## CENTRAL GROUND WATER AUTHORITY MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT & GANGA REJUVENATION

[Constituted under Section 3(3) of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986]

## PUBLIC NOTICE NO. -----/2017 New Delhi, Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2017

Whereas on the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide it's Order dated 10<sup>th</sup> December, 1996, the Central Government has constituted the Central Ground Water Authority (hereinafter referred to as the Authority) vide notification number S.O. 38 (E), dated 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1997, followed by notifications S.O. 40(E) dated 13<sup>th</sup> January, 1998, S.O. 9(E) dated 5<sup>th</sup> January, 1999, S.O. 1024(E) dated 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2000 and S.O. 1121(E), dated 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2010, for the purposes of regulation and control of groundwater development and management in the whole of India;

And whereas the Authority has been regulating groundwater development and management by industries/ infrastructure projects/ Mining Projects etc., in terms of guidelines issued in this connection from time to time;

And whereas some of the State Governments/Union Territories, have enacted legislations and/ or issuedregulatory directions/ orders on ground water development and management in accordance with the Local/State/UT law/order;

And whereas the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi vide order dated 15.04.2015 in O.A. No. 204 of 2014 and others, has issued directions to Authority to ensure that *any person, operating tube well, or any means to extract ground watershall obtain permission from Authority* and shall operate the same subject to law in force, even if such unit is existing unit or the unit is still to be established.

And whereas the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi vide order dated 13.04.2017 in O.A. No. 190 of 2016, has directed the Authority*to ensure sealing of all illegal and unauthorised ground water wells* in Ghaziabad and Hapur.

And whereas the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, New Delhi vide order dated 18.05.2017 in O.A. NO. 175 of 2015, has observed whether in view of guidelines framed by Central Ground Water Authority, any further policy by Delhi Government is needed for processing of applications for NOC.

And whereas vide clause (i) of Sub section 2 of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, the Authority has been conferred power to coordinate actions by the State Governments, officers and other authorities under this Act, or rules made thereunder, or under any other law for the time being in force which is relatable to the objects of this Act.

Now therefore, in pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 5 and Sub Section (2) of Section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (29 of 1986), read with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment & Forests number S.O. 38(E) dated 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1997, the Authority, with a view to protect the ground water resources, proposes **to revise the Guidelines for issuance of No Objection Certificate** 

(NOC). The draft guidelines are available on the website of CGWB and in the NOCAP (www.mowr.gov.in, <u>www.cgwb.gov.in</u>, <u>www.cgwa-noc.gov.in</u>) for information of the public/ stakeholders/ state governments. These guidelines shall be applicable in the entire country.

The said draft guidelines will be taken into consideration by the Expert Committee constituted for finalizing the guidelines after the expiry of sixty days from the date of publication of this public notice. Any person/stakeholder/state agency interested in making any observations or suggestions on the draft guidelines may do so in writing within the period so specified through post to the Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, West Block -II, Wing - 3 (Ground Floor) Sector 1, R.K. Puram, New Delhi 110066 or through email at email ID cgwa@nic.in.

And whereas in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 4 of the Environment (Protection) Act of 1986, the Authority proposes to appoint District Magistrates/ Deputy Commissioners, State Ground Water Authority/ State Nodal agency as the Authorized Officers to issue NOC for various uses as per details given below:

Quantum of ground water abstraction			Authorized	Officer/
Safe and Semi-Critical Assessment units	Critical and including notified a	Over-exploited		
Up to 50 m <sup>3</sup> / day	Up to $20 \text{ m}^3/\text{ day}$		District Magistrat Commissioner	e/ Deputy
> 50 - 500 m <sup>3</sup> / day	>20–200 m <sup>3</sup> / day		State Ground Authority/ State Agency	Water e Nodal

NOC for extraction of ground water > 500 m<sup>3</sup>/ day in Safe and Semi-critical assessment units,>200 m<sup>3</sup>/ day in Critical and Over-exploited assessment units and all cases pertaining to mining and infrastructure dewatering shall be dealt with by the Central Ground water Authority.

Now therefore, the Central Ground Water Authority invites nomination of nodal agency from the State/ Union Territory Governments, where State/ Union Territory Ground Water Authority is not functional, which will be designated by the Authority as the Authorised Organization for the purpose of grant of NOC for ground water withdrawal. The nominations should reach the Authority at the address mentioned above within 60 days of the publication of this Notice.

(AKHIL KUMAR) CHAIRMAN