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STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ODISHA
BHUBANESWAR

No. 18092 /9F (MG) - 1/2018
Dated, Bhubaneswar the 15th October, 2020

From

Jitendra Kumar, IFS
Principal CCF (FD & NO, FC Act),
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC),
Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi-110003.

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 120.838 ha of forest land u/s 2(ii) and for according permission u/s 2(iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980 for entire forest land 126.401 ha including safety zone area of 5.563 ha in favour of M/s Essar Steel India Limited within their allotted Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Block of 139.165 ha located in village Sagasahi, Kalmang, Ghoraburhani and Mendhamaruni PRF-I in Koira Tehsil and Koira Range under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, Odisha

Ref:- GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi Letter F.No. 8-55/2018-FC dated 06.03.2019.

Sir,

In inviting reference to the above mentioned subject, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi have accorded Stage-I approval vide their Letter F. No. 8-55/2018-FC dated 06.03.2019 for diversion of 120.838 ha of forest land u/s 2(ii) and for according permission u/s 2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980 for entire forest land 126.401 ha including safety zone area of 5.563 ha in favour of M/s Essar Steel India Limited within their allotted Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Block of 139.165 ha located in village Sagasahi, Kalmang, Ghoraburhani and Mendhamaruni PRF-I in Koira Tehsil and Koira Range under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, Odisha subject to fulfilment of 27(twenty seven) nos. of conditions stipulated therein. Further, Government in F&E Department have imposed 5 (five) nos. of additional conditions. The User Agency has complied all the conditions imposed by Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi as well as State Government. The point wise compliance based on the report of the DFO, Bonai Division and RCCF, Rourkela Circle are as follows:-

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Condition No.(i): Legal Status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has furnished an undertaking that the legal status of forest land proposed for diversion shall remain unchanged which is enclosed as Annexure-1.

Condition No.(ii): Compensatory afforestation shall be raised over the non-forest land equal in extent to the forest land being diverted within three years of Stage-II Clearance and maintained thereafter by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency and at least 1000 plants per hectare (120.838 ha x 1000= 120838 plants) shall be planted over identified non-forest land. If it is not possible to plant so many saplings in the area identified for CA, the balance saplings will be planted in any other forests as per prescriptions of approved working plan with provision for ten years on subsequent maintenance

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an extent of 120.838 ha. of non-forest land has been identified in village Podadihi under Bansapal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District. The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been prepared over 120.838 ha of non-forest land in Keonjhar Forest Division. The above Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been technically approved by the PCCF (FD & NO FC Act) for Rs.2,63,49,000/- at the then wage rate of Rs.298/- per manday (without 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures) and for Rs.3,11,76,400/- at the then wage rate of Rs.298/- per manday which includes 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures. And lastly, the said scheme has again been technically approved by the PCCF (FD & NO FC Act) for Rs.3,15,84,200/- (which includes 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures) at current wage rate of Rs 303.40 per manday. A copy of the said scheme alongwith the financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-2.

In this context, it is pertinent to mention that the user agency has deposited the CA cost of Rs.3,15,84,200/- in three phases. In the first phase, the user agency has deposited Rs.2,63,49,000/- in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611193 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020012900056060 dated 29.01.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2A. In the second phase, the user agency has deposited the differential amount of Rs.48,27,400/- (Rs.3,11,76,400/- – Rs.2,63,49,000/-) in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611178 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020090100088349 dated 01.09.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2B.

In the third phase, the user agency has deposited the differential amount of Rs.4,07,800/- (cost of CA of Rs.3,15,84,200/- @ Rs.303.40 per MD – cost of CA of Rs.3,11,76,400/- @ Rs.298/- per MD which includes 25% CA cost) in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611490 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020091600128603 dated 16.09.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2C.

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Condition No.(iii): 25% of CA cost will be deposited extra by the user agency for soil and moisture conservation (SMC) activities on the CA land.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the approved Compensatory Afforestation Scheme for Rs.3,15,84,200/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD includes 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures amounting to Rs.35,44,597/- and the same has been deposited by the User Agency as per the deposit particulars mentioned in Condition No.(ii) above.

Condition No.(iv): The 5.563 ha of proposed safety zone shall be maintained as tree cover and should be enriched with indigenous species.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Scheme for Fencing, Protection and Regeneration of the Safety Zone over 6.755 ha (Forest-5.563 ha + Non-forest-1.192 ha) has been technically approved by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle for Rs.35,81,700/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD. The copy of approved Scheme is enclosed as Annexure-3 and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-3A.

The RCCF, Rourkela Circle has further reported that the Scheme will be implemented by the User Agency as per prescriptions of the approved Scheme. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as Annexure-3B.

Condition No.(v): The admissible identified non-forest land for raising compensatory afforestation shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of the Stage-II clearance and the same shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-20 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section (s) of the local Forest Act, as the case may be, within a period of six months. The Nodal Officer (Forest Conservation) shall report compliance in this regard;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an extent of extent of 120.838 ha of non-forest land has been identified in village Podadihi under Bansapal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District for raising Compensatory Afforestation which has already been transferred and mutated in favour of State Forest Department vide Khata No.1/1 of Bansapal Tahsil. A copy of the RoR is enclosed as Annexure-4. Further, the draft notification proposal for declaration of non-forest Govt. land identified in village- Podadihi under Bansapal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District having area 120.838 ha (298.565 Ac) as "Protected Forests" under Section 33 of Odisha Forest Act, 1972 has been transmitted to the Government in F & E Department vide this office Letter No. 16772 dated 24.09.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-4 A.

Condition No.(vi): Following activities shall be undertaken by the user agency at the project cost:
a. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three years with effect from the issue of Stage-II clearance in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the scheme for mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle for

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Rs.12,08,71,200/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. The copy of approved scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-5** and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as **Annexure-5A**. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as **Annexure-5B**.

b. 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;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the scheme for planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle for Rs.2,66,56,200/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. The copy of approved Scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-6** and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as **Annexure-6A**. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as **Annexure-5B**.

c. Construction of check dams, retention/toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the scheme for construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. The copy of approved scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-7** and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as **Annexure-7A**. Budgetary provision for this scheme has already been made in the Scheme prepared in compliance with Condition No.(vi) (a) above. Hence, no budgetary provision has been suggested. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as **Annexure-5B**.

d. 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 28° and

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the scheme to 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 28° has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. The copy of approved scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-8** and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as **Annexure-8A**. Budgetary provision for this scheme has already been made in the Scheme prepared in compliance with Condition No.(vi) (a) above. Hence, no budgetary provision has been suggested. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as **Annexure-5B**.

e. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the scheme for top soil management has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle for Rs.32,82,500/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. The copy of approved scheme is enclosed as **Annexure-9** and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as **Annexure-9A**. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as **Annexure-5B**.

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Condition No.(vii): The land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50000 scale.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that 120.838 ha of non-forest land been identified in village Podadihi under Bansapal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District identified for compensatory afforestation has been clearly depicted on survey of India Topo Sheet No F45N6 in 1:50,000 scale and the same has been authenticated by the Tahasildar Banspal and Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar Division which is enclosed as Annexure-10.

Condition No.(viii): The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an extent of 120.838 ha. of non-forest land has been identified in village Podadihi under Bansapal Tahasil of Keonjhar Forest Division in Keonjhar District. The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been prepared over 120.838 ha of non-forest land in Keonjhar Forest Division. The above Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been technically approved by the PCCF (FD & NO FC Act) for Rs.2,63,49,000/- at the then wage rate of Rs.298/- per manday (without 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures) and for Rs.3,11,76,400/- at the then wage rate of Rs.298/- per manday which includes 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures. And lastly, the said scheme has again been technically approved by the PCCF (FD & NO FC Act) for Rs.3,15,84,200/- (which includes 25% of CA cost towards SMC measures) at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per manday. A copy of the said scheme alongwith the financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-2.

In this context, the user agency has deposited the CA cost of Rs.3,15,84,200/- in three phases. In the first phase, the user agency has deposited Rs.2,63,49,000/- in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611193 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020012900056060 dated 29.01.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2A. In the second phase, the user agency has deposited the differential amount of Rs.48,27,400/- (Rs.3,11,76,400 – Rs.2,63,49,000) in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611178 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020090100088349 dated 01.09.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2B.

In the third phase, the user agency has deposited the differential amount of Rs.4,07,800/- (cost of CA of Rs.3,15,84,200/- @ Rs.303.40 per MD – cost of CA of Rs.3,11,76,400/- @ Rs.298/- per MD which includes 25% CA cost) in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611490 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020091600128603 dated 16.09.2020 which is enclosed as Annexure-2C.

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Condition No.(ix): The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme include the escalation cost of 20% of total Plantation cost for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years. The User Agency shall transfer the funds for the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No.5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 through online portal of CAMPA account of the State Concerned;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has deposited Rs.13,01,02,069/- which includes Rs.11,86,90,539/- towards NPV for the entire forest area, i.e. 126.401 ha @ Rs.9.39 Lakh per ha in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611593 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52019062000060082 dated 20.06.2019. The copy of the demand notice of DFO, Bonai and the payment receipts are enclosed as Annexure-11 and 11A respectively.

The above said forest area falls under Eco Value Class-I and the canopy density is 0.6.

Condition No.(x): At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the present rate, the user 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;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India which is enclosed as Annexure-12.

Condition No.(xi): Fencing, protection and regeneration of the Safety Zone area [7.5 meters' strip shall be kept within the mining lease boundary and area of the safety zone shall be part of the total area of mining lease as per the Ministry's guideline dated 27.05.2015] shall be done within three years at the project cost from the issue of Stage-II Clearance. Besides this, afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere measuring one & a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost. The degraded forest land (DFL) so selected will be informed to the MOEF & CC with shape files 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;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Scheme for Fencing, Protection and Regeneration of the **Safety Zone** over 6.755 ha (Forest-5.563 ha + Non-forest-1.192 ha) has been technically approved by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle for Rs.35,81,700/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD. The copy of approved Scheme is enclosed as Annexure-3 and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-3A.

The RCCF, Rourkela Circle has further reported that the Scheme will be implemented by the User Agency as per prescriptions of the approved Scheme. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as Annexure-3B.

Further, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that an extent of 8.345 ha of degraded forest land has been identified in West Dandpat RF of Bonai Range of Bonai forest Division for 1.5 times **Safety Zone** Afforestation. The said scheme has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela Circle for Rs.63,75,500/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD. The copy of approved scheme is enclosed as Annexure-13 and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-13A.

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Condition No.(xii): User Agency should ensure that the Compensatory levies (CA cost, NPV etc.) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank online only. Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, all the funds received from the User Agency have been transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA through online portal of Ad-hoc CAMPA account. The details of the following amounts deposited by the User Agency is furnished below:

Sl No	Type of deposit {NPV/CA/ IWMP/ Others (specify)}	Whether by RTGS /DD / NEFT (Specify)	UTR/ DD No.	Amount deposited (in Rs)	Date of deposit	Name of Bank from which amount transferred to account of CAF	Bank Account of CAF managed by CAMPA in which fund deposited	Deposited with
i)	NPV	Online	UTR No. SBINR5201906200 0060082	Rs.11,86,90,539/- Part of deposit of 13,01,02,069/-	20.06.2019	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No. 150825818611593 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA
ii)	Regional Wildlife Management Plan	Online	UTR No. SBINR5201906200 0060082	Rs 1,14,11,530/- Part of deposit of 13,01,02,069/-	20.06.2019	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No. 150825818611593 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA
iii)	CA	Online	UTR No. SBINR5202001290 0056060	2,63,49,000/-	29.01.2020	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No.15082581861119 3 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA
iv)	Differential CA	Online	UTR No. SBINR5202009010 0088349	48,27,400/-	01.9.2020	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No.15082581861117 8 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA
v)	Differential CA	Online	UTR No. SBINR5202009160 0128603	4,07,800/-	16.9.2020	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No.15082581861149 0 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA
vi)	Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan	Online	UTR No. SBINR5202002190 0045124	8,11,13,100/-	19.02.2020	SBI, Hazira Branch, Surat	A/c No.15082581861155 5 Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Block-11, CGO Complex Phase-I Lodhi Road New Delhi	Ad-hoc CAMPA

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The details of the funds deposited by the user agency through online portal in Adhoc-CAMPA in prescribed format duly signed by DFO, Bonai and countersigned by PCCF (FD & NO, FC Act) is enclosed as Annexure-13B.

Condition No.(xiii): *State Govt. shall complete settlement of rights, in terms 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 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.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Collector, Sundargarh has issued required certificate in prescribed format in Form No.II under Forest Rights Act,2006 over 126.401 ha of forest land vide Letter No.1523 dated 23.6.2018 of Addl. District Magistrate, Sundargarh which is enclosed as Annexure-14.

Condition No.(xiv): *Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of Mining Lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and rules framed there-under.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the user agency has furnished an undertaking that the Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of Mining Lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and rules framed there-under which is enclosed as Annexure-15.

Condition No.(xv): *The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Environmental Clearance has been granted vide Letter F.No.J-11015-192/2016-IA. II (M) dated 28.05.2020 of the MoEF & CC Impact Assessment Division, New Delhi which is enclosed as Annexure-16.

Condition No.(xvi): *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;*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to the effect that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land and they shall provide 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 which is enclosed as Annexure-17.

Condition No.(xvii): *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 co-ordinates;*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the boundary of the diverted forest land, mining lease and safety zone has been demarcated on the ground at the project cost by erecting four feet high RCC pillars and each pillar is inscribed with its serial number, DGPS co-ordinates and distance from pillar to pillar.

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Condition No.(xviii): The layout plan of the 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;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking that the layout plan of the Mining Plan/ proposal will not be changed without prior approval of the Central Govt. and the forest land will not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal which is enclosed as Annexure-18.

Condition No.(xix): 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.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking that 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 Govt. which is enclosed as Annexure-19.

Condition No.(xx): No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused which is enclosed as Annexure-20.

Condition No.(xxi): 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,

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to 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 which is enclosed as Annexure-21.

Condition No.(xxii): User agency either himself or through the State Forest Department shall undertake gap planting and soil and 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 m from outer perimeter of the Mining Lease. The plan for plantation and SMC activities will be prepared and submitted to MoEF & CC before Stage-II Clearance;

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Scheme for Gap Planting, Soil and moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forest (having crown density less than 0.40) has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela for Rs.35,27,100/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD. The copy of approved Scheme is enclosed as Annexure-22 and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-22A. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as Annexure-22B.

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Condition No.(xxiii): 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 the 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 executed by the User Agency, the Nodal Officer or the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking that mining will be done in a phased manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area and the concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved Mining Plan shall be executed by them from the very first year and the annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Regional office of the Ministry which is enclosed as Annexure-23.

Condition No.(xxiv): 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 desilting of these village tanks and other water bodies so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/water bodies. A detailed approved plan for desilting of identified ponds and water bodies to be prepared in consultation with forest department and shall be submitted to MoEF & CC before Stage-II approval.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the Scheme for de-siltation of the village tank and other water bodies located within 5 Km from the mine lease boundary so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks/ water bodies has been technically approved by RCCF, Rourkela for Rs.50,68,700/- at current wage rate of Rs.303.40 per MD. The copy of approved Scheme is enclosed as Annexure-24 and the revised financial outlay is enclosed as Annexure-24A. An undertaking to this effect submitted by the User Agency is enclosed as Annexure-24B.

Condition No.(xxv): 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; and

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking to submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office of MoEF & CC and to the Ministry by the end of March every year which is enclosed as Annexure-25.

Condition No.(xxvi): Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest and wildlife; and

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to comply with any other condition that the concerned Regional Office, MoEF & CC may stipulate with the approval of competent authority in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest and wildlife which is enclosed as Annexure-26.

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Condition No.(xxvii): 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.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to comply all the provisions of 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 which is enclosed as **Annexure-27**.

Additional Condition imposed by the State Govt. vide Letter No.10F(Cons) 26/2018-6090/F&E dated 25.03.2019

Condition No.(a): The User Agency shall pay towards cost of removal of trees enumerated before commencement of work on Stage-II approval / execution of lease deed and tree felling should be taken up in phases strictly as per requirement under the supervision of the Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Forest Division.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking that they shall pay towards cost of removal of trees enumerated before commencement of work on Stage-II approval / execution of lease deed and tree felling should be taken up in phases strictly as per requirement under the supervision of the Divisional Forest Officer, Bonai Forest Division which is enclosed as **Annexure-28**.

Condition No.(b): The User Agency shall pay towards cost for implementation of Regional Wildlife Management Plan as per revised cost norm. Besides, Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan pertaining to the project as well as its impact shall also be prepared as per guidelines of CWLW, Odisha and the same be approved by the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha. The project proponent shall implement the approved components of the Plan within the leasehold area at their cost and also pay towards approved cost of components of the Plan in the project impact area. They shall furnish an undertaking to execute the Plan within the leasehold area at their cost.

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has deposited Rs.13,01,02,069/- which includes Rs.1,14,11,530/- towards the cost of Regional Wildlife Management Plan fund for the entire lease area of 139.165 ha. @ Rs.82,000/- per hectare in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No.150825818611593 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52019062000060082 dated 20.06.2019. The copy of the demand notice of DFO, Bonai and the payment receipts are already enclosed as **Annexure-11 and 11A respectively**.

Further, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan has been approved by the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha vide his Memo No.6757 dated 13.08.2019 for Rs.1367.261 Lakh [Activities to be implemented by the User Agency in project area – Rs.556.130 Lakhs (+) Activities to be implemented by DFO, Bonai in project impact area – Rs.811.131 Lakhs]. A copy of the said letter is enclosed as **Annexure-29**. The User Agency has

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deposited Rs.8,11,13,100/- towards Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan in Adhoc-CAMPA Account No. 150825818611555 in Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex Branch, Lodhi Road, New Delhi vide UTR No. SBINR52020021900045124 dated 19.02.2020. The copy of the demand notice of DFO, Bonai and the payment receipts are already enclosed as **Annexure-29A and 29B** respectively.

Further, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking to implement the approved components of the above said plan within the lease hold area as per approved cost which is enclosed as **Annexure-29C**.

Condition No.(c): *The user agency shall undertake demarcation of the lease area on the ground posting four feet high cement concrete pillars embedded two feet inside the soil with serial number, forward and backward bearings, and distance from pillar to pillar. The user agency shall also submit the map of lease area showing different kinds of forest land using DGPS survey data and latitude and longitude of each pillar to the Divisional Forest Officer, Keonjhar for his reference before commencement of work on final forest clearance.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the boundary of the lease area has been demarcated on the ground by posting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars embedded two feet inside the soil with serial number, forward and backward bearings, and distance from pillar to pillar.

Further, the map of lease area showing different kinds of forest land using DGPS survey data and latitude and longitude of each pillar furnished by the RCCF, Rourkela Circle and duly countersigned by Tehsildar, Koira, DFO, Bonai and authenticated by ORSAC is enclosed as **Annexure-30**.

Condition No.(d): *Mining operation is subject to having valid lease as per provision of MMDR Act.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the DFO, Bonai division will ensure that the mining operations shall be subject to having valid lease as per provision of MMDR Act. Further, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking to this effect which is enclosed as **Annexure-31**.

Condition No.(e): *The user agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance from MoEF & CC. They may obtain Consent to Establish / Consent to Operate in favour of the project from the SPCB, Odisha before commencement of mining operation.*

Compliance:- In compliance to the above, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the Environmental Clearance has been granted vide Letter No.J-11015-192/2016-IA. II (M) dated 28.05.2020 of the MoEF & CC Impact Assessment Division, New Delhi which is already enclosed as **Annexure-16**.

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Further, the RCCF, Rourkela Circle has reported that the User Agency has obtained Consent to Establish from the SPCB, Odisha vide Letter No.459/IND-II-NOC-6124 dt.11.01.2018 which is enclosed as **Annexure-32**. Besides, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking that they will submit the Consent to Operate after receiving the same from competent authority before commencement of the Mining Operation which is enclosed as **Annexure-33**.

In view of the above, the compliance to the conditions imposed by Government of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi is sent herewith for according final approval for diversion of 120.838 ha of forest land u/s 2(ii) and for according permission u/s 2(iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act'1980 for entire forest land 126.401 ha including safety zone area of 5.563 ha in favour of M/s Essar Steel India Limited within their allotted Ghoraburhani-Sagasahi Iron Ore Block of 139.165 ha located in village Sagasahi, Kalmang, Ghoraburhani and Mendhamaruni PRF-I in Koira Tehsil and Koira Range under Bonai Forest Division of Sundargarh District, Odisha under Section 2 Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl: Stage-I Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully,

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
14/10/20

Memo No. 18093

1/Dt., 15.10.2020

Memo No. 18093 /Dt. 10.10.2020
Copy alongwith one set of Stage-I compliance forwarded to the Deputy Director General of
Forests (Central), MoEF & CC, Government of India, ERO, A/3, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar
for information and necessary action. T A

Encl: Stage-I Compliance in one set

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
14/182

Memo No 18094

/ Dts. 15.10.2020

Memo No. 18094 /Dt. 15.10.2019
Copy alongwith one set of Stage-I compliance forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest & Environment Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action with reference to F&E Department Letter No. 10F(Cons) 26/2018/6090/F&E dated 25.03.2019. 

Encl: Stage-I Compliance in one set

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act

Memo No. 18095

1 Dt. 15. 10. 2020

Memo No. 18045 Dt. 15.10.2020
Copy forwarded to the RCCF, Rourkela Circle for information and necessary action with
reference to his memo no. 3507 dated 21.09.2020. T. I

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
14/11/20

Memo No. 18096

/Dt. 15.10.2020

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Copy forwarded to the DFO, Bonai Forest division for information and necessary action with reference to memo no. 3508 dated 21.09.2020 of RCCF, Rourkela Circle to his address.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
14/10/20

Memo No. 18097

/Dt. 15.10.2020

Copy forwarded to M/s Essar Steel India Ltd., At/Po-Dubuna, Via-Joda, Dist-Keonjhar, Odisha, for information and necessary action.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act
14/10/20

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