

File No.: 8-59-2017-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: As per E-sign

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal.

Subject: Diversion of 80.902 hectares of forest/revenue forest land (66.377 ha. forest land + 14.525 ha revenue forest land = 80.902 ha. of forest/revenue forest land) for Shobhapur underground coal mining in favour of M/s. Western Coal Fields Limited, in Betul District State of Madhya Pradesh – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-1/769/2017/10-11/3622 dated 10.07.2024 on the above subject forwarding required information on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval dated 03.05.2018 and to say that following information/documents are required for further process:

- i. The condition no. (iv) of the Stage-1 approval inter-alia mentioned that the State/User Agency shall submit the details of the mining area of Sobhapur underground mining project over 460.844 ha which as per the EC report involves 357.079 ha of forest land. the same has still not been submitted, and no justification has been provided in this regard.
- ii. The State Government has not submitted the documentary evidence for the forest area broken up prior to 25.10.1980 and after 25.10.1980 till the date of filing of proposal and current status of operations in proposed area as per condition no. (iv).
- iii. Further, the Ministry vide its guideline dated 6.01.2022 read with guidelines dated 22.03.2022 has revised the rates of NPV to be realized from the user agencies in lieu of diversion of forest land. In this regard, a period of more than 5 years has elapsed since the issue of Stage-I approval, therefore the

differential amount of NPV in light of aforementioned guidelines is also required to be realized from the user agency.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal for according Final/Stage-II approval.

Signed by
Suneet Bhardwaj
Date: 14-08-2024 16:09:53

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
2. The Dy. DGF (Central), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
3. The Nodal Officer, Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
4. User Agency;
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.