

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Date of Inspection :- 19.01.2022

Officials present during inspection :-

1. Shri Ved Prakash Kamboj, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Ramgarh Forest Division.
2. Shri Girish Rathore, General Manager, Kotre Basantpur.
3. Shri Rajeshwar Reddy, GM,
4. Shri A.K. Sinha, GM Liasioning.
5. Shri Vivek Kumar, Assistant Manager, KBP.
6. Shri Bhuvaneshwar Mahto, Surveyor.
7. Shri Vinod Kumar, Range Forest Officer, Mandu.

M/s Central Coalfields Limited has applied for diversion of 633.19 ha of forest land in Ramgarh Forest Division for Kotre Basantpur Coal Mining Project under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. The proposed forest area falls under the villages Kotre, Basantpur and Pachanda villages of Ramgarh District. The village wise break up of Notified Forest land and GM Jungle Jhari land is the following:-

Name of Division	Name of Forest Range	Name of Village	Area of Protected Forest (ha.)	Area of GM JJ (ha)	Total Forest Area (ha)
Ramgarh Forest Division	Mandu	Kotre	328.92	49.42	378.34
		Basantpur	108.66	46.56	155.22
		Pachanda	60.28	39.35	99.63
		Total:-	497.86	135.33	633.19

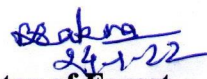
The type of forest in Kotre, Basantpur and Pachanda villages is Dry Deciduous Sal Forest and some Miscellaneous Forest. The tree species consists of Sal, Piya, Kend, Mahua, Sidha, Asan, Bhelwa, Dhautha (Dhaura), Koraiya, Putri, etc. The forests are Moderately Dense Forest. DFO, Ramgarh has assessed the density of forest as 0.65 and the site quality as Eco Class-III. I agree with the assessment of DFO, Ramgarh.

The area is undulating and highly prone to soil erosion. The forest area forms catchment of the seasonal nalas. The project proposes to divert the Chutua Nala. This will affect the hydrology of the area. Therefore, soil and moisture conservation as well as water harvesting plan in the catchment area of Chutua Nala should be prepared and executed.

No protected archaeological/heritage site/defence establishment or any other important monuments are located in the project area. The forest area proposed for diversion does not form a part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary and Biosphere/Reserve. The project area does not form part of eco-sensitive zone. But movement of elephant's herds through the proposed project area is seen. Hence there is a need for the preparation of a comprehensive wildlife management plan.

Out of 313.52 ha land proposed for external dumping, 306.05 ha is forest land. As per the information from M/s CCL, the forest area identified for external dumping lies in the northern part of Kotre Basantpur Pachmo OCP lease. The forest cover of this area is good and having slopes. M/s CCL should explore the possibility of reducing OB dumping area in forest. M/s CCL should consider the action points suggested by PCCF-cum-Executive Director, Wasteland Development Board, Jharkhand, Ranchi in the minutes of meeting of Kotre Basantpur Pachmo OCP of M/s CCL under the Chairmanship of PCCF-cum-ED Nodal, Jharkhand on the Oct, 2021 at Van Bhawan, Ranchi which has been issued and circulated vide memo no. 1327, dated 28.10.2021 of PCCF-cum-ED Nodal (Photo copy enclosed).

As the forest area required for diversion for Kotre Basantpur Coal Mines Project has a good reserve of economic coal which is site specific, the proposed 633.19 ha forest land diversion for coal mining is recommended under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 Rules/Guidelines.


**Conservator of Forest,
Territorial Circle, Bokaro**

**Minutes of Meeting of KotreBasantpur-Pachmo OCP of M/s CCL under
the chairmanship of PCCF-ED-Nodal Jharkhand on 8th October 2021 at
Van Bhawan, Ranchi.**

Attendance

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1	A.K. Rastogi, IFS	PCCF-cum-ED Nodal Jharkhand.
2	D. VENKATESWARLU, IFS	RCCF, Bokaro
3	VimalLakra, IFS	CF, Bokaro
4	VedPrakashKamboj, IFS	DFO, Ramgarh.
5	Soumitra Singh	GM, Environment
6	R. K. Rathor	GM, KBP, CCL
7	Sanjay Kumar	Project Director, KBP, CCL

A detailed presentation was made by the representative of M/s CCL on justification of locating KoterBasantpur-Pachmo OCP in Forest areas of Ramgarh and Bokaro Forest Division. The brief overview of the point mentioned by M/s CCL is as mentioned below:-

- KotreBasantpur-Pachmo OCP project is spread over an area of 1162.87 Ha (Ramgarh Division- 664.96 Ha, Bokaro Division - 497.94 Ha). The OCP has proven reserve of coking coal (washery grade) and is spread over an area of 6.75 Sq. Km in West Bokaro coal field.
- KotreBasantpur-Pachmo OCP is surround by CCL Parej coal mine in the east, CCL Kedla and CCL Jharkhand OCP in the South and metamorphic (Non coal bearing formation) in the north.
- Mining plan of KotreBasantpur-Pachmo OCP has been prepared by M/sCMPDI.
- Mining from KotreBasantpur-Pachmo OCP will be done from single pit in the entire lease area. Production will start from Ramgarh side i.e. KotreBasantpur area and then it will move to the Bokaro side i.e. Pachmo area.
- External dumping from OCP will start from year 1 of the production i.e. north- west side of the quarry and in pit dumping of will start from year 13 of the production.
- Over an entire period of production, the project will generate around 149.65 million tonnes of coal and 718.57 million cubic meters of dump. It was informed that about 30 ofOB needs tobe dumped externally for which around 313.52 ha land will be required. At the end of production phase, it was informed that due to swell factor and final void, the height of dumping area from MSL will be around 480m and mine void converted into water body will cover an area of 236.45ha
- Land use pre-mining stage and Land use post mining was discussed

After deliberating over the presentation, following action points was suggested to M/s

CCL:-

1. Initially the OB dumping is proposed in northern part of the coal block which is located at higher elevation than the mining area and is part of larger forested landscape. CCL was asked to explore the possibility of any other location like nearby pits of Kedla OCP, Jharkhand OCP, Parej OCP and coal block of CCL, non- forest lands, initial dumping in Pachmo OCP lease area etc. for dumping of OB dump so that the rich biodiversity of the area could be preserved.
2. CCL was instructed to explore the possibility of starting the mining operation from Pachmo OCP side so that OB dumping on northern side of the block can be avoided.
3. CCL to explore possibility of reducing forest area required for O.B. dump.
4. CCL should prepare the baseline data of drainage and silt deposit study of the entire mining lease area from year 0 and carry out the impact study at regular interval and prepare detailed catchment area treatment plan.
5. CCL should prepare mine closure plan along with progressive bio-reclamation plan of the entire mining lease.
6. As per the land use plan post mining of coal block, 236.45ha of the land will be converted into water body. CCL was asked to explore the possibility of using this area of 236.45ha for internal OB dumping instead of converting this large area into water body and were directed to reclaim entire area after mine is closed

Meeting ended with vote of thanks

Yours faithfully

Sd/-

PCCF-Cum-Executive Director,
Wasteland Development Board,
Ranchi, Jharkhand.

Memo no. 1327

Date 28/10/2021

Copy to:- RCCF, Bokaro/CF, Bokaro, DFO, Ramgarh/SoumitraSingh, HOD (E&F), Environment and Forest Department, Darbhanga House, CCL, Ranchi. for information.


PCCF-Cum-Executive Director,
Wasteland Development Board,
Ranchi, Jharkhand.