



वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्  
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**CENTRAL COALFIELDS LIMITED**

*A Miniratna Company*

(Govt. of India Undertaking)

Phone: (0651) 2365606, 2360479

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Website: www.centralcoalfields.in

CIN NO: U10200JH1956GOI000581

Website: http://www.centralcoalfields.in

Ref. No.: PO(KBP OCP)/2023-24/11

Date: 19/05/2023

To,

The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Bokaro Division  
Bokaro

Sub: Regarding proposal for non-forestry use of 350.15 Ha of forest land falls in Bokaro Division in respect of Kotre Basantpur Pachmo OCP, Hazaribagh Area, Central Coalfields Ltd.

- Ref: 1. FP/JH/MIN/39338/2019 dtd 18.03.2019  
2. Van Bhumi-06/2022-1521/V.P dtd 31.05.2022  
3. 08-08/2022-FC Dtd 01.12.2022  
4. 08-08/2022-FC Dtd 23.01.2023  
5. 08-08/2022-Fc dtd 27.02.2023

Respected Sir,

In reference to above mentioned letters this is to bring to your kind information that an application for diversion of 372.98 Ha of forest land for Kotre Basantpur Pachmo OCP, CCL was applied vide application no FP/JH/MIN/39338/2019 dtd 18.03.2019.

In this regard, vide F.NO. 08-08/2022-FC Dtd 01.12.2022, it was intimated that the FAC after going through the facts of the proposal, decided that the Committee will undertake a site visit to the area. Copy enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

Subsequently, vide F.NO. 08-08/2022-FC Dtd 23.01.2023, it was intimated that the Regional Office, IRO, Ranchi would conduct site visit of the area and submit a detailed report keeping in view the issues raised by the FAC (Copy of letter enclosed as **Annexure-II**).

Subsequently the Regional Officer, IRO, Ranchi conducted a site visit on 24.01.2023 and submitted a site inspection report (copy of report enclosed as **Annexure-III**).

Thereafter, the project was considered in FAC held on 27.01.2023 and was accorded Stage-I/ In - principal approval vide reference no 08-08/2022-FC dated 27.02.2023 (copy of Stage-I enclosed as **Annexure-IV**).

The MOEF& CC, accorded Stage-I approval for non-forestry use of 855.17 Ha (1006.17Ha -151Ha) of Forest after excluding 151 Ha of Forest land.

Accordingly, as per the directive of MOEF & CC, the Mine Plan and Safety Zone has been revised.

As per the revised Mine Plan, the revised forest area proposed to be diverted for non-forestry use at Bokaro Forest Division for KBP Project is 350.15 Ha against 372.98 Ha applied earlier in proposal no. FP/JH/MIN/39338/2019 Dtd 18.03.2019.

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PROJECT OFFICER  
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Kotre Basantpur Pachmo Coal Mine  
सी०सी०एल०, राँची  
C.C.L., Ranchi



This is to bring to your kind notice that demand note for payment of NPV amount of 350.15 Ha of Forest land has already been raised vide letter no 1069 dated 29.04.2023 (copy of letter enclosed as **Annexure-V**). However, for payment of the forest levies in CAMPA, the status of proposal in PARIVESH portal should reflect "In-Principle" so that the proposal gets mapped for payment on PARIVESH portal for uploading of demand note. Presently, the proposal at Online PARIVESH Portal is not reflecting "In-Principal", causing difficulty in submission of compensatory levies in CAMPA.

Therefore, it is humbly requested that this technical issue may kindly be resolved, so that the project proponent is able to submit the compensatory levies in CAMPA and subsequently compliances of Stage-I conditions could be submitted.

Thanking You.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully



Project Officer  
KBP OCP

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PROJECT OFFICER  
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C.C.L., Ranchi



File No.08-08/2022-FC

Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.

To

Dated: 01.12.2022

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
Government of Jharkhand,  
Ranchi.

Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 1,006.17 ha, comprising of 633.19 ha and 372.98 ha of forest land for Kotre, Basantpur Open Cast Mining Project in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited in Ramgarh and Bokaro district of Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter No. Van Bhumi-07/2022-2945/V.P. dated 30.09.2022 on above mentioned subject, forwarding additional information sought by the Ministry vide its letter dated 22.06.2022 and to say that the above proposal was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 07.11.2022. The detailed minutes of the said FAC meeting may be seen at [www.parivesh.nic.in](http://www.parivesh.nic.in). The FAC, after going through the facts of the proposal, decided that the Committee will undertake a site visit to the area. The time schedule of the meeting will be conveyed to the State in due course. After assessment of the situation, appropriate decision in the matter may be taken by the Committee in its subsequent meetings.

Signed by Charan Jeet  
Singh

Yours faithfully

Date: 02-12-2022 13:54:07  
Reason: Approved

Sd/-  
(Charan Jeet Singh)  
Scientist 'D'

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Ranchi.
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi
4. User Agency
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC
6. Guard file

आर एच सी

म. पर्यावरण एवं वन विभाग, राँची

272770

26 DEC 2022

परियोजना अधिकारी  
PROJECT OFFICER

कोतरे बसंतपुर पंचमो कोल माईन  
Kotre Basantpur Pachmo Coal Mine  
सीन्सीएल, राँची  
C.C.L., Ranchi



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,  
New Delhi - 110003.  
**Dated: 23rd January, 2023**

To

**The Regional Officer (Central),**  
Integrated Regional Office,  
Ranchi.

**Sub: Proposal for non-forestry use of 1,006.17 ha, comprising of 633.19 ha and 372.98 ha of forest land for Kotre, Basantpur Open Cast Mining Project in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited in Ramgarh and Bokaro district of Jharkhand.**

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the recommendations of Forest Advisory Committee meeting held on 7.11.2022 wherein FAC decided that the Committee will undertake a site visit to the area. After assessment of the situation, appropriate decision in the matter may be taken by the Committee in its next meeting.

In this regard it has been decided by the competent authority that the Regional Office, IRO Ranchi of this Ministry shall conduct a site visit of the area and submit a detailed report keeping in view the issues raised by the FAC. The report shall be submitted to the Ministry within three days.

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj  
Date: 23-01-2023 18:18:08  
Reason: Approved

Sd/-  
(Suneet Bhardwaj)  
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

**Copy to:**

1. The Principal Secretary (Forest), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
2. The Principal Chief Conservator Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF&CC.

  
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**SITE INSPECTION REPORT**

**Proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for diversion of 1006.17 ha. (633.19 ha. and 372.98 ha respectively) of forest land for Kotre-Basantpur Open Cast Coal Mines project in favour of M/s CCL in Ramgarh and Bokaro district of Jharkhand.**

The project was discussed in FAC held on 07.11.2022, after detailed discussion FAC decided that a committee would undertake a site visit to the area with especial emphasis on OB dumping area. Therefore, after FAC's decision on 23.01.2023 ministry vide letter no. 08-08/2022-FC dated 23.01.2023 requested IRO, Ranchi for site inspection. In pursuance to the instruction received by FAC/ministry IRO Ranchi undertook site inspection on 24/1/2023.

This area had been already inspected by AIGF of this office on 05.09.2023 and a detailed report has been submitted which emphasized that out of total applied area 1006.17 ha of forest land around 350 ha is for dumping of OB i.e. approx. one-third of overall proposed area for over burden dumping which is not site specific. Therefore, IRO suggested instead of using of about 350 ha of good forest land for OB dumping, either mechanism of internal dumping should be explored or other area in the vicinity should be identified which is out of forest land or it is very low in vegetation index.

So in this context and as per the request of ministry (HQ), this office made site inspection of proposed open cast coal mining site on 24.01. IRO visited the area proposed for over burden dumping. The area has fairly good vegetation and northern side of it has rich wildlife presence too (especially the area of about 44Ha marked in red circle below). The DFOs present there apprised of frequent elephant sighting in this area. The area is highlighted in the following image: -



The representative of CCL apprised the inspecting IRO that because of high depth of seam bed coupled with their steep inclination, downward internal dumping may not be feasible for

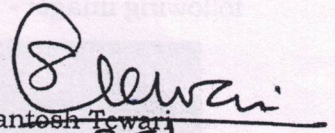


opening of the mine. Similarly, they informed the IRO that adjacent non-forest land could not be made available for OB dumping as either such area do fall under other leases or belong to hostile inhabitant. The north eastern extremities of the proposed over burden area has very high density of vegetation, which has high/rich biodiversity also (marked in red circle).

IRO, team instructed the user agency to examine the possibility of excluding the biologically rich area from the proposal. IRO also asked the representative of UA to provide data regarding their reclamation efforts after the mine closure. User agency acceded to the request of IRO and submitted that they would stretch the limits to exclude the high density area (25 Ha from the circle above).



Therefore, in absence of other dumping sites as well as the disproportionate amount of overburden likely to be generated, the proposal may be considered in light of Section 2 of FCA-1980 by reducing the 25Ha area of high vegetation in the dumping part as stated above.

  
Santosh Tewari

Dy. Director General of Forest  
IRO, Ranchi

  
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**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**  
**(Forest Conservation Division)**

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Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
 Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,  
 New Delhi – 110003.  
 Dated: 27th February, 2023

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),  
 Government of Jharkhand,  
 Ranchi.

**Subject: Proposal for non-forestry use of 855.17 ha (1006.17 ha -151 ha) of forest land for Kotre, Basantpur Open Cast Mining Project in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited in Ramgarh and Bokaro district of Jharkhand – regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Jharkhand's letter no. Van Bhumi-07/2022-1457/V.P. dated 24.05.2022 and letter no. Van Bhumi-06/2022-1521/V.P. dated 31.05.2022 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and letter no. Van Bhumi-07/2022-2945/V.P. dated 30.09.2022 forwarding additional information as sought by the Ministry vide its letter of even number dated 22.06.2022 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government hereby accords '**In-principle/Stage-I**' approval under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 855.17 ha (1006.17 ha -151 ha) of forest land for Kotre, Basantpur Open Cast Mining Project in favour of M/s Central Coalfields Limited in Ramgarh and Bokaro district of Jharkhand subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

**A. Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department and compliance is to be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:-**

1. Out of the total area proposed for overburden dump, approximately 151 ha area on the right side of the District boundary comprises VDF and MDF both. Keeping in view the non-site specific nature of the activity, this 151 ha area cannot be given for overburden dump. The State Govt. shall accordingly submit the revised layout plan and the mining plan by excluding the above mentioned forest area.
2. After excluding the 151 ha as above, the safety zone shall also be revised and adequate provision for the same will be kept in the Mining plan.
3. As Reported by IRO the encroachments both temporary and permanent have been observed in the proposed CA areas and there is a water body within one patch making it unsuitable for plantation. The State Govt. shall ensure to make all the proposed CA areas free from all encumbrances and submit a detailed report in this regard before Stage-II approval.

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27/02/23



4. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars, if required on the CA land, shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the user agency. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include afforestation of indigenous species with appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
5. The User Agency shall transfer the funds towards the cost of Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal in accordance with the MoEF&CC's guidelines dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 19.01.2022;
6. Compensatory levies to be realized from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited, through e-challan, in to the account of CAMPA pertaining to the State concerned through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
7. The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, if any, on the forest land to be diverted and submit the documentary evidence, along with compliance of Stage-I approval, as prescribed by this Ministry's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (Pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof;
8. The User Agency shall prepare a list of existing village tanks and other water bodies with GPS co-ordinates located within five km from the mine lease boundary. This list is to be duly verified by the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. The User Agency shall regularly undertake de-silting of these village tanks and other water bodies so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies. A detailed plan for de-silting of identified ponds and water bodies prepared in consultation with forest department shall be submitted;
9. The KML files of diverted area, the CA areas, the proposed SMC treatment area and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details prior to Stage II approval;
10. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

**B. Conditions which need to be complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:-**

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. A proper Soil moisture conservation plan shall be prepared in consultation with the State Govt. and executed to mitigate the adverse effect of mining activities in the area. The due care shall be taken towards the rehabilitation of the local streams passing through the area.
3. Wildlife Management plan shall be prepared and implemented at the cost of the user agency. The approved Wildlife management plan shall be submitted and the applicable cost shall be deposited as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry in this regard.
4. Compensatory afforestation over degraded forest land, double in extent to the forest land being diverted, shall be raised by the State Forest Department at the project cost within three years from the date of grant of Stage - II approval;
5. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user

  
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 C.C.L., Ranchi



- agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
6. The user agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
  7. The cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
  8. Trees should be felled in phased manner as per the requirement in the approved Mining Plan with prior permission of concerned DFO;
  9. The User Agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the User Agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Government and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the concern Addl. Principle Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed;
  10. The User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order on re-grassing, and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc. in a timely manner;
  11. Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
  12. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
  13. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
  14. The boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone, as applicable, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS coordinates;
  15. Following activities, as per approved plan / schemes, shall be undertaken in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with compliance of Stage-I approval:
    - i. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three year with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
    - ii. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
    - iii. Construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated

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- material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;
- iv. Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 280; and
  - v. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.

16. The User agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.40), if any, located in the area within 100 meter from outer perimeter of the mining lease. The plan for plantation and SMC activities shall be prepared and submitted accordingly;

**17. Safety Zone Management:** Following activities, at project cost, shall be undertaken by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines:

- i. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5 meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing, protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing and deploying adequate number of watchers under the supervision of the. State Forest Department;
- ii. Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency;
- iii. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department;
- iv. Afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department. The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MoEF& CC with shape files before Stage-II approval and afforestation will be done within three years from the date of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department; and
- v. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms;

18. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;

19. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

20. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

21. The User Agency shall submit the annual self -compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;

22. Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate

  
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with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife;

23. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order (s) and NGT Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project; and

24. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

(Suneet Bhardwa)

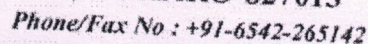
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrate Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Ranchi;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.

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