

5. After careful review of the General Environmental Assessment (GEA) Report of the project BTS Tower (Zong) with Site ID # 8236, located at Khasra 347, Mauza Manglor, District Swat and visit was conducted on 16/10/2023 wherein it was recorded that the BTS Tower (Radiating Surface of antenna) is fulfilling the distance criteria from the sensitive receptors. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Regional Office Swat, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has decided to accord **Operational Environmental Approval** in line with the guidelines issued vide No.790-801/EPA/EIA dated: 23/09/2022 under Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014 and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental assessment Rules-2021, subject to the following terms & conditions:
- a) That in the light of record/decision of the Environmental Assessment Advisory Committee (EAAC) meeting held on 12/06/2023, the issued environmental approval is conditional subject to authentication of the decision of EAAC regarding imposition of administrative penalty by the Environmental Protection Council.
 - b) That the proponent is bound to implement and comply any measures as and when suggested by the agency. That if any of the negative impacts reported from the tower as a result of new research or finding if found, even if the proponent comply the distances mentioned in the guidelines, the agency will reserve the rights to cancel/withdraw the approval till mitigation of negative impacts.
 - c) In case of uncontrolled (public) exposure, for installation of BTS towers, the minimum safe distance is a radius of **25 feet** from the **radiating surface of antenna**. (In case where the Radio Frequency Radiation at a site exceeds the National Standard for general public/ uncontrolled exposures, the site shall be posted with appropriate signs of warning and power down/shut down the transmitters in the areas/remove the BTS Tower from the site).
 - d) In case of controlled (occupational) exposure, the minimum distance between the workers and the antenna must be **10 feet**.
 - e) Design of the BTS Tower must be compatible with adjacent land uses and if results in damage to the aesthetics of the surrounding area, the same shall be restored and rehabilitated by the proponent.
 - f) Distance between two or more BTS towers shall not be less than 50 meters.
 - g) That the BTS towers shall not be allowed to be erected on residential building in earthquake red zone areas as per seismic zone maps of "Building Code of Pakistan".
 - h) That the proponent of this BTS Tower shall maintain the distance criteria of Gen-Set mentioned in BTS Guidelines 2022 and comply with the NEQS. The proponent will strictly ensure compliance with the same.
 - i) That the owner of this BTS tower shall provide written certification within 07 days to the Agency (KP-EPA) that such tower shall be available for use by other telecommunication service providers on a reasonable cost and non-discriminatory basis, and modalities and conditions for such shared use.
 - j) The safe limit of power density values as specified/authorized/approved by the Frequency Allocation Board (FAB) and/or Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) at public level in tower's proximity must be ensured to be maintained.
 - k) Antenna Installation information mentioned in BTS Guidelines 2022 shall be displayed.
 - l) Antenna Installation requirement mentioned in BTS Guidelines 2022 shall be adopted.
 - m) All operators/proponents shall develop a work practice manual to be displayed on the antenna sites for information.
 - n) All proponents/operators shall take necessary preventive measures and safety precautions for the protection of their workers as mentioned in the guidelines for BTS towers.
 - o) The proponent shall ensure to comply with all the instructions/directions of "**Protection from Health Related Effects of Radio Base Station Antennas Regulations, 2008**".

- p) The proponent/operator shall submit to this Agency, a copy of the "Compliance Certificate" along-with supporting information submitted to PTA in accordance to Regulations 4 to 6 of "Protection from Health Related Effects of Radio Base Station Antennas Regulations, 2008".(*For recording of Power Density, the field staff may be equipped with Digital Portable Meter).
- q) The applicant and the owner/proponent shall be responsible for the structure stability of the BTS tower and the building in which or on which it is erected and damage caused due to inadequate safety measures. He shall submit an affidavit to the agency for the purpose.
6. The proponent shall be liable for correctness and validity of the information provided in the GEA Report.
 7. The proponent shall be liable for compliance of Rule 14, 15, 18, 19, 20 & 21 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules, 2021 regarding approval, confirmation of compliance, entry, inspections & monitoring.
 8. The proponent shall comply with the Rule-14 (2) of the Assessment Rules, 2021 and shall submit undertaking on stamp paper for compliance of the conditions of approval.
 9. Any change in the approved project shall be communicated to EPA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and shall be commenced after obtaining the approval.
 10. The proponent is required to apply for renewal of the operational approval every three (03) years as per Rule 15 (4) of the Environmental Assessment Rules 2021.
 11. This approval shall be treated as null and void, if any of the submission in the GEA report by the proponent is or found incorrect. Furthermore the approval shall be treated as null and void if any condition mentioned above is/are not complied with.
 12. This approval does not absolve the proponent of the duty to obtain any other approval or clearance that may be required under any law in force.
 13. There shall be no legal case pending in any court of Law against the instant tower/site.
 14. In exercise of the power under Section-13 (7) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014, the undersigned is pleased to approve the GEA Report for Operational phase of the BTS tower (Radiating surface of antenna) with above mentioned terms and conditions.

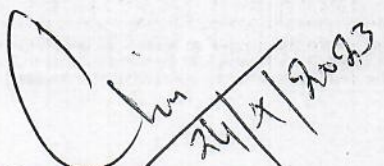
Dated: 25/10 /2023

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Director (Malakand)
EPA Regional Office Swat