

## **SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

**(Pakri Barwadih North-West Quarry (PB-A) Coal Block of M/s NTPC Ltd– 331.198 Ha)**

The present forest patch of 331.198 Ha of forest land proposed for diversion is part of larger forest landscape in the area and is source to many perennial streams. The removal of the forest cover would not only disturb the ecological stability, livelihood security of the people but would also lead to water insecurity in the region. It should be noted that the area doesn't have any perennial river and the water availability is enhanced only by the forests of the area. Hence, a water security plan should be prepared and adhered to.

The present area is just adjoining to the already diverted area of 1026.438 Ha of forest land towards coal mining to NTPC Pakri Barwadih and a nallah by name Khorra Nallah separates these two blocks, the said nallah will be largely affected by the mining activities hence it should be protected by identifying and developing green belts upto 100 metres on either sides to prevent sedimentation and choking. As observed in the existing mine of NTPC Pakri Barwadih no amount of siltation dams could prevent the sediment deposition and choking of streams as overburden is dumped just adjacent to the nallahs/ streams.. A serious view may be taken in this regard failing which a few decades down the line, the entire area would be affected by water crises.

As the present area of diversion is adjacent to a existing mine and more mines would come up in future leading to cluster mining in the area , a special plan may be made to maintain the landscape integrity of the existing forest, especially with regard to fragmentation and connectivity.

The forest is compact having density of 0.8 and also that it is rich in species composition, efforts should be made to preserve the germplasm of the area by conducting proper study before initiating mining activities and specific guidelines towards ecorestoration plan, conservation plan and reclamation plan may be may be issued.

Since, the cluster mining would involve activities like breaking of land and removal of earth in the area and beyond the entire landscape will be vulnerable to soil erosion and sedimentation . So a integrated soil and water conservation plan should be prepared and implemented treating the entire landscape.

The mining in the area should be in consonance with the "Integrated Wildlife Management Plan" of North Karanpura.

A special team of "Subject Matter Specialists" may be constituted essentially soil Scientist, Agricultural Engineering , GIS specialist, etc. under the chairmanship of the Divisional Forest Officer, to monitor various studies to be conducted in the area specifically with regard to scientific study of soil erosion, water conservation, ecological restoration and other activities proposed by MoEF&CC from time to time and the team would be submitting the reports to the Divisional Forest Officer . This is specifically proposed taking in view the time and resource constraints at divisional level and the entire cost for the study and logistics should be borne by the user agency.

In addition to the above recommendations, options may be explored for underground mining of the present area.

  
**Divisional Forest Officer  
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