

**F. No. J-11017/1/2015-IA II (I)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(I.A. Division)**

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2015


**Sub: Clarification on schedule-I to the EIA Notification, 2006 for conducting 2D seismic surveys in un-appraised sedimentary.**

**Ref.: Your letter no. nil dated 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.**

This refers to your letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 seeking clarification on schedule-I to the EIA Notification, 2006 for conducting 2D seismic surveys in un-appraised sedimentary. It is noted that Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) has formulated an ambitious plan to conduct 2D surveys in 26 unappraised sedimentary basins in order to generate geoscientific data. This data will enable the assessment of oil and gas reserve and subsequently in expanding the exploration and production activities to enhance domestic production of Oil and Gas in the country. ONGC and Oil India Limited have been entrusted the 2D seismic survey of unappraised areas by the MoP&NG.

2.0 In this regard, it is to inform you that as per the EIA notification, 2006, all projects of offshore and onshore oil and gas exploration, development and Production are listed at S.N. 1(b) under category 'A' and requires to obtain prior environmental clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate. However, exploration survey (not involving drilling) are exempted from EC provided the concession areas have got previous clearance for physical survey. Therefore, it is clarify that 2D seismic survey activity is exempted from the process of environmental clearance.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

  
**(Lalit Bokolia)**  
**Additional Director**

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*Issued*  
*8/12/15.*

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