## F. No. 8-50/2018-FC

## Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 11th March, 2020

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Proposal for according permission for use of 5.782 ha. of forest land within total PL area of 153.571 ha. in PL Block No. II(Chromite) Ore located in village Kaliapani and Forest Block No. 27 under SukindaTahasil of Jajpur District (Within jurisdiction of Cuttack Forest Division), Odisha for undertaking exploratory drilling of 95 nos. of boreholes (95 boreholes @ 0.02 ha each totalling 1.90 ha and 3.882 ha. for construction of road) by M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. (OSFMCP – Proposal No: FP/OR/MRL/3/2017).

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. 10F(Cons)-131/2018-166/F&E dated 03.01.2020 requesting to clarify whether the NPV will be calculated as per new guidelines for the total lease area or to be calculated as per new guideline only for forest areas proposed for prospecting.

- 2. The above request of the State Government with representation of OMC Ltd dated 08.11.2019 in the matter was considered by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act in its meeting held on 23.01.2020.
- 3. With the recommendation of FAC and its acceptance by the competent authority, it is clarified that the user agency shall deposit Net Present value (NPV) as specified in the condition no (ii) of the approval letter, **only for forest area** within total lease area as per guidelines no 5-3/2007-FC dated 09/05/2018. It is further clarified that at the time of Stage I approval the above stated guideline were in vogue. Therefore, the provisions of para 6.8 of the latest guidelines no 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019, shall be applicable to the project proposals which have been accorded Stage I (*In principle*) approval on or after 28.03.2019.

However, the provisions of Para 6.8(v)(a)(c) and(d) which reads as:

- 6.8(v)(a) For seismic survey prior permission of Central Government under the Act would be required. NPV @ 1% will be charged of total lease area proposed for prospecting.
- **6.8(v)(c)** In case of proposal in forest area with vegetation density between 0.1 and 0.4 NPV @ 2% will be charged for the total lease area proposed for prospecting.
- 6.8(v)(d) In case of survey for coal, lignite, ferrous and non-ferrous minerals using core drilling technology in forest land having vegetation density between 0.4 and 0.7, the State

Buf.

Government shall forward the on-line application to the Regional Office of the Ministry for approval. The REC may consider the proposal and may grant approval on merit to the concerned State/UT, with mandatory conditions inter alia that user agency will pay NPV @ 5.0 percent of the **total prospecting lease area** in which exploration/prospecting/survey is proposed.

## Shall be replaced as

- 6.8(v)(a) For seismic survey prior permission of Central Government under the Act would be required. NPV @ 1% will be charged for the total forest area within the lease area proposed for prospecting.
- 6.8(v)(c) In case of proposal in forest area with vegetation density between 0.1 and 0.4 NPV @ 2% will be charged for the total forest area within the lease area proposed for prospecting.
- 6.8(v)(d) In case of survey for coal, lignite, ferrous and non-ferrous minerals using core drilling technology in forest land having vegetation density between 0.4 and 0.7, the State Government shall forward the on-line application to the Regional Office of the Ministry for approval. The REC may consider the proposal and may grant approval on merit to the concerned State/UT, with mandatory conditions inter alia that user agency will pay NPV @ 5.0 percent for the total forest area within the lease area in which exploration/prospecting/survey is proposed.

In view of above, the State Government may take necessary action accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Sharma)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

## Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.
- 3. The Dy. Director General (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar
- 4. User Agency
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC
- 6. Guard File