

Ref : WB(W) 224/32/15
Group : 2, 5, 7, 11, 12

27 March 2002

Works Bureau Technical Circular No. 11/2002

Control of Site Crushers

Scope

In Government projects that require excavation in rock or processing of hard inert Construction and Demolition (C&D) material, site crushers may be installed. The circumstances in which site crushers, which are ancillary rock crushing plants, may be used in the projects and the approval procedures are described in this Circular. The Secretary for the Environment and Food, Director of Environmental Protection and Director of Housing have agreed to the contents of this Circular.

Effective Date

2. This Circular takes immediate effect.

Effect on Existing Circulars

3. This Circular supersedes Lands and Works Branch Technical Circular No. 24/85 on Control of Site Crushers, which is hereby cancelled. This Circular should be read in conjunction with WBTC 4/98, 4/98A and 5/98.

Policy

4. The hard inert C&D material, such as concrete and broken rock including rock excavated from works projects, can be recycled into aggregates for reuse in construction works. In order to reduce the pressure on the demand for public filling and landfill capacity, it is essential that the reusable portion of the inert C&D material be recycled and put into good use. For projects requiring excavation in rock or processing of hard inert C&D material, the project proponents should consider setting up site crushers where it is technically feasible and environmentally acceptable. This Circular sets out the necessary procedures and requirement for setting up site crushers in Government projects.

Procedures

5. At the planning stage of a project that includes the establishment of a site crusher, the project proponent should advise the Secretary of the Public Fill Committee (PFC) and seek approval in principle from the Director of Civil Engineering (DCE). Approval from the Director of Environmental Protection (DEP) is also required for installation and operation of a site crusher in respect of the environmental requirements. In addition, the setting up of site crushers may be classified as a "designated" project under Schedule 2, G.5 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. Where appropriate, DEP should be consulted on the environmental requirements for setting up a site crusher.

Crushed Rock and Recycled Products Produced by Site Crushers for Project Use

6. DCE should be informed in advance if a site crusher is to be included for use in a Government project to process hard inert C&D material including rock, which are generated from or imported to the site for use solely in the works. No royalty will be required by the Government in respect of the operation of a site crusher as described in this clause, provided its installation is permitted in the lease conditions. Detailed information should be submitted to DCE as set out in Paragraph 11.

Sales of Crushed Rock and Recycled Products Produced by Site Crushers

7. Approval from DCE is required for off-site sales of crushed rock and recycled products produced by a site crusher in a Government project. Where off-site sales are allowed, a royalty will be charged on crushed rock products that are produced from Grade II or better rock source and sold as virgin aggregates. No royalty will be required for off-site sales of recycled products produced from hard inert C&D material of other nature. Detailed information should be submitted to DCE as set out in Paragraph 11.

8. The royalty charged on the crushed rock products described in Paragraph 7 above shall be paid by the contractor of the Government project. The Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Mines & Quarries (CGE/M&Q) will obtain the necessary approval from the Secretary for the Treasury for the royalty rates. Demand notes in respect of the royalty due shall be issued to the contractor by CGE/M&Q at quarterly intervals based upon the contractor's sales returns, which should be duly certified by the relevant project office.

Regulating Conditions

9. In every project where a site crusher is to be included the following special conditions, to be provided by DCE, shall be included in the tender documents:

- (a) the permitted uses, and royalty rate if sales are permitted;
- (b) if rock and hard inert C&D material may be imported to the site;
- (c) the permitted duration for the operation of the site crusher and its regular inspection by the Mines & Quarries Division, CED;
- (d) the submission for approval of the details of the crushing plant and its dust control systems; and
- (e) the submission of monthly returns of production and declaration on sales if permitted.

Amendments

10. If it is proposed to amend any clause regulating the use of a site crusher after the award of a contract then the revised clause shall be approved by DCE. If approval for an amendment is given, then the revised conditions shall be provided by DCE, which may include the payment of a royalty for the amendment.

General

11. When a site crusher is to be included for use in a construction project, information should be provided to the Mines and Quarries Division of CED on a monthly basis on the amount and nature of the rock to be crushed, and crushed rock product requirements for the works, and the construction period. Where the crusher is used to process hard inert C&D

material, details on the amount and nature of the material to be processed, the recycled products requirements, and the project period should also be submitted. Further advice on the use of a site crusher may be obtained from the Senior Engineer/Quarries of the Division. The Secretary of PFC should be consulted on matters relating to recycling of hard inert C&D material.

(W S Chan)
Deputy Secretary for Works