

Notification of Rules Under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

Notification on Environment Clearance, 1994

In order to ensure that development activity takes place in harmony with the environment, in 1994 the Government of India issued a notification on environmental clearance. According to this notification, expansion or modernization of any activity that may cause the pollution load to exceed the existing load or new projects listed in Schedule 1 of the notification shall not be undertaken in any part of India unless the project has been accorded environmental clearance by the Central Government in accordance with the procedures specified in the notification. The application seeking clearance shall be made in the proforma specified in the schedule and shall be accompanied by a detailed project report, which shall include among other things the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and an Environmental Management Plan prepared in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests. In all, 29 industries including the fertilizer industry are listed in the Schedule requiring environmental clearance from the Central Government before projects are undertaken. This notification also provides public access to the project reports.

This notification was amended during 1997. According to the amended notification, public hearings are mandatory. The Environmental Appraisal Committee will consider the written submission and views expressed in the public hearings before granting environmental clearance.
