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No.J-11015/218/2007-IA.II(M)
 Government of India
 Ministry of Environment & Forests

(P & P.) Directorate

N. C. L.

Receipt No. MIN/106

Date

27-8-07

Parivarjan Bhawan,
 C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
 New Delhi - 110003.Dated: 20th August 2007

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To
 Chief General Manager,
 M/s Northern Coalfields Ltd.,
 Sonebhadra District (U.P.) - 231220.

Sub: Kakri Expansion Opencast Coal Mine Project (production from 3 MTPA to 4 MTPA in a lease area of 828 ha) of M/s Northern Coalfields Ltd. (NCL), located near village Kakri, Tehsil Dudhi, District Sonebhadra, Uttar Pradesh - environmental clearance - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to letter No. 43011/49/2007 dated 03.03.2007 of ministry of Coal forwarding your application and your subsequent letter dated 14.06.2007 on the above-mentioned subject. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has considered your application. It has been noted that the application is for expansion of the existing Kakri Opencast Project in terms of production capacity from 3 MTPA to 4 MTPA. Environmental clearance was granted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests vide letter No. J-11015/176/2003-IA.II(M) dated 11.05.2005. There is no increase in lease area of 828 ha. Forestry clearance has been obtained on 30.05.1989 for 185.84ha. Coal from CHP is dispatched to the TPS is through controlled loading system mounted over MGR loop line. The existing equipment, CHP capacity and the MGR line are adequate to meet the enhanced coal production. Mineral and OB transportation would be by increasing the capacity of dumpers from 50-T to 85-T capacity. Post mining land use would be the same as in the project approved for 3 MTPA. Maximum working depth remains 182 m for the expansion project. The total area that would be afforested would be 502 ha and a water reservoir of 49 ha would be left in the decorated void. There is no change in the quantum of OB excavation and no change in pit and dump design as a result of accelerated OB generation. Dumping of OB of 38.5 Mm³ Mm³ would be in external dump of 125 ha and 44.57 of OB would be backfilled in a void of 196 ha. There will be no change in the annual demand of water of 1053 m³/d which is being drawn from Gobind Ballabh Pant Sagar. The increase of water req. from 2693 m³/d to 3013 m³/d would be met from mine seepage water. The mine water discharge will increase from 2106 m³/d at 3 MTPA to 2550 m³/d at 4 MTPA. Capacity of CHP, ETP and workshop to treat the effluents is adequate to meet the additional wastewater generated. ETP sludge (3140 T/Y) would be disposed off by suitable land farming and STP sludge (1001/Y) will be used for horticulture and agriculture. The enhanced production of 4 MTPA would be achieved through increasing the productivity of equipment and personnel and number of working days. Balance life of the mine is 6 years. Capital cost of the project is 136.59 crores. Public Hearing was held for the project at 3 MTPA capacity on 09.04.2004.

2. The Ministry of Environment & forests hereby accords environmental clearance for the above-mentioned Kakri Expansion Opencast Coal Mine Project of M/s Northern Coalfields Ltd. for expansion in production of coal from 3 MTPA to 4 MTPA rated capacity in 2008.

CC
 C.M. (Env)
 C.M. (COP)
 C.M. Kakri
 AD CM P.D.J. R.P. II

Mr. O (Env)
 Surveyor
 Aided
 11-08-07

27/8/07

existing lease area of 878 ha under Section 7.2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments thereto and under Para 2.1.1 of MOEF Circular dated 13.10.2006 subject to the compliance of the following terms and conditions mentioned below:

- (i) Mining operations during the balance life of mine shall be carried out as per the approved Mining Plan
- (ii) The expansion in production shall be achieved with no change in the quantum of CB generation and no change in the pit and dump design. Monitoring and management of existing reclaimed dumpsites should continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and its Regional office located at Lucknow on yearly basis.
- (iii) No additional external source of water shall be required for the expansion, the increase of water requirement from 2693 m³/d to 3083 m³/d shall be met from mine seepage water.
- (iv) The CHP shall be fully enclosed and provided with bag filters which are regularly operated and maintained.
- (v) A progressive afforestation plan shall be implemented covering a total area of 502 ha, which includes reclaimed external OB dump, backfilled area along ML boundary and green belt, along roads (9.5 ha), colony (46 ha) and along vacant land by planting native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha.
- (vii) Of the excavated area of 245 ha, an area of 196 ha shall be backfilled and reclaimed with plantation and the balance 49 ha of the decolored void being converted into a water reservoir would be gently sloped and the higher benches of which shall be stabilised by plantation/afforestation by planting native plant species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha.
- (viii) A detailed Mine Closure Plan along with details of post mining liabilities with physical and financial targets shall be submitted to this Ministry and to the Regional office located at Lucknow within six months of issuance of this clearance letter.

3. The above conditions are in addition to the conditions stipulated under environmental clearance letter No. J-11015/176/2003-LA.II(M) dated 11.05.2005.

4. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

5. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

6. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act,

1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules.

(Dr. T. Chandini)
Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, Shastry Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Environment Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Secretariat, Lucknow.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, B-1/272, Sector K, Allganj, Lucknow - 226020.
4. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi -110032.
5. Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
6. Shri M.K. Shukla, CGM, Coal India Limited, SCOPE Minar, Core-I, 4th Floor, Vikas Marg, Laxminagar, New Delhi.
7. District Collector, Sonebhadra, Government of Uttar Pradesh.
8. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
9. Monitoring File 10. Guard File 11. Record File