

Frequently Asked Question's (FAQs)

Q1. What is a referral letter?

Ans. Referral letter is a letter/document mentioning ground water requirement issued by Ministry of Environment & Forest (MOEF) / State Pollution Control Board (SPCB) / State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) / State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) / Urban Development Authority (UDA) / etc.

Q2. Who should obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC) from CGWA?

Ans. All Industrial / Infrastructural / Mining Projects which are either existing, new or are under expansion and requiring to withdraw ground water have to obtain NOC from CGWA.

Q3. Where should project proponent submit the proposal?

Ans. Project proponent has to submit the application online on the website <http://cgwa-noc.gov.in> and send hard copy of the duly signed application along with all requisite documents so as to reach the concerned Regional Director, CGWB, within seven (7) days of submitting application online.

Q.4. What is an existing industry/infrastructure/mining project?

Ans. All those projects which were in operation before date of notification in notified area and as on date in case of non- notified area are considered as "existing projects".

Q. 5. Whether NOC of CGWA is required for ground water withdrawal for the projects before 01.01.1999?

Ans. As per the recent NGT direction, all existing industrial/infrastructure/mining projects which are drawing ground water and have not obtained NOC for ground water withdrawal from CGWA, either due to its coming into existence prior to formation of CGWA or due to exemption from obtaining NOC as per earlier guidelines shall apply to CGWA for NOC.

Q. 6. In which States / UTs CGWA is issuing NOC for ground water withdrawal to Industrial / Infrastructural / Mining Projects?

Ans. In the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and in UTs of Andaman & Nicobar, Daman and Dadra Nagar Haveli.

Q. 7. In which States / UTs CGWA is not issuing NOC for ground water withdrawal to Industrial / Infrastructural / Mining Projects?

Ans. CGWA does not issue NOC for ground water withdrawal in the States of Andhra Pradesh, NCT Delhi, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and West Bengal and in UTs of Chandigarh, Puducherry and Lakshadweep.

Q 8. What is a Notified Area?

Ans. [Areas notified](#) by CGWA for the purpose of regulation of ground water development & management. In notified areas abstraction of ground water is not permissible for any purpose other than drinking / domestic. List of notified area is available on website www.cgwa-noc.gov.in.

Q 9. What are Over Exploited (OE)/ Critical (C) /Semi Critical (SC) / Safe areas?

Ans. As per Dynamic Ground Water Resource Estimation-2013, the assessment units are categorized into different categories adopting following criteria:-

Stage of Ground Water Development	Significant Long Term Water Level Decline Trend		Category
	Pre-Monsoon	Post-Monsoon	
<=90%	No	No	Safe
>70% and <=100%	No	Yes	Semi-Critical
>70% and <=100%	Yes	No	Semi-Critical
>90% and <=100%	Yes	Yes	Critical
>100%	No	Yes	Over-exploited
>100%	Yes	No	Over-exploited
>100%	Yes	Yes	Over-exploited

The list is available in the report of Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India (As on 31.03.2011) uploaded on the website www.cgwb.gov.in/download

Q 10. Whether Industrial / Infrastructural / Mining Projects in safe areas require NOC from CGWA?

Ans. Yes, all the industrial/infrastructure/mining projects falling in safe area require NOC from CGWA.

Q.11. Whether industries using ground water as raw material/water intensive industries are being permitted for withdrawal of ground water in non-notified Over Exploited areas?

Ans. No. New industries using ground water as raw material / water intensive industries like packaged drinking water, mineral water industries, distilleries, breweries, soft drink manufacturing industries, textiles, paper & pulp, are not granted NOC for groundwater withdrawal from non-notified Over-Exploited areas.

Q 12. What is flow Chart/ Water balance sheet?

Ans. Flow chart/water balance indicates stage wise consumption and utilization of water including reuse of treated water.

Q 13. What is mine water?

Ans. Water accumulated in the mine pit where mining activities intersect the water table.

Q 14. Can treated water be used for recharge to ground water?

Ans. Treated water shall not be used for recharge to ground water.

Q 15. Is there any fee for submission of application for NOC for ground water abstraction?

Ans. A processing fee of Rs. 1000.00 per fresh NOC and Rs. 500.00 per renewal of NOC is applicable for issuance of NOC or its renewal.

Q 16. What is the mode of payment of processing fee?

Ans. Payment is to be made online through Bharatkosh (website: Bharatkosh.gov.in) and receipt downloaded from the Bharatkosh website is to be attached with the application.

Q 17. What is the duration for NOC for ground water withdrawal?

Ans. NOC is accorded in non-notified areas for a period of two years initially and is renewed for a period of three years thereafter, subject to compliance of conditions mentioned in the NOC. Subsequently, NOC's shall be renewed every five years subject to compliance of conditions mentioned in the renewed NOC.

Q 18. Whether renewal of NOC for ground water withdrawal is being granted, If area is subsequently 'Notified'?

Ans. Yes, renewal of NOC is granted in the areas which are subsequently 'Notified'. Renewal of NOC in notified area will be done by CGWA in every 2 years.

Q 19. What is the procedure for granting renewal of NOC for ground water withdrawal in Notified Area?

Ans. Renewal of NOC for ground water withdrawal in Notified Area is accorded after checking and verification of compliance of conditions of NOC by the concerned Authorized Officer (District Magistrate / District Collector, Deputy Commissioner etc.). The Authorised officer will forward the application to the concerned Regional Director of CGWB with his recommendation. The Regional Director will process the application and forward it to CGWA for issuance of NOC.

Q 20. Is NOC of CGWA is mandatory; if ground water withdrawal is through non-energized means?

Ans. No permission is required for withdrawal of ground water; if withdrawal is done through non-energized means.

Q 21. Does CGWA accords Extension of NOC for ground water withdrawal?

Ans. In cases where project proponent has not been able to start the project and draw ground water as prescribed in the NOC issued by CGWA owing to delay in various clearances, based on valid justifications NOC can be extended for a period of two more years. However, recharge conditions will be applicable as per latest guidelines.

Q 22. What is the criteria of implementation of rain water harvesting in the renewal of NOC for water intensive industries, if category has changed to Over-exploited or area has been 'Notified'?

Ans. In the renewal cases of water intensive/water based units in 'Notified' / 'Over-exploited' assessment units/areas, the recharge guidelines applicable to water intensive industries section 3.1.1(b) 'Critical' assessment units in the existing guidelines would be followed i.e. ground water withdrawal is limited to 50% of ground water recharge.

Q 23. Are Industrial / infrastructural projects desirous of utilizing saline ground water would be permitted to extract saline groundwater in notified areas?

Ans. In Notified areas withdrawal of saline water from deep aquifers can be permitted as per additional guideline w.e.f. 05.04.2013, available in web site (www.cgwb.gov.in).

Q 24. What is the limit of ground water withdrawal other than for drinking / domestic usage in Housing / Residential Township projects?

Ans. The quantum of ground water for usage other than drinking/ domestic shall not exceed 25% of total ground water abstraction.

Q 25. Whether project proponent has to apply after expiry of validity of letter issued by CGWA if project is falling within exemption in 'Safe' category assessment units or change of category of assessment unit?

Ans. Yes, the project proponent has to apply online for NOC for abstraction of ground water, after expiry of validity of the letter issued by CGWA or change of category of assessment unit.

Q 26. What is the recharge criteria for projects falling in Over-exploited / Critical / Semi-critical / Safe Areas?

Ans. Pl. refer section 3.1.1 of "Guidelines / Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals/Requests for Ground Water Abstraction" available on website www.cgwa-noc.gov.in.

Q 27. What is the recharge criteria for water intensive industries falling in Critical / Semi- critical / Safe Areas?

Ans. Pl. refer section 3.1.1(b) of "Guidelines / Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals/Requests for Ground Water Abstraction" available on website www.cgwa-noc.gov.in.

Q 28. Whether there is a need to submit the Ground water availability/comprehensive hydro-geological report along with the application if my ground water requirement is less than 500 cum/day and/ or having a land area of less than 2 ha?

Ans. No, there is no need to submit the comprehensive hydrogeological report along with application.