



**THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES COMPANY LIMITED**  
(A Government Company )  
**Estates Department, Yellandu Area**

Ref.No.YLD/EST/2023/12/ 588

Date:10.04.2023

To  
The District Forest Officer,  
Bhadradi Kothagudem.

Sir,

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 151.8517 Ha of forest land falling in Yellandu Division for proposed JK OC project in favour of Singareni Collieries Company, submission of additional information sought in the EDS raised by MoEF&CC, GoI and request for uploading it on Parivesh portal – Reg. (Online proposal No.FP/TG/MIN/49581/2020).

Ref: 1-MoEF&CC, GoI Lt.No.8-260/1985-FC(Vol.1), Dt.18.01.2023.  
2-The DFO KGM Ref.No-23/2016/D1 Dt.20.03.2023.


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Kind attention is invited to the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited wherein EDS (Essential Details Sought) had been raised and certain additional information was sought by the MoEF&CC, GoI.

Replies on all the 17 points are submitted herewith.

Hence, it is humbly requested to kindly submit these details to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC), TS, with a request to issue suitable orders in this regard , as this proposal is very crucial for coal supply to the nearby Thermal Power Plants.

Yours faithfully,

  
General Manager,  
Yellandu Area.

Encl: as above.

Copy submitted to: The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Nodal Officer (FC) Telangana, Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad, for favor of information and suitable orders.

The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF& CC, GOI, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Aranya Bhavan, Hyderabad for favor of information.

The Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhadradi Circle, Warangal, for favor information and with a request to submit this report to the Nodal Officer & the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, TS.

The Forest Divisional Officer, Yellandu, for favor of information with a request to submit this report to the Nodal Officer & the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, TS.

Yours faithfully,



General Manager,  
Yellandu Area.

**Information on EDS raised vide MOEF&CC, GOI Ref.No.8-260/1985-Fc(vol.1)**

**Dt.18-01-2023.**

SL No	Shortcomings/observations from MoEF& CC.	Clarification																														
i.	The State Govt. is requested to submit the component wise (Landuse) KML file and DGPS map of proposed forest area for diversion.	<p>In the proposal land will be used for following purpose:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No</th><th>Description</th><th>Extent</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Total Excavation Area</td><td>115.6001</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Embankment</td><td>1.409</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Toe Wall</td><td>0.482</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Settling Pond</td><td>3.5318</td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>Diversion/below river/Nala/Canal</td><td>0.3510</td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>Garland Drains</td><td>2.2338</td></tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>Plantation</td><td>24.43</td></tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>7.5m safety zone along the periphery</td><td>3.8142</td></tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2"><b>Total</b></td><td><b>151.8519</b></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>DGPS map&amp; Components wise KML files for land use proposed for diversion are enclosed.</p> <p><i>Copy of DGPS map of proposed diversion of FL is enclosed as Annexure-I</i></p> <p><i>Component wise KML files are enclosed in Pen drive in Soft copy as Annexure-II</i></p>	S.No	Description	Extent	1	Total Excavation Area	115.6001	2	Embankment	1.409	3	Toe Wall	0.482	4	Settling Pond	3.5318	5	Diversion/below river/Nala/Canal	0.3510	6	Garland Drains	2.2338	7	Plantation	24.43	8	7.5m safety zone along the periphery	3.8142	<b>Total</b>		<b>151.8519</b>
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ii.	The State Govt. is requested to submit the KML file of Yellandu mining lease (524.96 ha), Yellandu additional mining lease (1741 ha), JK OC mine (1114.507 ha) and earlier diverted 167. 46 ha (124.96 ha + 42.50 ha).	<p>KML files</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Yellandu mining lease (524.96 ha) (FL- 124.96 Ha + NFL- 400 Ha)</li> <li>2) Yellandu Additional mining lease (1741 Ha) ( FL- 71.5 Ha+ NFL- 1669.5Ha)</li> <li>3) JK OC mine (1114.507 ha) includes 167.46 Ha (124.96 Ha + 42.50 Ha) diverted for UG rites are enclosed in soft copy on Annexure – II</li> </ol> <p>The area of the proposed diversion is falling in Yellandu ML which is valid till 31.12.2034.</p> <p><i>Copy of the Government Order for granting Mining Lease is enclosed in Annexure-III.</i></p>																														



iii.	The State Govt. is requested to submit the KML file of CA land in lieu of 1.5 times of proposed safety zone.	<p>The Safety zone area of 7.5mts is already included in the proposed diverted forest land of 151.8519 Ha within the project.</p> <p>1.5 times safety zone is included in the area of 151.8519 Ha identified in DFL in Mahabubabad District as part of CA scheme.</p>
iv	It was informed that one old Dargah and Burial ground exists in the proposed diversion area, the State Govt. is requested to offer its comments in this regard.	This Old Dargah & Burial Ground is existing near Timber Depot under the control of the Forest department. This land is falling in proposed area for diversion Area. The SCCL will provide alternate site for the purpose.
v	The number of trees to be felled is mentioned as 87451 in DFO's report but in part-II of PARIVESH portal it is mentioned as 17701. In this regard, the State Govt. is requested to provide the exact no. of trees to be felled. Further the State Govt. is also requested to forward the said enumeration report of the no. of trees proposed for felling and the method used for enumeration/estimation may be clarified by the State.	<p>The total number of trees in proposed diverted area are 87451, out of these 17701 is the Number of Teak trees. Hence, the exact number of trees to be felled are 87451. In the Part-II at serial number VII species wise number of trees was also stated as 87451.</p> <p>The method used for enumeration is complete Enumeration method.</p> <p><i>Copy of enumeration report is enclosed as Annexure-IV</i></p>
vi	The DFO has suggested for creation of Bamboo brakes of 100 mtrs width but the site suitability certificate for taking up plantation of bamboo in such areas are not submitted along with the required costs and source of funds. The same may be submitted to this Ministry.	<p>The Site is suitable to raise Bamboo brakes in 100 Meter periphery. This forest area is having good natural growth of bamboo in the vicinity.</p> <p>The Site suitability certificate has been furnished by the Forest Divisional Officer. This planting will be done by the SCCL at its cost after getting the Stage-I within 3 years and as and when area is shown by the Forest Department. Some photos of Bamboo plantation taken up on OB nearby is enclosed as Annexure- XVIII</p> <p><i>An undertaking by SCCL to this effect and Site suitability certificate issued by FDO, Yellandu is enclosed as Annexure-V.</i></p>

The State Govt. has mentioned some areas for diversion as 3<sup>rd</sup> diversion, some as 1<sup>st</sup> diversion and some as fresh. To get a clear idea, the State Govt. is requested to kindly mention the breakup along with the validity for each areas.

It is to submit that in Form-A submitted by the SCCL, 1<sup>st</sup> renewal of Yellandu Mining lease was mentioned due to typographical error.

It shall be read as 1<sup>st</sup> renewal of Yellandu Additional Mining Lease in which 42.50 ha. of forest land was diverted for underground rights.

*Corrected table enclosed as Annexure-VI*

It is to submit that the proposed project Jawahar Khani Open cast Mine (JKOC) is falling in two Mining Leases namely

1. Yellandu Mining Lease (YML) (originally granted in the year 1-1-1886 for 99 years. This mining lease was renewed and 3<sup>rd</sup> renewal was issued by the Govt. of Telangana vide G.O.MS.No.05, Dtd:06-02-2015 for a period of 20 years valid from 01-01-2015 to 31-12-2034) for an extent of 524.96 Ha.(FL- 124.96 Ha + NFL- 400 Ha).

1a. In YML, 124.96 Ha Forest land was initially diverted for UG rights for a period of 30 years by the MoEF vide 8-216/FC, dtd.07.10.1986 from 01.01.1985 to 31.12.2014.

1<sup>st</sup> renewal was accorded by the MOEF vide Ir.no.8-260/1985-FC, dtd:20-7-2018 for underground mining without any rights over the surface for a period of 20 years from Dt:- 01-01-2015 to 31.12.2034

**In the present proposal(151.8519Ha),** 106.304 Ha out of 124.96 Ha., is now included/proposed for conversion from UG to Surface rights leaving the balance area (18.656 Ha) as undisturbed.

During 2nd renewal of Yellandu mining lease, vide PCCF letter dt:9-4-2014 (*Annexure XV enclosed*) it was mentioned that out of 1353 Ha of ML which contains 963.63 Ha. as RF an area of 838.67 Ha of RF was deleted and only 124.96 Ha was renewed. Out of the deleted RF land Non-RF of 45.5477 Ha is not falling in it. This is clear evidence that 45.5477 Ha is Non-forest Land. Later MRO, Yellandu vide letter dtd:5-11-2020 certified that this 45 Ha area is Forest Land. For the above said reason 45 Ha DGPS authentication



was obtained and forest land diversion application was applied for 151.8519 Ha (i.e for 106.304 Ha + 45.5477 Ha) (*Annexure XVI enclosed*)

**1b.** While submission of application an extent of 45.5477 Ha is also included as it was treated as forest land and proposed for diversion. Hence, it is mentioned as fresh diversion. Earlier this land was thought to be Non-RF land.

2. Yellandu Additional Mining Lease (YAML) for an extent of 1741 ha (FL-71.5Ha+NFL-1669.5Ha) was originally granted in the year 1974 vide G.O.MS.No.1175, dtd:-7-11-1972 for a period of 30 years from 15-04-1974 to 14-04-2004. It was renewed as 1<sup>st</sup> renewal vide G.O.MS.no.278, dtd:23-10-2007 for a period of 20 years from 15-04-2004 to 14-04-2024) .
3. In YAML, 42.50 ha forest land was diverted by the MOEF vide Ir.no.8-8-54/91-FC, dt:25-7-2008 for a period of 20 years for underground rights.
4. KML files of YML, YAML, 124.96 ha. and 42.50 ha. are enclosed as mentioned point ii as Annexure- II (soft copy in pen drive).

viii	The User Agency in their letter dt 25.04.2021 informed that there is one habitation 8-260/1985-FC(Vol.I) I/37510/2023 namely Vijayalaxmi Nagar consisting of about 105 families in the Non-Forest Land. In this regard, the State Govt. is requested to offer its comments along with proposed action.	There exists a habitation of 105 families namely Vijayalaxmi Nagar in Non- Forest land, which will be evacuated as per R&R Policy in vogue by the District Revenue Authorities.
ix	The State Government is requested to submit the copy of approved Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan for the mining lease involved in the instant proposal	Mining Plan (Including Mine Closure plan) of Jawaharkhani Opencast was approved by the Ministry of Coal, GOI, vide Lr. No. 34011/1/2020-CPAM, dated 29.10.2020.  A hardcopy of the MP&MCP enclosed as Annexure-VII Soft copy enclosed as Annexure II

x	<p>The State Govt. is requested to submit the detailed mining plan of the area 124.96 ha and the plan of State govt. wrt to the balance forest land continued with UG rights i.e. 61.156 ha which is also referred as undisturbed area by State.</p>	<p>These two areas i.e 124.96 Ha and undisturbed area of 61.156 Ha of Forest Land are covered in aforesaid Approved Mining Plan.</p> <p>The area of 61.156 ha FL i.e (18.656 ha + 42.50 ha) was extensively worked in UG method. The reserve of coal is not considered for opencast due to uneconomic stripping ratio. Hence this area has been mentioned as undisturbed. This area is included in the project area so as to go for expansion in case it becomes viable in future.</p>
xi	<p>The State govt. is requested to submit the status of mining leases cum mining plans of the JK-5 open cast mine existing in NFL area along with the mining plan of the 21 inclined UG mines which they plan to convert in Open Cast.</p> <p>Further, the State Govt. is also requested to clarify the exact area for which FC is being asked in the instant proposal if it has any overlap/connection with the area of 21 inclined mines. The same may be presented by a Map and relevant KML files may be submitted for further analysis in this Ministry.</p>	<p>JK 5 OCP is falling in the Yellandu Addl. ML(YAML). Copy of YAML enclosed as Annexure-VIII. No forest land is involved in JK-5 OCP.</p> <p><i>Copy of approved Mining Plan for JK-5 OCP is enclosed as Annexure-IX</i></p> <p>The 21 incline UG mines is falling in Yellandu ML (YML).</p> <p><i>Copy of YML and approved Mining Plan of 21 Incline is enclosed as Annexure-X.</i></p> <p>Clarification regarding FC area asked in instant proposal &amp; if any overlap/connection with area of 21 incline mines is as follows:</p> <p>The exact area for which FC permission is requested in the instant proposal is 151.8519 Ha. which is in two polygons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An extent of 106.304 ha is part of 124.96 Ha. diverted for UG rights earlier, now proposed for surface rights.</li> <li>Further an area of 45.5477 ha. is identified as forest land during authentication and included in this instant proposal.</li> </ol> <p>The proposed area for diversion is part of 21 Incline mine which is now proposed to work in Opencast method. There is no overlapping with any mine/ project. The Maps of 106.304 Ha. &amp; 45.5477 Ha. are enclosed as Annexure -XI</p> <p><i>The KML files of 106.304 Ha &amp; 45.5477 Ha are enclosed in Pen drive in soft copy as Annexure -II</i></p>



xii	<p>State Government is requested to forward the EC pertaining to JK5 mine with a clarification regarding conditions laid down in the respective EC wrt the mined out areas or OBD areas and the provision for rehabilitation or greening the same if any. The updated status with respect to the mining closer plan of JK-5 may also be submitted. <b>Further, the details of the area to be used for OBD of the instant proposal in the JK-5 mine may be submitted along with the KML file.</b></p>	<p>A copy of the EC granted for JK5 OCP by the MOEF &amp; CC vide J-11015/31/2013-1A-II (M) Dt.03.03.2016 is enclosed as Annexure-XIII. The stipulations in the above EC, related to mined out areas or OBD and provision for rehabilitation or greening have been made under condition number viii, xix,xxi,xxii,xxiii,xxix and xxxii.</p> <p><i>Reply to these points are provided in Annexure XII</i></p> <p><i>The EC compliance report of JK5 OC Mine is enclosed as Annexure-XIII</i></p> <p><i>The KML file of area to be used for OBD of the Instant Proposal in JK-5 OCP is enclosed in pen drive in soft copy as Annexure-II.</i></p>
xiii	<p>The State has submitted that an area of 61.156 ha will be kept undisturbed and continued with UG rights. In this regard, the State govt. is requested to provide the existing mining plan wrt to the referred undisturbed area and is also requested to comment whether there is/will be a separate mining plan for this area.</p>	<p>The area of 61.156 Ha is FL diverted with UG rites and no mining activity is proposed in this area, hence kept as undisturbed. This area is covered in the Approved Mining Plan.</p> <p>There is no mining plan separately to this extent.</p>
xiv	<p>Complete compliance of the Stage-II approval letter no. F. No. 8-260/1985-Fc dt 20.07.2018 w.r.t. diversion of an area of 124.96 ha of forest land in Kothagudem Division, Khammam District in favour of the M/s SCCL and also compliance report wrt approval letter no. F. No. 8-54/1991-FC(pt) dt 25.07.2008 wrt renewal of an area 42.5 ha of Forest land.</p>	<p>The compliance report of Stage II approval letter of 124.96 ha. &amp; 42.5 ha FL diversions, as submitted vide GM-YLD Ref. No. EST/YLD/C /2023/583, dtd;10.04.2023. ( Compliance of 124.96 Ha.) Ref No. EST/YLD/C/2023/584, dtd:10.04.2023, ( Compliance of 42.5 Ha). are enclosed herewith as Annexure - XIV</p>
xv	<p>The LoI dt 15.09.2015 issued by Ministry of Coal (uploaded in PARIVESH portal) is in favour of JK-5 opencast Project (March, 2014) for JK-5 OCP Block, Yellandu Coal Belt, Godavari Valley Coalfield, District Khammam, Andhra Pradesh in respect of M/s. SCCL under Section 5(2)(b) of the MMDR Act. 1957 by the Central Government. However, the instant proposal pertains to Govt. of Telangana. The State Government may offer its comments in this regard and also on any requirement of new</p>	<p>The SCCL submitted application for approval of Mining Plan for JK5 –OCP Block in Yellandu coal Belt, Khammam district in March- 2014. As on that date (March -2014) it was in the State of Andhra Pradesh (before bifurcation of the State of A.P).</p> <p>Later, Telangana State was formed on 02.06.2014.</p> <p>The Ministry of Coal, GoI communicated the approval of Mining Plan and Mine closure Plan of JK5 OCP to SCCL on 15.09.2015 in which Telangana State was mentioned.</p>



xvi	<p>The State Govt. is requested to offer its comments on the issues raised by CF, Kothagudem Circle in its Site Inspection Report.</p>	<p>A Wildlife Conservation Plan has been already approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Telangana, vide Ref.No-11416/2021/WL-1 (i) Dt.12.10.2021 for Rs.3.42 Crores and this amount was deposited vide GM-Yellandu, letter dtd:1-3-23.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1-Chain link fencing will be taken up around the proposed CA land to protect it from encroachment &amp; biotic interference by user agency.</li> <li>2-Boundary pillars will be constructed all along the periphery of proposed CA land.</li> <li>3-Deep slopes will be chain link fenced construction of ramp to deep water bodies for easy wild life movement will be taken up by user agency.</li> <li>4-Broad casting of forestry seeds &amp; grass seeds – wild life mitigative measures to be borne by user agency.</li> <li>5 to 7). User agency will bear the CA scheme cost for the fulfillment of the mitigation measures.</li> </ol> <p>If the above works included in the CA scheme, the SCCL will deposit the amount to the forest department after grant of Stage-I (or)</p> <p>The SCCL will take up the works as suggested by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Bhadradi Circle, Warangal if not included in the CA Scheme.</p>
xvii	<p>While discussing the similar kind of proposal of conversion of UG mines to open cast mines by the same User Agency the FAC on 21.09.22 deliberated that converting the UG mines to Open cast mines fails the motive of encouraging the UG Mines. The UG Mines are encouraged since the vegetation above the soil is not affected. Considering the large area to be diverted and huge number of trees to be felled, biodiversity impact assessment, valuation of ecological/ecosystem services from the said land to be diverted needs to</p>	<p>This proposed quarry area was already extracted extensively by underground mining methods. There is no scope for further continuing underground mining in this area. The present opencast proposal is only intended for extraction of the residual coal blocked. The extractable reserves in this area is 19.68 MT.</p> <p>The cost benefit analysis of the proposed FL diversion, area was done as per the MoEF&amp;CC guidelines for “for conducting Cost Benefit’ Analysis for projects involving diversion of forest Land under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980” issued’ Vide Ltr No.7-69/2011-FC(pt.), dated:01.08.2017. CB ratio arrived is 1:33.72</p>

<p>be accounted for. Therefore, the State Government is requested to rework C:B analysis report considering adverse effect on the ecological parameters due to conversion of underground mines to open cast mines as per the above observation of FAC and submit a revised C:B analysis report. Further, it is highlighted that the submitted CB report with instant proposal is not duly countersigned and verified by the concerned DFO.</p>	<p>As suggested, CB Analysis is reviewed after incorporating the ecological services as was done in case of VK Coal Mine.</p> <p>Revised CB ratio arrived is 1: 23.79. The SCCL is willing to take up mining with this proportion of Cost:Benefits. (<i>Annexure XVII soft copy enclosed in pen drive</i>)</p>
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 General Manager,  
 Yellandu.