NOTIFICATION

NO. Dir (EIA)/01/2017. It has been observed that applications for grant of environmental approval of certain projects in terms of section 12 of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act, 1997 are being consistently received in this Agency despite the fact that no explicit provision of the Act ibid or Review of Initial Environmental Examination and Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2000 requires such approval. Accordingly, the matter was referred to the Advisory Committee on Environmental Impact Assessment constituted under section 5(6) of the Act ibid for advice.

2. The Advisory Committee examined the matter in detail in meeting dated 12.05.2017 and advised that the following projects do not have any significant environmental impact or fall in Schedule-I or Schedule-II of the Regulations ibid and therefore they do not require environmental approval in terms of section 12 of the Act ibid:

   (i) Warehouses for storage of non-hazardous materials and having no temperature control system or facility;
   (ii) Multistoried buildings except residential apartments, educational institutions, restaurants and hotels with a height of up to 70 feet and area up to four Kanals;
   (iii) Residential apartments with a height of up to 40 feet and area up to four Kanals;
   (iv) Educational institutions with area up to four Kanals except Medical Colleges, Universities and Research Institutes;
   (v) Restaurant and hotels below Three Star category;
   (vi) Marriage halls and event centers;
   (vii) Small bakeries, sweet manufacturing units and other similar concerns with total area up to two Kanals, without boiler and project cost of less than Rs. 10 million excluding the cost of land;
   (viii) Bus and wagon stands of category C with area up to 8 Kanals;
   (ix) Cement block manufacturing factories with area up to two kanals and project cost of less than Rs. 10 million excluding cost of land; and
   (x) Cottage industry units of various types with project cost of less than Rs. 10 million unless otherwise specified by the Agency.
3. Foregoing in view, it is clarified that the projects mentioned supra do not require environmental approval for construction and operation from this Agency in terms of section 12 of the Act ibid.

4. The above clarification does not preclude the responsibility of proponents of these projects with regards to compliance of other provisions of the Act ibid or any other applicable law and abiding by good environmental practices in general.

Dated: 29.05.2017

A copy is forwarded for information & necessary action to:

1) The Secretary, LG&CD Department, Lahore
2) The Secretary, P&D Department, Lahore
3) The Secretary, Industries Department, Lahore
4) The Director General, LDA/MDA/FDA/RDA/GDA
5) The Directors (ML&I / Legal /EIA / EDH / P&C), EPA Punjab, Lahore
6) The Deputy Directors / Assistant Directors (Field), EPA Punjab.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (EIA)