



KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956)

Registered Office: Vidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004

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ABSTRACT

Quarry operations near Transmission lines and Substations - Relaxation granted by the Board on the distance specified in CEA Regulations 2010 - Sanction accorded for amending the Board Order in view of the revised CEA Regulations 2023 - Orders issued

Corporate Office- SBU(T)

B.O.(FTD) No.409/2024 [D(T&SO)/T3/General/24-25]
Thiruvananthapuram

Dated: 27 -09-2024

- Read:-
1. B.O. (FB) No.1136/2012 (M(T&GO)/T3/Quarry Operations/12-13) dated 05.06.2012
 2. Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety and Electric Supply) Regulations, 2023
 3. Letter No. TCTPA/AE-II/Quarry-NOC/2023-24/149 dated 03.05.2024 of the Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Thodupuzha
 4. Note No. CETS/EE2/AEE3-TA/General/2024-25/329 dated 30.05.2024 of the Chief Engineer (Transmission South)
 5. Letter No. CE/TRN/TA/DB2/General/2024-25/504 dated 30.05.2024 of the Chief Engineer (Transmission North)
 6. Note No.D(T,SO&P)/T3/General/24-25/I/58286/2024/08 dated 18.07.2024 of the Director (Transmission, System Operation & Planning) to Full Time Directors (Agenda No: 45/08/24)
 7. Minutes of meeting of the Full Time Directors held on 24.08.2024 (Resolution No. FTD/3/8/2024/45).

ORDER

Clause 65(2) of the Central Electricity Authority (Measures relating to Safety & Electric Supply) Regulations dated 20.09.2010 states that "No blasting for any purpose shall be done within 300 meters from the boundary of a substation or from the electric supply lines of voltage exceeding 650 V or tower structure thereof without the written permission of the owner of such substation or electric supply lines or tower structures; and in case of mining lease hold area, without the written permission of the Electrical Inspector of mines".

By considering the peculiar geographic conditions of the State and based on requests from the field offices, a deviation was granted in this clause by the Board and a "Guidelines for issuing NOC for operation of quarries" was issued as per B.O read as 1st above. As per the Board Order and the Guidelines, "NOC shall not be granted for operation of quarries within 100 meters from

the alignment of the transmission lines and within 300 meters from substations”.

Now, the CEA Regulation 2010 has been amended and a new Regulation is issued by the Central Electricity Authority on 08.06.2023. The new regulation also stipulates the distance of quarries from transmission lines and substations as 300 meters as in the previous regulation dated 2010.

The Deputy Chief Engineer, Transmission Circle, Thodupuzha requested clarification on whether it is necessary to revise the Guidelines issued previously by the Board based in view of the notification of new Regulations, for processing the applications for giving NOC.

Remarks were sought from the field officers on whether any change is needed in the relaxation given as per Board order dated 05.06.2012. The Chief Engineer (Transmission South) and Chief Engineer (Transmission North) recommended that no quarry operations shall be permitted within 300 meters from the transmission line tower footings, similar to the case of substations, because of the criticality of the tower structure and the presence of vulnerable equipment in the towers. On reducing the distance of quarries from transmission towers as 100 meters, the vibrations due to frequent blasting in the quarries may result in damages to the tower footings, structure foundations and basements. Further, during the blasting, fast moving exploded stone parts may hit the tower structures which may cause damages to the insulators, tower lightning arrestors etc. resulting in breakdown of the EHT line and supply interruptions. The tower parts and ceramic/polymer insulators may also get deteriorated due to dust and pollution from quarries working near to the transmission tower.

The matter was placed before the Full Time Directors as per note read as 6th above with the recommendation that the Board order dated 05.06.2012 may be amended by quoting the new CEA Regulations 2023 and increasing the distance of quarries from Transmission line towers from 100 meters to 300 meters as per the Regulations by treating transmission towers at par with substations, and without changing the other conditions mentioned in the Board order.

Having considered the matter in detail, The Full Time Directors, in its meeting held on 24.08.2024 passed the following resolutions:

Resolved to accord sanction to amend the Guidelines for sanctioning the operation of quarries issued as per B.O. (FB) No.1136/2012 (M(T&GO)/T3/Quarry Operations/12-13) dated 05.06.2012, by quoting the new CEA (Measures relating to Safety & Electric Supply) Regulations,

2023 without changing the conditions mentioned in the Board Order except that the distance of quarries from transmission line tower footings shall be 300 meters, instead of 100 meters as provided in the above Board order.

Further resolved to accord sanction to modify the B.O. (FB) No.1136/2012 (M(T&GO)/T3/Quarry Operations/12-13) dated 05.06.2012 to the above extent.

Orders are issued accordingly.

By order of the Full Time Directors,

Sd/-

Company Secretary

To,

The Chief Engineer (Transmission South)

The Chief Engineer (Transmission North)

Copy to:

The Company Secretary/ Chief Engineer (IT,CR&CAPS) for publishing in the website/
Financial Advisor/ Chief engineer(Commercial & Tariff)/ LA&DEO/ Chief Internal Auditor/ Chief
Vigilance Officer

The Chief Personnel Officer/Public Relations Officer

The TA to the Chairman & Managing Director / Director (Generation-Civil) / Director
(Distribution, Safety & SCM) / Director (Transmission & SO)/ Director (Generation - Electrical,
REES, SOURA, Sports & Welfare)

The PA to the Director (Finance & HRM)

The Sr.CA to the Secretary (Administration)

The RCAO/ RAO

Stock File.

Forwarded / By Order


Assistant Engineer