

F. No. 8-35/2017-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
JorBagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 13 April, 2018

To,
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Raipur.

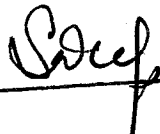
Sub: Diversion of 119.051 ha. (originally proposed 126.431 ha) of Forest land in Balrampur and Surajpur Forest Divisions, Chhattisgarh for Jagannathpur OCP Coal Mining project in favour of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), Chhattisgarh.

Sir,

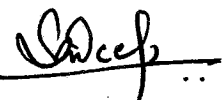
I am directed to refer to the Government of Chhattisgarh's letter F-5-22/2017/10-2 dated 01.05.2017 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the said proposal has been examined by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, *In-principle* approval was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 10.11.2017 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Addl. Pr. Chief Conservation of Forests & Nodal Officer (FCA), State Government of Chhattisgarh vide their letters No. BHU- Parbandh/Khanij/331-182/3432 dated 30.11.2017, No. BHU- Parbandh/Khanij/331-182/24 dated 03.01.2018 and No. BHU- Parbandh/Khanij/331-182/1016 dated 02.04.2018, *Stage-II/Final approval* of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **119.051 ha. (originally proposed 126.431 ha)** forest land in Balrampur and Surajpur Forest Divisions, Chhattisgarh for Jagannathpur OCP Coal Mining project in favour of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), Chhattisgarh subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land twice in extent to the area of forest land proposed to be diverted on the identified land shall be raised within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department from the **funds of Rs.142914059/-** deposited by the user agency in the account of Adhoc CAMPA;

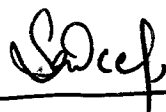

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- (iii) The State Govt. ensure that the State Forest Department will implement the **approved site specific wild life management plan** from the **funds of Rs.9,38,50,000/- deposited** by the user agency in the account of Adhoc CAMPA;
- (iv) The State Govt. ensure that there is no settlement on diverted forestland and no rehabilitation of relocated families from the non-forest land is carried out over forestland;
- (v) The State Govt. ensure that a strip of 100 meters, all along the inner boundary of the mining lease should be kept intact and maintained as safety zone. The area of 100 meter strip should be planted with the local indigenous species in consultation with the State Forest Department;
- (vi) The State Govt. ensure that only working mining pits should be properly fenced instead of creating a linear barrier for wildlife movement through fencing of safety zone around the whole mining leases;
- (vii) The State Govt. ensure that the user agency shall undertake comprehensive greening in the surrounding villages;
- (viii) The State Govt. ensure that the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (ix) The State Govt. ensure that the following activities shall be undertaken by the user agency under the supervision of State Forest Department at the project cost:
- a) A plan containing appropriate mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented;
 - b) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion;
 - c) Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour;
 - d) Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching so as to ensure that that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°; and
 - e) Strict adherence to the prescribed top soil management.
- (x) The State Govt. ensure that the user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
- (xi) The State Govt. ensure that the user agency shall implement the approved land surrender schedule for surrender of the mined out and biologically reclaimed forest land in accordance with the existing mine plan and progressive mine closure plan;
- (xii) The State Govt. ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement the approved plan for creating and maintaining alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna from the **funds of Rs.1,42,80,000/- deposited** by the user agency in the account of Adhoc CAMPA;
- (xiii) The State Govt. ensure that the State Forest Department shall implement the approved plan for Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area [7.5 meters strip shall be kept within the mining lease boundary and area of the safety zone shall be part of the total area of mining lease as per the Ministry's guidelines dated 27.05.2015] and afforestation on degraded forest land to be selected elsewhere measuring one & a half times the area under safety zone from the **funds of Rs.1,42,80,000/- deposited** by the user agency in the account of Adhoc

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CAMPA;

- (xiv) **Period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period 22 years from the date of issue of Stage-II Clearance;**
- (xv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Forest Department will implement the approved scheme for gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4) located in the area within 100 meters from outer perimeter of the mining lease from the fund of **Rs. 6,09,172/- deposited in Ad-hoc CAMPA account** by the user agency;
- (xvi) The State Govt. shall ensure that User Agency shall implement the approved plan for desilting of identified ponds and water bodies;
- (xvii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency shall implement the R&R Plan as per the R&R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF&CC along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones.
- (xviii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the User agency shall undertake mining in a phased manner and take due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the User Agency as per the approved mining plan/scheme and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the concern Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, concern Regional Office. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;
- (xix) The State Govt. shall ensure that no labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (xx) The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- (xxi) The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the mining lease and safety zone shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, forward and back bearing, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates;
- (xxii) The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xxiii) The State Govt. shall ensure that user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- (xxiv) The State Govt. shall ensure that any other condition that the concern Regional

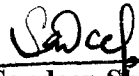


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Office of this Ministry, may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and

- (xxv) The State Govt. shall ensure that the State Government and user agency shall comply the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully,


(Sandeep Sharma) 13.4.16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
2. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Nagpur
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of Forest Conservation, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.


(Sandeep Sharma) 13.4.16

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)