

F. No. 8-01/2016-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 11th May, 2017

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forest),
Government of Jharkhand
Ranchi

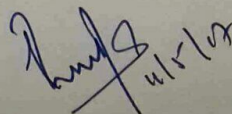
Sub: Diversion of 134.424 ha of forest land for Jaduguda Uranium Ore Mining and Uranium Ore Processing Plant Project in Village Ichra, Mechuya and Tilaitand, Tehsil Dhalbhumgarh, District East Singhbhum Jharkhand by M/s Uranium Corporation of India Limited(UCIL).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Govt. of Jharkhand' letter No Van Bhoomi -21/2015-362 dated 22.01.2016 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

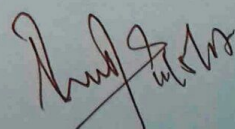
After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the Forest Advisory Committee, *Stage-I/In-principle* approval of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of 134.424 ha of forest land for Jaduguda Uranium Ore Mining and Uranium Ore Processing Plant Project in Village Ichra, Mechuya and Tilaitand, Tehsil Dhalbhumgarh, District East Singhbhum Jharkhand by M/s Uranium Corporation of India Limited(UCIL) subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) 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;
- (iii) The user agency shall pay the NPV for the surface area and underground area put to non-forestry use as per the existing norms prescribed in pursuance to the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in this regard.
- (iv) Penal NPV to the amount equal to the normal NPV as compensation for period under of technical violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to be paid by the user agency.
- (v) This approval is valid upto the end of the period of lease i.e 15/10/2027.
- (vi) The State Government should take adequate action against the officials responsible for the violation.
- (vii) Any fund received from the user agency under the project, except the funds realized for regeneration/ demarcation of safety zone, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA through online portal of Ad-hoc CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- (viii) Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area [7.5 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area] shall be done within three year 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;

- (ix) 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;
- (x) 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 Addl. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities area satisfactorily executed.
- (xi) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and under strict supervision of the State Forest Department, and all possible efforts will be made to retain tree growth.
- (xii) Following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department:
 - a) 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.
 - 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;
 - 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;
 - 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
 - e) No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.
- (xiii) 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 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;
- (xiv) 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 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;
- (xv) The User agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (xvi) No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be



submitted with emphasis that no labour camp shall be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas.

- (xvii) The user agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage / felling of trees.
- (xviii) No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- (xix) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (xx) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person.
- (xxi) Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures along the roads within the area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- (xxii) The user agency shall take up protection and conservation measures for wildlife found in the areas in consultation with State Forest department.
- (xxiii) The State Government shall complete settlement of rights, in terms of the Scheduled Tribes and Other 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 in its letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013, in support thereof;
- (xxiv) The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
- (xxv) Any other condition that the Regional Office , Ranchi of this Ministry, may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xxvi) The State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project

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,

(Rajagopal Prashant)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Nodal Officer, FCA O/o PCCF, Forest Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranch
3. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office (Eastern Central Zone), Bunglow No. A-2, Syamali Colony, Ranchi – 834002.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.

(Rajagopal Prashant)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)