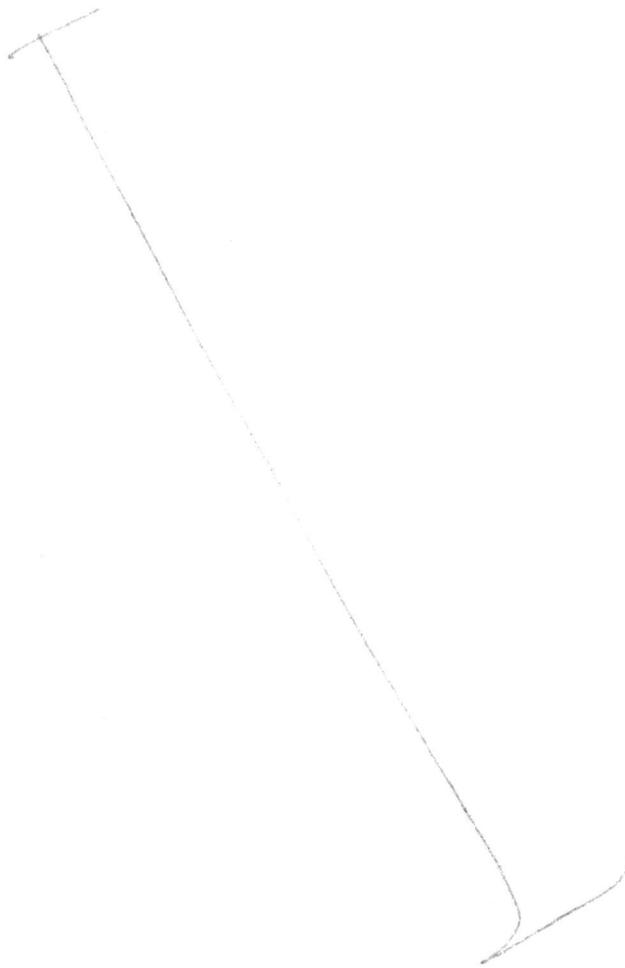
  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

25

11.09.2021(Re.No.5804/MM5/2018 dated 12.09.2018- Condition No.XX). As on date there is no valid mining scheme.

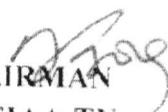
4. The proponent has submitted the copy of VAO letter dated 19.08.2021 stating that there are some houses within 300m radius from the proposed quarry, but they are unapproved.

In view of the above, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to SEAC for reappraisal and furnish the recommendation to SEIAA for taking further course of action



  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

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**MINUTES**

**619<sup>th</sup> MEETING**

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMIL NADU**

**Date: 18.05.2023**

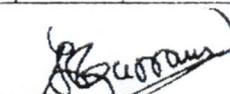
3	Validity	<p>Page 4 of 23 – Below tabular column The Proponent has furnished affidavit in Hundred Rupees stamp paper attested by the Notary stating that I, Thiru.T.Thangavelu S/o.Kittusamy Rasapalayam, Punjai Palatholuvu Erode District-638751, solemnly declare and sincerely affirm that:</p>	<p>Page 4 of 23 – Below tabular column – may be read as. The Proponent has furnished affidavit in Hundred Rupees stamp paper attested by the Notary stating that I, Thiru.K.Thangavelu S/o.Kittusamy Rasapalayam, Punjai Palatholuvu Erode District-638751, solemnly declare and sincerely affirm that:</p>
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**Conditions:**

1. All other conditions and validity mentioned in the EC dated 18.03.2022 will remain unchanged and unaltered.

27.	<p>To consider the proposal Withdrawal for the grant of Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Proposed Rough Stone &amp; Gravel quarry lease over an extent of 1.39.0Ha at S.F.Nos.14/1 &amp; 15/2 Azhagiyapakkam Village, Marakkanam Taluk, Viluppuram District by Thiru. R.Rasu</p>	9113	<p>The authority noted that the PP has requested to withdraw his file stating that he has obtained revised 500m radius cluster letter in this regard vide dated 27.09.2022. After detailed discussion, the Authority decided that the file shall be sent to SEAC to obtain opinion from SEAC whether the project comes under B1 or B2 and also SEAC may furnish its recommendation for the withdraw request from PP.</p>
28.	<p>Proposed of Black Granite lease over an extent of 1.00.0H at S.F.No.99/3A1(Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam Kumar - for Environmental Clearance</p>	7457	<p>The Authority noted that earlier this proposal was placed for appraisal in the 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021. Based on the presentation made and the documents furnished by the Project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the project proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions as stated therein, in addition to standard conditions stipulated by the MoEF &amp; CC.  Subsequently, this subject was placed before the Authority in its 463<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 24.09.2021.</p>

  
**MEMBER SECRETARY**

  
**MEMBER**

  
**CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN**

After detailed discussion, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to SEAC for reappraisal and furnish the recommendation to SEIAA for taking further course of action.

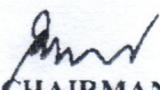
Hence, the proposal was again placed for appraisal in the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021. The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by VAO Lr.dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated has un-approved there are people staying there, SEAC of view their safety and health to be considered as per 300m radius rule, the project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area was expired on 11.09.2021. **Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance.**

Subsequently, this subject was placed before the Authority in its 484<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29.01.2022 & 31.01.2022. After detailed discussion, the Authority decided to request the Member Secretary, SEIAA to communicate the SEAC minutes to the project proponent. In the event of representation being received, we may forward back to SEAC for further course of action.

Now, the PP has made a representation to SEIAA vide Lr. Dt. 28.02.2023 for reconsideration of the decision. The Authority has gone through the reply submitted by the PP. As decided by SEAC in the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021, this representation has no justification/merits for

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN

			<p>reconsideration.</p> <p>In view of the above, SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and decided to request the Member Secretary to grant rejection letter to the proponent as per the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021. Hence, this file may be closed and recorded.</p>
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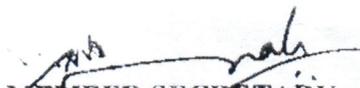
**Annexure-'A'**

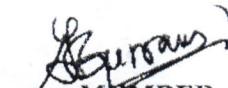
**EC Compliance**

1. The Environmental Clearance is accorded based on the assurance from the project proponent that there will be full and effective implementation of all the undertakings given in the Application Form, Pre-feasibility Report, mitigation measures as assured in the Environmental Impact Assessment/ Environment Management Plan and the mining features including Progressive Mine Closure Plan as submitted with the application.
2. All the conditions as presented by the proponent in the PPT during SEAC appraisal should be addressed in Full.
3. The proponent shall submit Compliance Reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated EC conditions including results of monitored data. It shall be sent to the respective Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Govt. of India and also to the Office of State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA).
4. Concealing the factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

**Applicable Regulatory Frameworks**

5. The project proponent shall strictly adhere to the provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991, along with their amendments, Minor Mineral Conservation & Development Rules, 2010 framed under MMDR Act 1957, National Commission for protection of Child Right Rules, 2006, Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, Forest Conservation Act, 1980, Biodiversity Conservation Act, 2016, the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological diversity Rules, 2004 and Rules made there under and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court

  
MEMBER SECRETARY

  
MEMBER

  
CHAIRMAN  
SEIAA-TN



30

**THIRU.DEEPAK S. BILGI, I.F.S**  
**MEMBER SECRETARY**

**STATE LEVEL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT  
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY-TAMILNADU**

3rd Floor, Panagal Maaligai,

No.1, Jeenis Road, Saidapet

Chennai-600015

Phone No.044-24359973

Fax No. 044-24359975

**Letter No. SEIAA-TN/F.No.7457/2022 dated:23.06.2023.**

To

Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam,  
No.77, Thomsonpet,  
Kauveripattinam,  
Krishnagiri Taluk,  
Krishnagiri District - 635 112.

Sir,

Sub: SEIAA-TN – Proposal seeking Environmental Clearance for Proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu by Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam- under 1(a) Mining projects of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 – not recommended - Application Closed and Recorded – Regarding

- Ref:
1. Online Proposal No. SIA/TN/MIN/131794/2019, dated: 16.12.2019.
  2. Minutes of the 226<sup>th</sup> SEAC meeting held on 17.08.2021
  3. Minutes of the 463<sup>rd</sup> SEIAA meeting held on 24.09.2021
  4. Minutes of the 241<sup>st</sup> SEAC meeting held on 03.11.2021
  5. Minutes of the 484<sup>th</sup> SEIAA meeting held on 29.01.2022&31.01.2022.
  6. Minutes of the 619<sup>th</sup> SEIAA meeting held on 18.05.2023.

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I invite your kind attention to the reference cited above, wherein the application received from Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam for Environmental Clearance for Proposed Black Granite quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos. 99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District t, Tamil Nadu.

Earlier, this proposal was placed for appraisal in the 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021. Based on the presentation made and the documents furnished by the Project proponent, SEAC decided to recommend the project proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the conditions stated therein, in addition to standard conditions stipulated by the MoEF & CC.

Subsequently, this subject was placed before the Authority in its 463<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 24.09.2021. After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows.

1. The project proponent Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has submitted the proposal for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District.
2. The proposal was placed for appraisal in this 226<sup>th</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 17.08.2021 and the SEAC has recommended the proposal to SEIAA for grant of Environmental Clearance subject to the following conditions among others
  - a. Restricting the maximum depth of mining up to 18m of Black Granite considering the environmental impacts due to the mining, safety of the working personnel and following the principle of the sustainable mining are permitted for mining over five years.
  - b. The proponent shall submit VAO letter before issuance of EC in regard to un-approved habitations noticed during SEAC meeting on the western and southern directions at 60 m & 116 m respectively of the proposed mining area.
3. On verifying the proposal, it was noticed that the validity of the approved mining scheme submitted by the proponent for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 expired on 11.09.2021 (Re.No.5804/MM5/2018 dated 12.09.2018- Condition No.XX). As on date there is no valid mining scheme.
4. The proponent has submitted the copy of VAO letter dated 19.08.2021 stating that there are some houses within 300m radius from the proposed quarry, but they are unapproved.

In view of the above, the Authority decided to refer back the proposal to SEAC for reappraisal and furnish the recommendation to SEIAA for taking further course of action.

Hence, the proposal was again placed for appraisal in the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021. The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by VAO Lr.dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated has un-approved there are people staying there, SEAC of view their safety and health to be considered as per 300m radius rule, the project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area was expired on 11.09.2021. **Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance.**

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Subsequently, this subject was placed before the Authority in its 484<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29.01.2022 & 31.01.2022. After detailed discussion, the Authority noted as follows,

1. The project proponent Thiru.K.S.Thanikachalam has submitted the proposal for Environmental Clearance for the Proposed of Black Granite Quarry lease over an extent of 1.00.0Ha at S.F.Nos.99/3A1 (Part) of Nammandahalli Village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District.

2. In the minutes of the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021, the SEAC reported as follows among others.

“The SEAC has noted the remarks & decision of refer back by SEIAA. The SEAC has gone through the reply furnished by VAO Lr.Dt: 19.08.2021 stating that un-approved habitations are located within 300m radius from the periphery of the proposed quarry, even though stated has un-approved there are people staying there, SEAC of view their safety and health to be considered as per 300m radius rule, the project proponent does not comply with. Also, the mine plan validity of the proposed applied mine lease area was expired on 11.09.2021. Based on the reasons, the project is not recommended for grant of Environmental Clearance”

After detailed discussion, the Authority decided to request the Member Secretary, SEIAA to communicate the SEAC minutes to the project proponent. In the event of representation being received, we may forward back to SEAC for further course of action.

Subsequently, the PP has made a representation to SEIAA vide Lr. Dt. 28.02.2023 for reconsideration of the decision. Hence, this subject was placed before the Authority in its 619<sup>th</sup> Authority meeting held on 18.05.2023. The Authority has gone through the reply submitted by the PP. As decided by SEAC in the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021, this representation has no justification/merits for reconsideration.

In view of the above, SEIAA accepts the decision of SEAC and decided to request the Member Secretary to grant rejection letter to the proponent as per the 241<sup>st</sup> meeting of SEAC held on 03.11.2021. Hence, this file may be closed and recorded.

Hence, the above-mentioned file is closed and recorded accordingly.

*Subh*  
MEMBER SECRETARY  
SEIAA-TN  
23/6/2023

*Subh*  
23/6/23



Lehava temple

Vedampatti purns school

Nedamanoor

Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies

Imagery Date: 10/31/2022 12°28'26.69" N 77°58'33.52" E elev 646 m eye alt 1.41 km

Google Earth

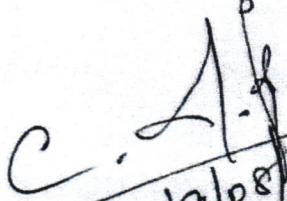
GS RAI

சான்றி

31 34

தருமபுரி டாடாபட்டம், பாலக்கோடு உட்கட்டம்  
நம்மாண்டஅள்ளி கிராம ஹல எண் : 99/3A 1ல்  
பரமீசு : 1:83:5 ஹலி அலக்ட்-ல் 1.00 ஹல. அலக்ட்  
பரமீபாண்டி K.S. துணிகாச்சலம் துறவ K.V. துணிகா.  
என்பவர்க்கு குத்தகைக்கு அடம்பட்டுள்ளது.  
மேலும் கிரீடிலத்திணை சான்ற 300 மட்டம்  
சான்றளவில் ஐடி சில உடுகள் உதன்பட்டாவும்  
அவைகள் அங்கிரிக்கப்பட்டாத உடுக மனைகள்  
என சான்றி அளிக்கிறேன்.

திரும : நம்மாண்டஅள்ளி  
தேதி : 19.08.2021.

  
19/08/2021  
கிராம நிர்வாக அலுவலர்  
நம்மாண்டஅள்ளி  
பாலக்கோடு (Tk.) தருமபுரி (Dk.)

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**DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINING**

From  
Thiru.K.Vivekanandan, I.A.S.,  
Director of Geology and Mining,  
Industrial Estate,  
Guindy, Chennai-32.

To  
Thiru K.S.Thanikachalam,  
No.77, Thomsanpet,  
Kavripattinam,  
Krishnagiri Taluk & District.

Rc.No.5804/MM5/2018 dated 12.09.2018.

Sir,

Sub: Mines and Minerals – Minor mineral - Black Granite  
– Dharmapuri District – Palacode Taluk –  
Namandahalli village – Patta land – 99/3A1(P) over  
an extent of 1.00.0 hecets – Quarry lease granted to  
Thiru K.S.Thanikachalam– Period for Scheme of  
Mining - I is from 2016-17 to 2020-21 - Scheme of  
mining submitted belatedly for the period 2016-17 to  
2020-21 – Recommended and forwarded by the  
Assistant Director (G&M), Dharmapuri for approval –  
Delay condoned - Approval accorded - Regarding.

- Ref:
1. G.O. (3D). No. 63 Industries (MME-2) Department, dated 09.12.2010.
  2. Mining plan approved by the Commissioner of Geology and Mining in letter No. 19023/MM5/2009 dated 23.11.2010.
  3. Scheme of Mining submitted by Thiru K.S.Thanikachalam dated 05.10.2015.
  4. G.O. (D) No. 118 Industries (MMC.1) Department dated 15.06.2018.
  5. Director of Geology and Mining, Chennai letter Rc. No. 9595/MM2/2015 dated 29.06.2018.
  6. The Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Dharmapuri letter in Rc.No.623/2015/Mines dated 26.07.2018.

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Kind attention is invited to the references cited.

2) Thiru K.S.Thanikachalam had been granted quarry lease for black granite over an extent an extent 1.00.0hectares in Patta land S.F.No. 99/3A1(P) of Namandahalli village, Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District for a period of 20 years vide G.O. (3D).No.63 Industries (MME2) Department, dated 09.12.2010. The lease period is valid from 14.01.2011 to 13.01.2031.

3) In this regard, the original mining plan submitted for the above area for the first five years was approved by the Commissioner of Geology and Mining in letter No. 19023/MM5/2009 dated 23.11.2010.

*K.S. Thanikachalam*

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4) The lessee has submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> Scheme of Mining for the period from 2016-17 to 2020-21. As per the report of the Assistant Director (G&M), Dharmapuri, the lessee has submitted the Scheme of Mining for the period from 2016-17 to 2020-21 belatedly.

5) The Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Dharmapuri has reported that, the Scheme of mining has been prepared by incorporating all the details such as Geological reserves, Mineable reserves, year wise production and development programme and it tallies with the present field conditions. Further it is informed that the lessee has remitted fine amount of Rs. 5000/- vide challan dated 26.06.2018 in SBI, Dharmapuri to condone delay in submission of belated Scheme of Mining. Finally, the Assistant Director has recommended and forwarded the scheme of mining for approval in respect of the above Black Granite quarry lease vide letter dated 26.07.2018.

6) The scheme of mining for the period 2016-17 to 2020-21 submitted by Thiru K.S.Thanikachalam and the report of the Assistant Director (G&M), Dharmapuri was examined as per the existing Acts and Rules and the following are observed.

- a) As per rule 18 (3) of Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999, the lessee has to submit Scheme of Mining to the State Government or any person authorized in this behalf by the Government at least 120 days before the expiry of 5 years period and it has to be approved within ninety days from the date of receipt of the scheme of mining plan as per rule 18(4) of GCDR, 1999.
- b) The mining plan for the subject area was approved by the Commissioner of Geology and Mining on 23.11.2010. The period of the mining plan is from 14.01.2011 to 13.01.2016.
- c) The lessee has submitted the 1<sup>st</sup> Scheme of Mining submitted belatedly for the period of 2016-17 to 2020-21.
- d) The Assistant Director has reported that, all the details have been incorporated in the present Scheme of Mining Plan and it tallies with the present field conditions.
- e) The lessee had obtained transport permits of 586.847 Cbm for the period from 2011-12 to 2015-16.
- f) The proposed year wise production for the present Scheme of *As Thiruv* follows.

Sl. No	Year	ROM (m <sup>3</sup> )	Recoverable reserves @ 20% (m <sup>3</sup> )	Granite Waste @ 80%(m <sup>3</sup> )	Topsoil (m <sup>3</sup> )
1.	2016-17	2525	505	2020	4845
2.	2017-18	2537	507	2030	1350
3.	2018-19	2482	496	1986	900
4.	2019-20	2560	512	2048	---
5.	2020-21	2160	432	1728	---
<b>Total</b>		<b>12264</b>	<b>2452</b>	<b>9812</b>	<b>7095</b>

- g) The Qualified Person has stated in the Scheme of Mining that, the recovery percentage was less in surface levels during the Mining Plan period and in deep seated conditions it may enhance due to the absence of joints and fractures during the present Scheme period.
- h) The updated geological reserves (ROM) during the present Scheme period is 78,984 Cbm and the updated mineable reserves (ROM) during the present Scheme period is 40,454 Cbm and the recoverable reserves at 20% recovery works out to 8,090 cbm. The proposed production for the year 2016-17 to 2020-21 of the Scheme period is worked out to 2452 cbm.
- i) The lessee had not obtained transport permit during the violative period 15.01.2016 to 10.01.2017 and hence, remittance of 100% cost of the mineral does not arise.
- j) The lease deed sketch showing the area granted on lease has been enclosed in Annexure VIII.
- k) The DGPS coordinates have been furnished in quarry lease plan in Plate No.II.
- l) The safety distances as indicated in the lease granted order have been demarcated in the Scheme of mining plan.
- m) Since the lessee has incorporated all the details in the Scheme of mining plan, no violations are noticed and Scheme of Mining tallied with the present field conditions, the Assistant Director (G&M), Dharmapuri has recommended the Scheme of Mining for approval.
- n) In the present Scheme of Mining Plan period the first 2 years (2016-17 to 2017-18) have already been completed and hence, remaining period of the Scheme of Mining Plan 2018-19 to 2020-21 is considered for approval.
- o) In the year wise production proposed for the year 2018-19 to 2020-21 is on the bottom most layer and it is not possible to carry out quarry operation without

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removing top layer during the current year. Hence the production proposed for the year 2016-17 to 2018-19 is considered for the year 2018-19 to 2020-21.

7) Since there is no rule provision to condone the delay in submission of scheme of mining in respect of granite quarries in Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 and in order to develop mineral sector and augment mineral revenue to the State Government, the Government vide G.O.(D) No.118 Ind. (MMC.1) Department dated 15.06.2018 has accorded permission to the Director of Geology and Mining for a period of three months from the date of issue of the order to condone the delay in submitting the scheme of mining plan in respect of granite quarries as an one time dispensation to pay a fine amount of Rs.5000/- and after collection of the same to consider the application based on merits.

8) As per the report of the Assistant Director (G&M), Dharmapuri, the lessee has remitted fine amount of Rs. 5000/- vide challan dated 26.06.2018 in SBI, Dharmapuri to condone delay in submission of Scheme of Mining.

9) Based on the recommendations of the Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Dharmapuri and in exercise of the powers conferred under Rule, 18 (5) of Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 read with G.O.Ms.No.87, Industries (MMC 1) Department Dated 22.2.2001 and permission accorded by the Government for the approval of belated Scheme of Mining by condoning delay vide G.O. (D) No. 118 Industries (MMC.1) Department dated 15.06.2018, the above said Scheme of mining submitted by Thiru K.S.Thanikachalamis is approved subject to the following conditions.

- i) That the Scheme of mining is approved without prejudice to any other Law applicable to the quarry lease, from time to time whether such Laws are made by the Central Government, State Government or any other authority.
- ii) That the approval of the Scheme of mining does not in any way imply the approval of the Government in terms of any other provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957, or any other connected Laws including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Forest Conservation Rules, 1981, Environment Protection Act, 1980, Indian Explosives Act, 1884 (Central Act IV of 1884) and the rules made there under and the Tamil Nadu Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1959.

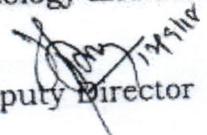
*K.S. Thanikachalam*

- iii) That the Scheme of mining including progressive mine closure plan is approved without prejudice to any other order or direction from any court of competent jurisdiction.
- iv) Provisions of the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations made there under including submission of notice of opening, appointment of manager and other statutory officials as required under Mines Act, 1952 shall be complied with.
- v) Provisions made under Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957, MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 and Granite conservation and Development Rules, 1999 made there under shall be complied with.
- vi) This scheme of mining plan is approved for the proposals contained therein and applicable from the date of approval of the document for the quarrying activities to be carried out within the leasehold area. The earlier instances of irregular mining/illegal mining, if any shall not be regularized through the approval of this document and any revenue loss to Government including stamp duty deficit should be taken for recovery by the Assistant Director/Deputy Director (G&M) for para 6 (e) and (f) above.
- vii) The lessee shall adhere to the conditions imposed in the lease granted order with regard to maintenance of safety distances and other special conditions for the entire duration of lease.
- viii) The lessee should maintain the boundary pillars incorporating DGPS readings with fencing for the entire duration of lease.
- ix) The lessee should operate the quarry as per the approved Scheme of Mining and should not exceed the quantity permitted in the Scheme of Mining. The quarrying operations shall be commenced only after obtaining consent of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, and other clearances if any.
- x) Waste materials generated during quarrying operations shall be dumped within the lease area as earmarked in the Scheme of mining plan for this purpose.
- xi) If any violation is found during quarrying operation, the penal provisions of Tamil Nadu Minor Mineral Concession Rules 1959 and other rules and act in force will attract.
- xii) The lessee shall strictly adhere to the statutory and safety requirements.
- xiii) Quarrying operations and production shall be carried out as per the approved Scheme of Mining Plan and the lessee shall be liable to pay the cost of mineral if there is any deviation in the quantum indicated in the approved year wise quantum of production and any such cases as on date are to be dealt with as per Court direction.

- xiv) Scheme of mining along with the progressive mine closure plan shall be submitted within the time stipulated in the rules.
  - xv) The execution of mining plan / review of mining plan shall be subjected to vacation of prohibitory orders / notices, if any.
  - xvi) This approval is applicable to this case only and cannot be cited as an example for the court cases pending before the Hon'ble High Court.
  - xvii) The orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 02.08.2017 has to be followed scrupulously.
  - xviii) The lessee shall register with the Director of Mine Safety for carrying out safe and sustainable quarrying in the subject area and for adhering the regulations of mine safety.
  - xix) Environmental clearance should be obtained from the competent authority as per rules.
  - xx) This approval is valid for the period 2018-19 to 2020-21 only.
- Encl: Approved Scheme of mining.

Sd/- K.Vivekanandan  
 Director of Geology and Mining

Forwarded / By Order

  
 Deputy Director

- Copy to:
- 1) The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Industries Department, Chennai.
  - 2) The District Collector, Dharmapuri District. (with Approved Scheme of Mining)
  - 3) The Directorate of Mines Safety, Chennai 600 040. (with ASOM).
  - 4) The Assistant Director, Geology and Mining, Dharmapuri

B  
 12.9.18

With a request to ensure that the quarrying operation is undertaken as per the approved mining plan / scheme of mining / Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 02.08.2017.

*[Handwritten signature]*