



དཔལ་ལྷན་འབྲུག་གཞི་རྒྱུ
རྒྱལ་ཁྲིམས་དང་རང་བཞིན་ཐོན་སྐྱེད་ལྷན་ཁག
མཐུན་འཕྲོད་དང་གནས་གཤིས་འགྱུར་བཟོ་དཔལ་ཁུངས་
Department of Environment and Climate Change
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources
Royal Government of Bhutan
Thimphu

BHUTAN
Believe

DECC/EACD/Notification/2025/ 1261

July 25, 2025

NOTIFICATION


The Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC), Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (MoENR) hereby notifies that the National Environment Commission during its second meeting held on February 06, 2025, amended section 32 of the Regulation for Environmental Clearance of Projects (RECOP) 2016 as below:

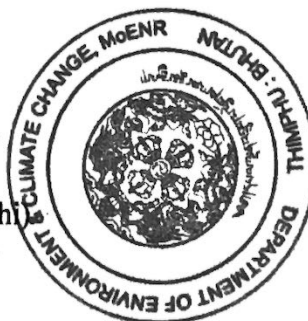
Section 32. "The application for the renewal of Environmental Clearance shall be submitted to the Secretariat or the concerned Competent Authority within one to three months before the expiry date of the Environmental Clearance."

Further, the Commission during the same meeting also endorsed the following;

1. Revised Annex 2 (penalty schedule) of the Standard Operating Procedure for Review and Assessment of Applications for Environmental Clearance, June 2022 as attached in this notification; and
2. Grievance Redressal Mechanism to ensure that holders of Environmental Clearances (EC) have an opportunity to seek redressal for any grievances related to the process as also attached in this notification.

For any further clarifications, please contact the Environment Assessment and Compliance Division of the DECC at 02-323384.


(Sonam Tashi)
Director

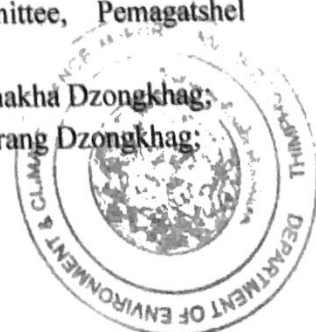


འགྲེམ་སྒྲིམ་ཨང་ ༡༤༡

བརྒྱུད་འཕུན་ཨང་ (ཡམ) ༢༠༢༥/༠༧/༢༥ ༢༠༢༥/༠༧/༢༥

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Thimphu
2. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Thimphu;
3. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Finance, Thimphu;
4. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs, Thimphu;
5. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Thimphu;
6. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment, Thimphu;
7. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Health, Thimphu;
8. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Thimphu;
9. Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education and Skills Development, Thimphu;
10. Cabinet Secretary, Office of Cabinet Affairs and Strategic Coordination, Thimphu;
11. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, Thimphu;
12. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Thimphu;
13. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Thimphu;
14. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Thimphu;
15. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Thimphu;
16. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment, Thimphu;
17. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Health, Thimphu;
18. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Thimphu;
19. Hon'ble Secretary, Ministry of Education and Skills Development, Thimphu;
20. Chairperson, National Environment Commission;
21. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Thimphu Dzongkhag;
22. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Paro Dzongkhag;
23. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Haa Dzongkhag;
24. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Chhukha Dzongkhag;
25. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Samtse Dzongkhag;
26. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Dagana Dzongkhag;
27. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Sarpang Dzongkhag;
28. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Zhemgang Dzongkhag;
29. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Wangduephodrang Dzongkhag;
30. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Gasa Dzongkhag;
31. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Trongsa Dzongkhag;
32. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Mongar Dzongkhag;
33. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Lhuentse Dzongkhag;
34. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Bumthang Dzongkhag;
35. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Trashigang Dzongkhag;
36. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Trashiyangtse Dzongkhag;
37. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag;
38. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Pemagatshel Dzongkhag;
39. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Punakha Dzongkhag;
40. DASHO DZONGDA, Chairperson, Dzongkhag Environment Committee, Tsirang Dzongkhag;



41. Executive Secretary, Thimphu Thromde;
42. Executive Secretary, Phuentsholing Thromde;
43. Executive Secretary, Gelephu Thromde;
44. Executive Secretary, Samdrup Jongkhar Thromde;
45. Director General, Department of Industry, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment;
46. Director, Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources;
47. Director, Department of Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock;
48. Director, Department of Agriculture, MoAL;
49. Director, Department of Forest and Park Services, MoENR; and
50. Guard file (EACD/Notification).



Annex 2: Penalty

For the penalty calculation for the violation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act 2000 and the RECOP 2016, all the projects are categorized into cottage, small, medium, and large scale depending on their scale of investments, which would constitute the total project cost as follows:

2.1 Project Scale

Table 2.1

S/N	Total project cost (in Nu)	Project Scale
1.	Up to 1 million	Cottage
2.	More than 1 Million to 10 Million	Small
3.	More than 10 Million to 100 Million	Medium
4.	More than 100 Million	Large

2.2 Penalty for Non-compliance with the Terms & Conditions of Environmental Clearance

Non-compliance

The following penalties shall be imposed for non-compliance with the terms and conditions of the EC:

Table 2.2

S/N	Project Scale	Base penalty for violation of each clause (Nu.)
1.	Cottage	5,000
2.	Small	10,000
3.	Medium	15,000
4.	Large	20,000

An additional fine of Nu. 20,000 shall be imposed for every day the offence continues after the expiration of the time limit.

The fine amount for the repeated offence shall be double the previous amount imposed for the same offence.



2.3. Late Renewal

The penalty for the late renewal of EC shall be imposed as per Table 2.3. Should there be violations of additional EC terms and conditions, the penalty shall be imposed as per Table 2.2.

Table 2.3

Sl/No	Project Scale	Operational	Non-operational
1.	Cottage	Nu. 5,000 per month	Nu. 5,000
2.	Small	Nu. 7,000 per month	Nu. 5,000
3.	Medium	Nu. 9,000 per month	Nu. 5,000
4.	Large	Nu. 11,000 per month	Nu. 5,000

Grievance Redressal

For grievances, the holder of EC shall have the opportunity to redress their grievances in the following manner:

S/N	Step-by-Step
1	Step 1: The Environment Assessment and Compliance Division (EACD) will serve as the first point of contact for grievance redressal.
2	Step 2: The applicant may appeal the decision of the EACD to the Environment Assessment and Technical Committee (EATC).
3	Step 3: The applicant may appeal the decision of the EATC to the National Environment Commission, whose decision shall be final and binding.

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