Guidelines for seeking Environmental Clearance for Construction Projects

Environment clearance is necessary for a few categories of construction projects and area development projects under the new EIA Notification, 2006 as amended from time to time as per the following schedule:-

8	**Building /Construction projects/Area Development projects and Townships**		
8(a)	Building and Construction projects	≥20000 sq.mtrs and <1,50,000 sq.mtrs. of built-up area#	The built up area for the purpose of this notification is defined as "The built up or covered area on all the floors put together including basement(s) and other service areas, which are proposed in the building/construction projects"
8(b)	Townships and Area Development projects.	Covering an area ≥ 50 ha and or built up area ≥1,50,000 sq .mtrs ++	++All projects under Item 8(b) shall be appraised as Category B1

Sometimes, a few project proponent ask for the clarifications whether their projects require environment clearance or not if the total built up area is less than 20,000 sq. meters and for the Townships and Area Development projects if the total plot area is less than 50 hectares. It is for the information of the general public that even in the projects where EC is not required, the following approvals/NOC's are necessary:-

(a)	**NOC and subsequently <u>'Consent to Operate'</u>** from the **State Pollution Control Board under Air & Water Acts and all the conditions laid down by HSPCB in the NOC/ 'Consent to Operate' are to be complied with by the Project Proponent.**
(b)	**'NOC' from Local Municipal Committee/Panchayat.**
(c)	**Approval from Fire Safety Department.**
(d)	**'NOC' from Civil Aviation Department, if applicable.**
(e)	**Approval from the Regional Office of the (and) Union Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India for the right of way for approach road to the Construction Project in question under the Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980, if any forest land is involved in the approach road to the Project.**

(f)	**Approval from Chief Controller of Explosive for keeping the diesel in storage during construction stage and operational phase, if applicable.**
(g)	**Approval from Mining Department of the State Govt. for excavation of basements in the Project, if applicable.**
(h)	**Approval from the National Highway Authority of India(NHAI) for the approach road to the Project, if applicable.**
(i)	**Approval from the Central Ground Water Board for running of bore wells in the project.**
(j)	**NOC/approval from any other local or State Authority as applicable in the case.**
(k)	Approval from any other authorities which are applicable in this case in pursuance of **directions of any Court applicable in the region.**