

ZERO TOLERANCE TO CORRUPTION
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Climate Change, Forestry, Environment & Wildlife Department
Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.



No. EPA/HQ/IEE/Letters/ 88-90

Dated: 24 / 02 / 2026

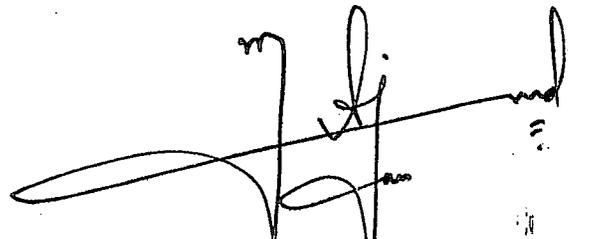
To

Mr. Asif Rafiq,
Proponent/Owner of Ismail Minerals,
Proposed Mining Lease for Granite,
Address: located near village Sokal, Tehsil & District Mansehra.

Subject: **DECISION ON INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION REPORT OF "IEE REPORT OF ISMAIL MINERALS MINING LEASE FOR GRANITE OVER AN AREA OF ABOUT 200 ACRES BY MR. ASIF RAFIQ LOCATED NEAR VILLAGE SOKAL, TEHSIL & DISTRICT MANSEHRA".**

Reference to the subject cited above and to enclose herewith Environmental Approval/Decision note on Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) Report of **"Ismail Minerals Mining Lease for Granite Over an Area of About 200 Acres by Mr. Asif Rafiq Located Near Village Sokal, Tehsil & District Mansehra"**, for your information and further implementation.

Moreover, Schedule-X must be submitted to this Agency within a month on stamp paper as an undertaking for the compliance of term and condition as mentioned in the Environmental Approval as well as mitigation measures proposed in the IEE report, please.


ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Copy for information to:

- i. The Assistant Director-IT, Environmental Protection Agency, Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- ii. PA to Director General, Environmental Protection Agency, Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

SCHEDULE-VIII
Decision on IEE

1. Name & address of Proponent:

Mr. Asif Rafiq,
Proponent/Owner of Ismail Minerals,
Proposed Mining Lease for Granite,
Address: located near village Sokal, Tehsil &
District Mansehra.

2. Description of Project:

The project for which the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) conducted is a "Ismail Minerals Mining Lease for Granite over an area of about 200 Acres by Mr. Asif Rafiq located near village Sokal, Tehsil & District Mansehra" with an estimated cost of 20 million PKR. The project involves granite mining through wire saw cutting method without the use of blasting techniques. The project is located near Village Sokal, Tehsil and District Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The wire saw method has been selected to minimize environmental impacts, reduce noise and vibration, and ensure safer and more controlled extraction of granite blocks. The proposed mining activity will be carried out within the approved lease area and will involve systematic extraction of granite blocks using modern and environmentally friendly techniques. The main objectives of the proposed project include: Promotion of economic development in the project area, Supply of quality granite raw material to the construction and stone industry, Employment generation for local and indigenous communities, Improvement in the socio-economic conditions and living standards of nearby villages, Contribution to provincial and national GDP. The purpose of the IEE study is to evaluate the potential environmental and social impacts associated with the proposed granite mining project and to recommend appropriate mitigation and management measures. The study identifies both positive and negative impacts on the physical, biological, and socio-economic environment of the project area and proposes practical measures to minimize adverse effects during construction, operation, and closure phases. It has been concluded that the project will have no long term adverse environmental impacts on the environment if the EMP and mitigation measures are followed strictly in the project activities. A plantation plan is also proposed in

**Deputy Director
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the report in order to rehabilitate the environment and biodiversity of the area.

3. Location of Project:

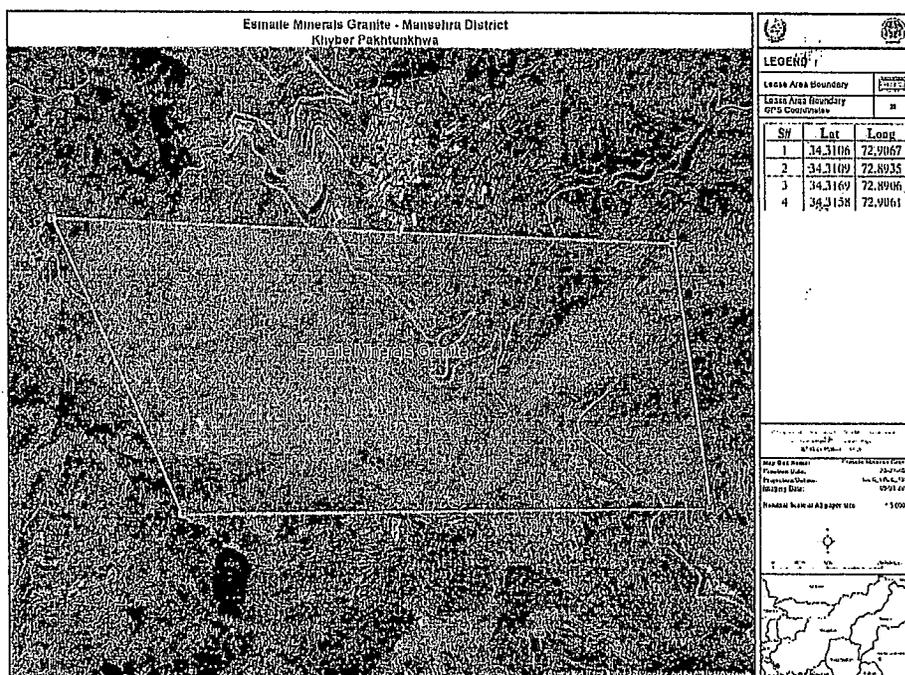
The project site is located near village Sokal, Tehsil & District Mansehra.

4. GPS Coordinates & Map:

GPS Coordinates		
S. No.	Y	X
1	34.3106	72.9067
2	34.3109	72.8935
3	34.3169	72.8906
4	34.3158	72.9061

Director
 Climate Change
 Env't Deptt.
 Mansehra





5. Date of Filing of IEE: 11/02/2026 (Ref: EPA Diary No.567)
EPA Head Office, Peshawar.

6. After careful review of the IEE report, bank receipt No. 5041273, Environmental Protection Agency, Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has decided to accord approval of the **“INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION (IEE) REPORT OF ISMAIL MINERALS MINING LEASE FOR GRANITE OVER AN AREA OF ABOUT 200 ACRES BY MR. ASIF RAFIQ LOCATED NEAR VILLAGE SOKAL, TEHSIL & DISTRICT MANSEHRA”**, in consideration of letter issued / mining lease allotted by Mines & Mineral Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa vide No. 3161/MDW/MA/ML(SS)-Granite (3539)/2025 dated 09/10/2025, on the above-mentioned GPS Coordinates/GIS Map, under the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014 and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules, 2021 subject to the following terms and conditions:

- a) This approval is accorded under Section-13 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014.
- b) This approval is accorded in light of the decision taken under Agenda Item No. 06 in the 2nd Environmental Protection Council (EPC) meeting held dated 11/09/2024 and Administrative Department Notification No. SO(Env)/CCFEWD/4-2/2023/EPC/V-III dated 22/01/2025.
- c) 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. The

proponent shall have to obtain the necessary NOCs/Approvals/Clearances required from other relevant departments/authorities including District Administration, Forest Department, Wildlife Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (if required) under the prevailing laws/rules of the provincial government before commencement of the project activities.

- d) The proponent shall adopt all precautionary and mitigation measures identified in IEE Report as well as any un-anticipated impacts arising during the construction and operation phase of the project to minimize any negative impacts on the soil/minerals, ground water, air and water bodies (if any).
- e) The Proponent shall ensure the compliance and implementation of the National Environmental Quality Standard (NEQS) for ambient Air, Noise, Water and dust emissions during construction & operation phase of the Project.
- f) The proponent shall provide the copy of this approval and IEE report to the contractor for information and compliance.
- g) The traffic management plan shall be developed and implemented during the material transportation. Moreover, no transportation shall be carried out during school timings.
- h) The proponent shall conduct water sprinkling using Water Bowser on all the paved & unpaved roads used for transportation. For the same purpose only water stored through rain water harvesting or treated effluent/wastewater shall be used as per required SOPs.
- i) The proponent shall conduct Air and water quality testing through EPA certified laboratory biannually & the same shall be submitted to EPA.
- j) The proponent shall not disturb/damage the existing roads, natural habitat of wildlife, natural springs, community water supply lines etc. In case of any damage the proponent is liable for repair of the same.
- k) The proponent shall not carryout blasting for mining at any cost as committed and an affidavit in this regard shall be submitted to EPA.
The mining/quarrying site shall be at a safe distance from human settlement or as per criteria of the concerned departments/authorities.
- m) The mine safety procedures shall be adopted and all safety and emergency measures must be carried out in the premises of the project area including preparation & execution of Emergency Response Plan (ERP) & emergency exits, fire extinguisher etc.
- n) The proponent shall make contracts/agreements with the local people regarding the use of their land/leased area for project activities (if any) and make compensations prior to commencement of the project as per available/existing law & rules. The details of the same shall be shared with Environmental Protection Agency.
- o) The proponent in consultation with the local people & concerned authorities shall specify the surface rent for the mining leased area and make proper agreements accordingly.
- p) The proponent shall constitute a complaint redressal committee under the chairmanship of village chief/Nazim/Councilor to address the complaints/issues of the local community.
- q) The proponent shall develop a comprehensive water management plan to prevent contamination of the nearby rain water bodies/channel(s)/pathways etc., if any.
- r) The proponent shall implement soil erosion control measures such as silt fences, vegetation cover, and berms to prevent soil degradation during the excavation/extraction of material. Moreover, sufficient arrangements shall be

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made by the proponent by constructing barriers while conducting mining activities in order to avoid erosion / rolling of large stones.

- s) The solid waste generated from the mining activity as stones/boulders, mines residues etc., shall be utilized in restoration of the quarry area while the municipal solid waste shall be properly disposed of in consultation with concerned authorities.
 - t) The proponent shall adopt dust suppression techniques to reduce airborne dust during excavation especially during windy conditions.
 - u) The proponent shall conduct timely maintenance of all the machinery/equipment/vehicles involved in the project to avoid generation of Air pollution/Water pollution/Noise pollution/Soil contamination.
 - v) Oil & lubricants shall be stored on an impervious floor; spill containment kits/drip trays shall be readily available for emergency oil spills during fueling of vehicles & generators etc. In case of major oil spill the proponent shall be liable to execute in-situ/ex-situ bioremediation.
 - w) The proponent shall be bound to carry out extraction/excavation of raw material in patches. After completion of work at each patch the proponent is bound to restore the same and a compliance report in this regard shall be submitted to this Agency.
 - x) The proponent shall develop and implement site restoration and rehabilitation plan according to the site conditions. The area used for mining shall be leveled properly & shall be re-used for plantation purpose or for other Environment friendly activity i.e., Agriculture, Fruit Orchard etc. subject to the feasibility, in order to enhance the aesthetic beauty of the area.
 - y) The mining site/excavation area shall properly demarcated & fenced before commencement of work/project activities and safety sign boards in this regard shall be installed for awareness of public at the project site as well as where necessary.
 - z) The proponent shall ensure the implementation of health and safety measures for the protection of workers including provision of Personal Protective Equipment and first aid medical facility to the project employees.
 - aa) The proponent shall conduct CSR activities for the uplift and betterment of the local community in consultation with district administration and relevant departments, record of the same shall be maintained.
 - bb) Plantation shall be carried out as per plantation plan submitted in the IEE report/reply submitted. Moreover, a comprehensive tree plantation plan shall be carried out & implemented in consultation with EPA.
 - cc) Non-technical jobs must be provided to the local community.
 - dd) No extension should be permitted in the future in the existing project without prior approval of the EPA/Govt. of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
 - ee) This Agency reserves the right to monitor and suggest any additional mitigation measures at any stage of the project to avoid/minimize Environmental Pollution. The proponent shall be liable to implement the additional measures for the protection of Environment as and when suggested by EPA.
- 7) The proponent shall be liable for correctness and validity of the information provided in the environmental report.
- 8) The proponent shall be liable for compliance of Rules 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 24 of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules-2021, regarding approval, confirmation of compliance, entry, inspections and monitoring.

The proponent shall comply with the Rule-14 (2) of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Assessment Rules-2021 and shall submit undertaking on stamp paper for the compliance of conditions mentioned in Environmental Approval.

- 10) This approval is accorded only for the installation/construction phase of the project; the proponent will have to obtain separate approval for the operation phase after compliance in accordance with Rule-15 of the KP-Environmental Assessment Rules, 2021.
- 11) Any change in the approved project shall be communicated to EPA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and shall be commenced after obtaining the approval.
- 12) This Agency shall not be responsible for any issue related to the project land.
- 13) There shall be no legal case pending in the courts against the project.
- 14) In exercise of the power under Section 13 of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Environmental Protection Act, 2014, **delegated Vide letter No. EPA/051/01/93/1134-42 dated 16/01/2026**, the undersigned is pleased to approve the IEE Report of **Ismail Minerals Mining Lease For Granite Over an Area of About 200 Acres by Mr. Asif Rafiq located near village Sokal, Tehsil & District Mansehra** for the Construction Phase of the project with the above mentioned terms and conditions.

Dated: Peshawar 24th Feb, 2026.

Tracking/File. EPA/HQ/IEE/Letters/ 88-90

Tracking Code:



<https://epakp.gov.pk/environmental-approvals/>

Deputy Director
Climate Change
Env't Protection Agency
Peshawar

DEPUTY DIRECTOR (CC)
EPA, KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

by Mr. Asif Rafiq
16/01/2026