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

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

Dated: 6th December, 2022

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),

Government of Chhattisgarh, Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan, New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 238.373 ha of forest land in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited for Baroud Expansion Open cast Coal Mining project (3 MT) in Raigarh District of Chhattisgarh.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Chhattisgarh's letter F 5-33/2005/10-2 dated 10.11.2022, on above subject vide which additional information has been submitted by the State. In this regard the comments of the CWLW were requested on the reported movement of wildlife in the area and mitigating measures, if any, required to be taken for the mitigating the impact of the proposed project on the wildlife.

The State Govt vide above referred letter has submitted the letter of the CWLW wherein it has been mentioned that the mitigation measures required have been incorporated in the wildlife management plan. However, the copy of the said management plan has not been found enclosed. Further, the Chief Wildlife Warden has not given any specific comments on the reported movement of the wildlife in the area.

It is pertinent to mention here that the FAC in its meeting dated 15.07.2022 had specifically observed that the comments of the CWLW are critical for the appropriate analysis of the proposal.

Keeping above in view the State Govt is again requested to provide the Comments of the CWLW Chhattisgarh on the reported movement of wildlife in the area. The copy of the Wildlife management plan containing the mitigating measures may also be provided.

Yours faithfully, Sd/-(Suneet Bhardwaj) Asst. Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
- 2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of the MoEF&CC at Raipur.
- 3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Jail Road, Aranya Bhavan, Raipur

- 4. User Agency.5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.6. Guard file.