



File No: IA-J-11011/225/2025-IA-II

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

IA Division



Dated 01/08/2025



To,

Shri. AJIT CHANDRA HALOI

M/s. OIL INDIA LIMITED

Duliajan, Adjacent to Police Station, District: Dibrugarh, Assam - 786602

safety@oilindia.in

Subject:

Proposed Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing at Location OSTA in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2018/5 in Mouja - Kalsi Area under South Tripura District of Tripura By M/s Oil India Limited, Duliajan – Grant of prior Environmental Clearance (EC) under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006 regarding.

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Grant of EC under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-regarding in respect of project Proposed Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing at Location OSTA in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2018/5 in Mouja Kalsi Area under South Tripura District in the State of Tripura submitted to Ministry vide proposal number IA/TR/IND2/541266/2025 dated 24/06/2025.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC25C0302TR5640735N
(ii) File No.	IA-J-11011/225/2025-IA-II
(iii) Clearance Type	EC
(iv) Category	B2
(v) Project/Activity Included Schedule No.	1(b) Off-shore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and production
(vi) Sector	Industrial Projects - 2
(vii) Name of Project	Proposed Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing at Location OSTA in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2018/5 in Mouja Kalsi Area under South Tripura District in the State of Tripura
(viii) Name of Company/Organization	OIL INDIA LIMITED
(ix) Location of Project (District, State)	South Tripura, TRIPURA
(x) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC

(xi) Applicability of General Conditions	no
(xii) Applicability of Specific Conditions	no

3. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal seeking environmental clearance for 'Proposed Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing at Location OSTA in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2018/5, located in Mouja - Kalsi area, South Tripura District, Tripura by Oil India Limited, Duliajan.'

4. All offshore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development & production; are listed at S.N. 1(b) of Schedule of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification under Category 'B2' project. Due to absence of State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA)/State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC), Tripura the proposal appraised at Central Level by Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC).

5. The details of products and capacity as under:

S. No	Unit	Product/by- product	Existing Quantity	Proposed Quantity	Total Quantity
1	Nos.	Exploratory wells	0	1	1

Co-ordinates of proposed wells for 1(b) projects:

Block	Well	Latitude	Longitude	District	Forest Area (within 500m Buffer radius of well location)
OALP-III Block: AA-ONHP-2018/5	Loc. OSTA	23°17'11.82"N	91°38'54.41"E	South Tripura	No

*N. B: Well locations are tentative depending upon additional seismic data.

6. Standard ToR and Public Hearing is not applicable as the project falls under category B2. It was informed by the PP that no litigation is pending against the project.

7. Total land area required is 3.496 hectares for drilling of 1 no. of exploratory well. If no Oil & Gas is discovered, then the entire land will be restored back to its original condition before formal relinquishment of the leased land back to the district authorities. The estimated project cost is Rs. 20 Crores. Capital cost of EMP would be Rs. 0.81 Crores and recurring cost for EMP would be Rs. 0.1682 Crores. Industry proposes to allocate Rs. 0.40 Crore towards Extended EMP (Corporate Environment Responsibility). Total Employment will be 50 persons as direct & indirect.

8. There are No national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, Biosphere Reserves, Tiger/Elephant Reserves, Wildlife Corridors etc. within 10 km distance from the proposed well locations in the block AA-ONHP-2018/5. There are No Reserve forests/protected forests within 500 metre radius (Buffer area) of the proposed well locations. Water bodies: River Muhuri is at a distance of 4.6 km in South direction from Loc. OSTA.

9. Total fresh water requirement will be 50 CMD which will be met Ground Water or through tankers. Effluent of 13.8 CMD quantity generated from drilling activities will be treated through mobile Effluent Treatment Plant of capacity 150 KLPD max. Septic Tank and soak pit will be installed to treat sewage generated (8 KLD) from each exploratory drilling location. The drilling activities will be based on Net Zero discharge system and no effluent/treated water will be discharged outside exploratory drilling premises.

10. Power requirement will be 3.0 MW and will be met from proposed 2 Nos. of 1000 KVA DG sets will be used as main power source and stack height (9.2 m) will be provided as per CPCB norms to the proposed DG sets.

11. Details of solid waste/Hazardous waste generation and its management:

Solid Waste details and disposal methods:

Sl. No	Non-Hazardous Waste	Quantity (TPA)	Method of disposal
1	Kitchen Waste	3.6 TPA	Will be disposed in compost pits on daily basis that will be buried during site closure.
2	Recyclables viz. Packaging wastes, paper, plastics etc.	1 TPA	Will be disposed through authorized recyclers
3	Drill Cuttings	400 TPA	Drill cuttings will be disposed off in a well-designed pit lined with impervious liner located on site as per S No. 72 C.1.a Schedule I Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry of CPCB as modified in 2005.
4	Waste Drilling Mud	225 TPA	The mud will be tested for hazardous contaminants and will be disposed as per S No. 72 C.1.a Schedule I Standards for Emission or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry of CPCB as modified in 2005

Hazardous waste details:

Sl. No.	Hazardous waste	Category	Quantity (TPA)	Method of disposal
1	Used oil & spent Oil	5.1	0.001 TPA	Used oil will be collected in metal drums kept in secured area and will be disposed through Authorised recyclers.
2	Contaminated Cotton rags or other cleaning materials	5.2	0.01 Tons/ Annum	Waste containing oil will be collected and kept in secured area and will be disposed through Authorised recyclers
3	Discarded containers/barrels/liners contaminated with hazardous waste	33.1	50 Nos./ Annum	Will be disposed as per Hazardous Waste Rules, 2016

12. Total land area of 3.496 hectares will be acquired after obtaining Environmental Clearance and subsequent Consent to Establish (CTE) from the Tripura State Pollution Control Board (TSPCB).

Capital cost and recurring cost of EMP are given below:

Sl. No.	Pollution Control Measures	Cost in Rs.	
		Capital	Recurring
1	Wastewater Effluent Management		
	Septic Tank	50,000	15,000
	Water Quality Monitoring	-	12,000
2	Use of Mobile ETP	-	5,00,000
3	Noise and Vibration Mitigation	-	-
	Noise Monitoring	-	5,000
	Maintenance & Cost of Equipment	-	5,00,000
4	Solid Waste Management	1,50,000	-
	Hazardous Waste Management	1,00,000	
	HDPE Lined waste Pit	3,00,000	-
5	Air Emission Mitigation	-	-
	Approach Road construction (For new Road having 7.0 m Width and 1.0 km length)	40,00,000	4,50,000
	Air Monitoring	-	50,000
6	Other civil constructions like Cutting Pit / waste pit / Garland Drain / fire water reservoir	10,00,000	-
7	Water Spray to prevent Dusting	-	15,000

8	Training to staff	-	1,00,000
9	General Awareness in local public	-	35,000
10	Site restoration in case of abandoned well (token amount)	25,00,000	-
	Total	81,00,000	16,82,000
	Total Cost allocated towards extended EMP for 3 years period (INR Crore)	0.40	--

Details of extended EMP with proposed activities and budgetary allocation:

Sl. No	Extended EMP Activities	Unit (Number)	Unit Cost (In Lacs INR)	Cost Allocation (INR Lacs)	Extended EMP Budget (In Lacs INR)		
					Y1	Y2	Y3
1	Potable drinking water supply	3	4	12	4.00	4.00	4.00
2	Sanitation facility (Construction of Community Toilets with Septic Tank and Soak pit, Construction of	2	4	8	2.67	2.67	2.67
3	Financial assistance to the Rural Health Centre for Medical Equipment and providing Mobile Medical Ambulance, Medical camps within surrounding area	1	8	8	2.67	2.67	2.67
4	Skill development of local people for enhancing their livelihood opportunities, etc. of unskilled villagers	2	6	12	4.00	4.00	4.00
Total				40	13.33	13.3	13.33
Grand Total					40.0		

13. During deliberations, EAC discussed following issues:

- It has been informed to the committee that the Ministry shall obtain comments from SPCB as per SOP mentioned in OM Q-15012/2/2022-CPW-Part(1)/e-240741 dated 14th January, 2025 for exemption of obtaining CTE separately. However, as the mechanism for implementation of the SOP has not been established yet, the committee directed the Project Proponent to obtain CTE separately.
- The Govt. of Tripura has awarded the extension of Petroleum Exploration Lease (PEL) for the block OALP-III Block: AA-ONHP-2018/5 comprising an area of 207.4 sq. km vide letter No 1-2(75)/GEO/DI/2019/18,224-26 dated 05th December, 2024, which is valid upto 24th April, 2026. The committee suggested that it shall be renewed from time to time for carrying out activities proposed in this scope of the project.
- EAC desired the details of the disposal of Hazardous Waste as there is no TSDF facility available in Tripura. PP has informed that the hazardous waste generated from the drilling site shall be stored in well-designed HDPE line pit and will be sent to authorized TSDF in Assam.
- The Industry shall not use Synthetic Oil Based Mud for drilling operations.
- The project proposal was appraised by the Committee on 10th July, 2025. Subsequently, SEIAA Tripura was constituted vide S.O. 3062(E) dated 9th July, 2025, and the notification was published in the Gazette on 11th July, 2025. This development was brought to the Committee's notice on the second day of the meeting, i.e., 11.07.2025. In this context, the Committee suggested that since the project had already been deliberated prior to the Gazette publication, its recommendations may be forwarded to the Ministry.
- EAC noted that certain part of the approach road to the said proposed drilling location falls in the Forest area for which diversion of forest land in the approach road has been submitted on 07.05.2024. In this regard, the committee suggested that the mobilisation of rig to the project site shall be done only after obtaining Stage II FC.

The committee was satisfied with the response provided by PP on above information.

14. The proposal was considered by the EAC (ID: EC/AGENDA/EAC/424139/7/2025) meeting held on 10th – 11th July,

2025 in the Ministry, wherein the project proponent and the accredited Consultant M/s. ABC Techno Labs India Pvt Ltd. (NABET certificate no. NABET/EIA/2225/RA0290 and validity Nov 16, 2025), presented the case. The Committee recommended the project for grant of environmental clearance.

15. The EAC, constituted under the provision of the EIA Notification, 2006 and comprising of Experts Members/domain experts in various fields, have examined the proposal submitted by the Project Proponent in desired form along with EIA/EMP report prepared and submitted by the Consultant accredited by the QCI/ NABET on behalf of the Project Proponent. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP report. If any part of data/information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.

16. The EAC has deliberated the proposal and has made due diligence in the process as notified under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, as amended from time to time and accordingly made the recommendations to the proposal. The Experts Members of the EAC have found the proposal in order and have recommended for grant of environmental clearance.

17. The environmental clearance granted to the project/activity is strictly under the provisions of the EIA Notification 2006 and its amendments. It does not tantamount/construe to approvals/consent/ permissions etc. required to be obtained or standards/conditions to be followed under any other Acts/ Rules/ Subordinate legislations, etc., as may be applicable to the project. The project proponent shall obtain necessary permission as mandated under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, as applicable from time to time, from the State Pollution Control Board, prior to construction & operation of the project.

18. Based on the proposal submitted by the project proponent and recommendations of the EAC (Industry-2), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords environmental clearance for for 'Proposed Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration Drilling & Testing at Location OSTA in OALP Block AA-ONHP-2018/5, located in Mouja - Kalsi area, South Tripura District, Tripura by Oil India Limited, Duliajan' under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006, and the amendments therein, subject to compliance of the terms and conditions.

19. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions, if found necessary at subsequent stages and the project proponent shall implement all the said conditions in a time bound manner. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the environmental clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not found satisfactory.

20. Concealing 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.

21. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

22. The above conditions will be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Hazardous Waste (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 read with subsequent amendments therein.

23. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Copy To

1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Tripura, State Civil Secretariat, New Capital Complex. PO- Kunjaban, Agartala, Tripura (West) - 799010.
2. The Regional Officer, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office, Law-U-Sib, Lumbatngen, Near MTC Workshop, Shillong.
3. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhavan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi

4. The Member Secretary, Tripura State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, PO-Kunjaban, Gorkhabasti, Agartala, Tripura - 799006.
5. Compliance & Monitoring Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, JorBagh Road, New Delhi.
6. The District Collector, South Tripura, Tripura.
7. Guard File/Monitoring File/Parivesh portal/Record File.

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Off-shore And Onshore Oil And Gas Exploration, Development And Production)

1. Off-shore And Onshore Oil And Gas Exploration, Development And Production

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The company shall comply with all the environmental protection measures and safeguards proposed in the documents submitted to the Ministry. All the recommendations made in the EIA/EMP in respect of environmental management, and risk mitigation measures relating to the project shall be implemented.
1.2	No pipelines or its part shall be laid in the Forest land/Protected Area without prior permission/approval from the Competent Authority. The Project Proponent shall obtain prior CTE/CTO under Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act was enacted in 1974 act separately.
1.3	The locations of proposed wells shall adhere to siting criteria mentioned in Control of Water Pollution (Grant, Refusal or Cancellation of Consent) Guidelines vide GSR 85 (E) dated 30th January, 2025.
1.4	Total fresh water requirement shall not exceed 25 CMD per well which will be met from Ground Water/Tanker Water. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority.
1.5	The drilling location shall display a board indicating the well number, as specified in this Environmental Clearance. The implementation status of the project shall be submitted to the Regional Office along with the six-monthly compliance report.
1.6	The project proponent will treat and reuse the treated water for drilling or mud preparation and no waste or treated water shall be discharged. Mobile ETP shall be installed to reuse the treated water in drilling system. Produced water generated shall be treated at the drilling site (within the premises) as per the Standards for Liquid Effluent of Oil Drilling and Gas Extraction Industry notified in The Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 and shall not be discharged untreated/ treated anywhere or in any stream.
1.7	The Industry shall not use Synthetic Oil Based Mud for drilling operations. The mobilisation of rig to the project site shall only be started after obtaining Stage II FC, as the certain part of approach road requires diversion of forest land.
1.8	During production, storage and handling, the fugitive emission of methane, if any, shall be monitored using Infra-red camera/ appropriate technology.
1.9	The project proponent also to ensure trapping/storing of the CO2 generated, if any, during the

S. No	EC Conditions
	process and handling.
1.10	The project proponent shall make all arrangements for control of noise from the drilling activity. Acoustic enclosure shall be provided for the DG sets along with the adequate stack height as per CPCB guidelines.
1.11	The company shall construct the garland drain to prevent runoff of any oil containing waste into the nearby water bodies. Separate drainage system shall be created for oil contaminated and non-oil contaminated.
1.12	Drill cuttings separated from drilling fluid shall be adequately washed and disposed in HDPE lined pit. Waste mud shall be tested for hazardous contaminants and disposed according to HWMH Rules, 2016. No effluent/drilling mud shall be discharged/disposed off into nearby surface water bodies. The company shall comply with the guidelines for disposal of solid waste, drill cutting and drilling fluids for onshore drilling operation notified vide GSR.546(E) dated 30th August, 2005. Industry shall dispose the hazardous waste generated at drill site to authorized TSDF. The chemical additives used for the preparation of DF should have low toxicity as per mysid toxicity or toxicity test. The chemicals used should be bio degradable. Barite used in preparation of drilling fluid (DF) shall not contain $Hg > 1$ mg/kg and $Cd > 3$ mg/kg. Total material acquired for preparation of drill site must be restored after completion of drilling operation leaving no waste material at site.
1.13	Oil spillage prevention and mitigation scheme shall be prepared. In case of oil spillage/contamination, action plan shall be prepared to clean the site by adopting proven technology. The recyclable waste (oily sludge) and spent oil shall be disposed of to the authorized recyclers.
1.14	Petroleum Exploration Lease (PEL) for the project area shall be renewed time to time for carrying out activities proposed in this scope of the project beyond 24th April, 2026.
1.15	The project proponent shall take necessary measures to prevent fire hazards, containing oil spill and soil remediation as needed. At fixed installations or plants use of ground flare shall be explored. At the place of ground flaring, the overhead flaring stack with knockout drums shall be installed to minimize gaseous emissions during operation.
1.16	The project proponent shall develop a contingency plan for H_2S release including all necessary aspects from evacuation to resumption of normal operations. The workers shall be provided with personal H_2S detectors in locations of high risk of exposure along with self-containing breathing apparatus.
1.17	Blow Out Preventer system shall be installed to prevent well blowouts during drilling operations.
1.18	On completion of the project, necessary measures shall be taken for safe plugging of wells with secured enclosures to restore the drilling site to the original condition. The same shall be confirmed by the concerned regulatory authority from environment safety angle. In case of hydrocarbon not found economically viable, a full abandonment plan shall be implemented for the drilling site in accordance with the applicable DGH / Indian Petroleum Regulations.
1.19	PP proposed to allocate Rs. 0.40 Crores towards extended EMP which shall be spent as submitted as per plan consultation with District Administration. All the commitments made in Public Hearing shall be completed within the timeline as per action plan submitted.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.20	No lead acid batteries shall be utilized in the project/site.
1.21	Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be carried out as per the prevailing Acts and Rules. All workers & employees shall be provided with required safety kits/mask for personal protection.
1.22	Oil content in the drill cuttings shall be monitored and report & shall sent to the Ministry's Regional Office.
1.23	The project proponent shall prepare operating manual in respect of all activities, which would cover all safety & environment related issues and measures to be taken for protection. One set of environmental manual shall be made available at the drilling site/ project site. Awareness shall be created at each level of the management. All the schedules and results of environmental monitoring shall be available at the project site office. Remote monitoring of site should be done.
1.24	PP shall sensitize and create awareness among the people working within the project area as well as its surrounding area on the ban of Single Use Plastic in order to ensure the compliance of Notification published by MoEF&CC on 12 th August, 2021. A report along with photographs on the measures taken shall also be included in the six-monthly compliance report being submitted to concerned authority.

Standard EC Conditions for (Off-shore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and production)

1. General Conditions

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	No further expansion or modifications in the plant, other than mentioned in the EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments, shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/SEIAA, as applicable. In case of deviations or alterations in the project proposal from those submitted to this Ministry for clearance, a fresh reference shall be made to the Ministry/SEIAA, as applicable, to assess the adequacy of conditions imposed and to add additional environmental protection measures required, if any.
1.2	The energy source for lighting purpose shall be preferably LED based, or advanced having preference in energy conservation and environment betterment.
1.3	The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation. The ambient noise levels shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 Rules, 1989 viz. 75 dBA (day time) and 70 dBA (night time).
1.4	The company shall undertake all relevant measures for improving the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding area. CER activities shall be undertaken by involving local villages and administration and shall be implemented. The company shall undertake eco-developmental measures including community welfare measures in the project area for the overall improvement of the environment.
1.5	The company shall earmark sufficient funds towards capital cost and recurring cost per annum to

S. No	EC Conditions
	implement the conditions stipulated by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the State Government along with the implementation schedule for all the conditions stipulated herein. The funds so earmarked for environment management/ pollution control measures shall not be diverted for any other purpose.
1.6	A copy of the clearance letter shall be sent by the project proponent to concerned Panchayat, Zilla Parishad/Municipal Corporation, Urban local Body and the local NGO, if any, from whom suggestions/ representations, if any, were received while processing the proposal.
1.7	The project proponent shall also submit six monthly reports on the status of compliance of the stipulated Environmental Clearance conditions including results of monitored data (both in hard copies as well as by e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of MoEF&CC, the respective Zonal Office of CPCB and SPCB. A copy of Environmental Clearance and six monthly compliance status report shall be posted on the website of the company.
1.8	The environmental statement for each financial year ending 31st March in Form-V as is mandated shall be submitted 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 clearance conditions and shall also be sent to the respective Regional Offices of MoEF&CC by e-mail.
1.9	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/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Ministry and at https://parivesh.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 shall be forwarded to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.
1.10	The 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 start of the project.
1.11	This Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, Hon'ble NGT and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to this project.

Annexure 2

Details of Products & By-products

Name of the product /By-product	Product / By-product	Quantity	Unit	Mode of Transport / Transmission	Remarks (eg. CAS number)
Exploratory well	Exploratory well	1	Number	Pipeline/Bowser Facility	The location OSTA is planned to be drilled

Name of the product /By-product	Product / By-product	Quantity	Unit	Mode of Transport / Transmission	Remarks (eg. CAS number)
					for exploration of oil/gas only.

