

CHECK LIST SERIAL NUMBER: - 10

Justification for locating the Project in Forest area.

Introduction:

Odisha Coal and Power Limited (OCPL) is a company incorporated under the Companies Act 2013, India. OCPL is a Government company as defined by Section 2(45) of the Companies Act, 2013. OCPL was formed as a joint venture Company of Odisha Power Generation Corporation Limited (OPGC) and Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Limited (OHPC), with a shareholding pattern of 51% and 49% respectively. Currently, OCPL has been allocated with two coal blocks, namely Manoharpur and Dip-side Manoharpur by Ministry of Coal, Government of India for captive use of OPGC power plant located at Banharpali, Jharsuguda, Odisha.

Background:

Manoharpur Coal Block was allocated by Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India to Odisha Power Generation Corporation Limited (OPGC) vide their letter No.13016/8/2007-CA-I Dt. 25.07.2007 to meet the coal requirement of its 2 x 660MW expansion power plant located at Banharpali, Dist- Jharsuguda.

After the approval of Mine Plan, an application was filed by M/s OPGC for diversion of 200.465Ha. forestland involved in this mining project. MoEF&CC, Govt. of India had granted Stage-II approval for diversion of forestland over 276.655 ha (200.465 ha of Forest land and 76.19 ha having a recorded status of non-forest treated as forest as per dictionary meaning) vide letter no.F.8-63/2011-Fc, Dated 20.08.2014.

Pertaining to the de-allocation of 204 coal blocks by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in September, 2014; Manoharpur and Dip side Manoharpur Coal blocks were also de-allocated from OPGC.

In order to ensure a consistent coal supply to expansion project of OPGC- Odisha Coal and Power Limited was formed as a wholly owned subsidiary of OPGC under the aegis of Govt. of Odisha. OCPL became a joint venture company of OPGC and OHPC after taking over of 49% stake by OHPC Limited (Odisha Hydro Power Corporation Ltd.).

Manoharpur and Dip side Manoharpur coal block were allotted to OCPL for captive use of OPGC's expansion power project vide Order No.103/ 25/ 2015/ NA Dt.31.08.2015. On a request received from OCPL following due procedure, the statutory clearances granted by MoEF&CC to OPGC have also been transferred in favour of OCPL vide their letter No.8-63/2011-FC Dt.30.11.2015.

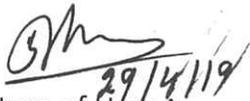

29/4/19

Addl. General Manager (Mines)
Odisha Coal and Power Ltd.

Further, 86.527Ha of land falling outside the coal block, which includes 57.078Ha of forest land were acquired by OPGC for pit head infrastructures & Coal stockyard etc. under the head MGR. The entire non-forest land were transferred in favour of OCPL by IDCO and the forestland were transferred in favour of OCPL vide MoEF&CC regional office, Bhubaneswar letter no.5-ORA155/2012-BHU, dated 17/10/2017.

Justification:

After a thorough technical scrutiny of the already approved Mine Plan obtained from OPGC, it is found that the land area acquired for outside waste dump are insufficient to accommodate the overburden produced from mine. The mine plan is thus revised and approved by Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India vide their letter F. No. 34011-4-2017-CPAM, dated 17-04-2018; in which the total land requirement was changed (Relevant extract of Mine plan is attached). Further, the forest patches over 15.701ha falling within proposed out-pit waste dump area can't be kept aside rather need to be included in the overburden dump area. This necessitates the diversion of 15.701Ha over & above the 333.733Ha [276.655Ha (including 76.19Ha treated forest) + 57.078Ha] forestland already diverted & transferred in favour of OCPL so as to ensure a compact outside overburden dump. Therefore, this fresh proposal is prepared covering the additional forestland of 15.701Ha and applied under the provisions of Sec-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980.


(Signature of User Agency)

Countersigned By

Addl. General Manager (Mines)
Odisha Coal and Power Ltd.

Divisional Forest Officer
Sundargarh Forest Division