No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II(I) Government of India Ministry of Environment & Forests

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Dated the 22nd January, 2010

CIRCULAR

Sub: Consideration of proposals relating to change in location after public hearing has been held or after environment clearance has been accorded – procedure to be followed - Regarding.

Instances have come to the notice of this Ministry wherein the project proponents have changed the project site after the said project has been granted environmental clearance or after the public hearing has been held. The project proponents have approached this Ministry to revalidate the environment clearance so granted without undergoing afresh the procedure prescribed for obtaining environmental clearance. The matter has been considered in the Ministry. The change in project site would lead to change in project affected people as well as the change in study area and the impact zone. As such the Environment Impact Assessment Report and Public Hearing conducted for a particular location cannot be taken valid for the changed location.

Accordingly, it has been decided that any shift in project site location after holding of public hearing will be deemed to be a new proposal and will be appraised afresh as per the procedure prescribed under EIA Notification, 2006 provided the respective Expert Appraisal Committee is satisfied that the shift is so minor as to have no change in EIA / EMP, duly recorded in the minutes and prior approval of Advisor (In-charge) / SEIAA for Category 'A' / Category 'B' projects respectively is obtained for not holding the public hearing for the changed location afresh.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(S.K. Aggarwal)

To

- All the Officers of IA Division
- All the SEIAAs / SEACs

Copy to:-

- PPS to AS(JMM)
- Advisor (GKP)
- Advisor (NB)
- 4. Website of MoEF
- Guard File.