

Ref No: MCL/GM(BA)/FC/2023-24/ 992

Date: 22.11.2023.

To  
The Divisional Forest Officer  
Angul Division, Angul.

**Sub:** Submission of reply to Essential Details Sought in respect of proposal for seeking approval of Central Government under section 2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of 44.64 ha of Forest land and 13.09 ha. of Lookalike forest/ Deemed to be forest over Govt. Non-Forest land for coal mining at Bharatpur Open Cast Expansion Project of Bharatpur Area of MCL.

**Ref No:** 1. Proposal No. FP/OR/Min/153736/2022.  
2. Letter vide Memo No. 4985/5F.FC-108/2023 dated 09.11.2023.  
3. Memo vide no. 7366/DRP/2023 dated 10.11.2023.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above mentioned letter, the shortcomings found in the diversion proposal are compiled herewith. The point wise information is give below:

*1. Identification of suitable land for Compensatory Afforestation:-*

a. The proposal for diversion of 44.64 Ha. initially has been submitted in the parivesh portal on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 prior to the notification of Forest (Conservation) Rule, 2022 which came into force from 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022. MCL, Bharatpur OCP has identified degraded forest land in sunajhari RF of Bhuban Range and Ramei RF of Sadangi Range in Dhenkanal Division as the project could not get non-forest land for the purpose of compensatory afforestation prior to implementation of Forest (Conservation) Rule, 2022. However, identification of additional land in lieu of diversion of lookalike forest of 13.09 Ha. was taken up in January-2023 since the lookalike forest was included in the proposal after observations of DFO, Angul in December-2022.

b. Also Bharatpur OCP has identified an area of 65.74 ha. of biologically reclaimed non-forest land for the purpose of compensatory afforestation in line with the guidelines of accredited compensatory afforestation issued by MoEF&CC vide no. FC-11/159/2022-FC dated 24.01.2023. The map and KML file showing the biologically reclaimed non-forest land identified under ACA is attached along with the proposal and an undertaking is being submitted to handover the said quantum of land to the Forest department as per the Ministry's guidelines issued from time to time.

c. In the instant case, the project is submitting scheme for compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land and has also earmarked biologically reclaimed non-forest land for the purpose of compensatory afforestation. This would also help compensate the loss on forest cover and increase the notified forest area in the Talcher region. Considering the necessity of the diversion proposal, it is requested to kindly consider the degraded forest land identified at Dhenkanal division along with biologically reclaimed non-forest land identified under ACA.



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*II. Mismatch of pillar numbers in the field with reference to the DGPS map:-*

It is to inform that the discrepancy in marking the pillar numbers has been rectified and the pillar numbers are marked as per the DGPS surveyed map of ORSAC.

*III. Posting of pillars at required places:-*

The pillar posting has been done during 2020-21 and in the intervening period, some of the pillars got damaged/ lost. In view of this, pillar posting has been carried out again at required places.

In view of the above clarification, it is requested to consider the proposal for diversion of 44.64 ha. of forest land and 13.09 ha of lookalike forest for Bharatpur Open Cast Project of M/s MCL. This is for your kind information and needful action, please.

Yours Faithfully

*[Signature]*  
22/11/2023

General Manager  
Bharatpur Area

*[Signature]*

Copy to:

1. The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul.
2. The General Manager (E&F), MCL HQ.
3. The Project Officer, Bharatpur OCP.
4. The Staff Officer (Survey/Envy.), Bharatpur Area.
5. Office Copy.



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