

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 36.734 ha of Reserved Forest land of Forest Survey No. RF-833, 834, Forest Range-Budhar, Division-Shahdol for Bangwar Underground Coal Mining in favour of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited in Shahdol District in Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/MIN/29264/2017) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer the APCCF (LM) and Nodal Officer, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-1/824/2021/10-11/3544 dated 05.07.2024 on the above cited subject. In this regard, the following shortcomings have been observed in the information submitted by the State Govt.:-

- i. Interpretation through satellite imagery of KML file of 3.296 ha diverted forest land for surface rights revealed that the user agency is utilizing the forest area beyond 3.296 ha as earlier approved for surface rights. The State Govt. shall carry out the field inspection and shall submit a detail report including violation, if any.
- ii. The KML file of 3.296 ha Non-forest land for CA which was proposed against surface utilization has not submitted which needs submission.
- iii. The State Govt. has informed that the 38.302 ha forest land is part of 403.118 ha diverted forest land vide Ministry letter No. 8-125/85-FC Date 13.04.1987 and presently proposed 36.734 ha forest land is part of 513.296 ha diverted forest land vide Ministry letter No 8- 196/1984_Fry (Cons) dated 15.12.1986. Therefore the complete KML file of the lease/Project area shall be submitted.
- iv. The State Govt. has informed that the total area of the project is 514.481 ha. Out of which 488.108 ha is forest land and 26.373 ha is Govt Revenue land/ Private land. Whereas based upon the details submitted by the State Govt. the project area works out to be 942.787 ha. Out of which 916.414 ha is diverted forest land (513.296 ha approved vide Ministry letter No 8-196/1984_Fry (Cons) dated 15.12.1986 & 403.118 ha approved vide Ministry letter No 8-125/85-FC Date 13.04.1987) and 26.373 ha is Govt Revenue land/ Private land. Therefore, variation among the project area has been observed which needs clarification.

- v. The State Govt. may re-check the KML file of 38.302 ha diverted forest land (part of 403.118 ha approved forest land) as some of the areas of the approved forest land (38.302 ha) is still overlapping with the KML file area of 20.432 ha Non- forest land.
- vi. The Mining plan approved in the year 1995 has been submitted wherein the instant proposed area of 36.734 ha has not been found included. Also the land surrender scheduled has not been mentioned in the said mining plan. The State Govt. shall examine the matter and submit a updated Mining plan along with Progressive mine reclamation/ closure plan.
- vii. The copy of the land use plan in 1:4000 scale was not found legible and accordingly the state was requested to submit a legible copy of the same. The State Govt. has still not submitted the same which needs submission.
- viii. The State Govt. was requested to submit detail/studies to predict the impact of subsidence on vegetation and hydrological regimes in the proposal/project which has not been submitted and same needs submission.

Accordingly, it is requested to furnish the above mentioned information to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

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.