



STATE FOREST HEADQUARTERS, ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS & HoFF
PLOT NO. GD-2/12, ARANYA BHAWAN, CHANDRASEKHARPUR
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No. 18168 /9F (MG) -398/2022
Dated, Bhubaneswar the 07 September' 2023

From

Sri Susanta Nanda, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act)
O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar

To

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (F.C. Division)
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road
New Delhi-110003

Sub:- Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd. for non-forestry use of 125.24 ha of forest land for Subhadra OCP Coal Mining under Angul Forest Division and District Angul of Odisha State – Compliance of GoI observations.

Ref: Lr.No.8-06/2023-FC dated 27.02.2023 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above mentioned subject, this is to inform that Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), New Delhi had requested to furnish compliance on 10(ten) nos. of observations vide letter under reference. The point wise compliance basing on the reports of the DFO, Angul Forest division and RCCF, Angul Circle are as follows:

Observation (i):- *The State Govt has not uploaded its forwarding/ recommendation letter on PARIVESH PORTAL which is required to be done.*

Compliance: Government have uploaded its specific recommendation regarding the project in Part-v of Form-I on 03.02.2023 in PARIVESH Portal. The copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure-A**

Observation (ii):- *As per SIR submitted by DFO (Angul), Elephant movement has been recorded in and around the proposed area for diversion in the past years. Furthermore, it is also mentioned in the report that man-elephant conflict has increased in the area of Angul Division due to increased mining activities. The comments and recommendation of the Chief Wildlife Warden in this regard shall be submitted.*

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul has reported that the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha, Bhubaneswar has submitted the observations/recommendation on Man-Animal conflict to the OSD-cum-special secretary to Govt. of Odisha Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department vide L.No.8330/CWLW-FD-0011-2023 dt. 27.07.2023, the copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure-I** to this compliance.

Observation (iii):- *The mine closure plan submitted with the proposal gives the detail of land use (post closure). As per the said mine closure plan, the Forest land to be returned post closure has been shown as Nil which needs justification.*

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the User Agency i.e. G.M., Subhadra Area has submitted the revised Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan as **Annexure-II-A**. Accordingly Chapter-6(Land use revised, Page-1 Para 6.1.2 has been modified and re-submitted by the User Agency. Signed Extract is attached as **Annexure-II-B**.

Observation (iv):- *The concerned DFO in his Site inspection report has mentioned that the Mine lease is bound by Singhada stream in the North and Ghurudianala passes through the mine lease boundary. Singhadajhor stream particularly has large catchment area. The State Govt shall examine the matter and submit the detail safeguards proposed/plan to prevent adverse impact of mining on the water bodies.*

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the user agency has requested to consider the proposal for Stage-I clearance pending preparation of stream conservation plan and SMC Plan. It is informed by the user agency that a consultant has already been engaged for preparation of stream conservation, SMC vide work order No.-WO/CPC/SCML/22-23/11 dt. 15.11.2022 enclosed as **Annexure-III**. The consultant has communicated that for identification of land equivalent to mining lease area and preparation of SMC plan will take approximately 07 to 09 months periods, the copy of which is enclosed as **Annexure-III/A**. The user agency has submitted the undertaking that it will pay for the preparation and implementation of the Stream Conservation Plan, Soil Conservation Plan for area equivalent to mine lease area and other measures to prevent adverse impact of Mining on water bodies duly approved by RCCF, Angul Circle with Stage-I compliance enclosed as **Annexure-III/B**.

Observation (v):- *As per DSS analysis of the KML file submitted with the proposal, the area of the entire mining lease is 1098.16 Ha, whereas the area of the lease as per the mining plan is 1111.85Ha. This needs justification and submission/uploading of correct KML file.*

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the User Agency has uploaded the correct KML file of 1102.14 ha. of mining lease area as determined in DGPS survey in Parivesh Portal which in a Pen-drive. Further, it is reported that the KML file showing the entire Mining Lease area of 1098.16 was inadvertently uploaded with the forest diversion proposal instead of the KML file of 1102.14 ha which is now being uploaded in Form-A, Part-I on PARIVESH Portal enclosed as **Annexure-III/C**.

Observation (vi):- The CA has been proposed on equivalent non-forest land therefore the details of proposed NFL are required to be uploaded in Part-I under column L, instead of Part-II of the application form.

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the PARIVESH PORTAL has been requested by the User Agency i.e. G.M., Subhadra Area to create option to upload the details of proposed non-forest land in Part-I under Column-L which was not available at the time of submission of Forest Diversion Proposal. Copy of the request made to PARIVESH PORTAL is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**. The RCCF, Angul has also submitted the allotment order of 150.895 ha NFL by Collector, Angul and letter on vetting of DGPS map by ORSAC enclosed as **Annexure-IV/A**

Observation (vii):- Mining plan has been approved for 36 years. However, the UA has submitted the proposal of diversion for a period of 30 years as mentioned under column A-1(x) of the online application form. The same may be clarified.

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the User Agency i.e. G.M., Subhadra Area has submitted the Notification bearing no- G.S.R. 717(E) of MOC, Clause-3, 24C (1) of Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules 2021, "All mining leases granted on or after the commencement of the Mineral Concession (Amendment) Rules, 2021 to a Government company or corporation for coal or lignite shall be for a period of **fifty** years". The copy of which is enclosed as Annexure-V.

As per approved Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan of Subhadra project (25 MTY), the life of the mine is 36 years. Therefore, the period of diversion of forest land is updated to 36 years in Form A, Part-I of PARIVESH PORTAL.

Observation (viii):- A legible copy of the DGPS maps of the forest land proposed for diversion is required to be submitted.

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the legible copy of the DGPS maps has been uploaded in Parivesh Portal in Form A, Part-I.

Observation (ix):- KML file of land use (component wise break up) including safety zone is not available on PARIVESH. The same shall be uploaded on PARIVESH portal.

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has submitted the KML file of component wise break up of land use including safety zone in a **pen-drive** enclosed to this. Further, the user agency has also submitted one hard copy map on break up of land use in Subhadra OCP enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

Observation (x):-The state Govt. shall submit the detail of the other mining leases of the User Agency in close proximity to the area proposed for diversion.

Compliance: The RCCF, Angul Circle has reported that the User Agency i.e. G.M., Subhadra Area has submitted the details of other mining leases of different projects of MCL in Talcher Coalfield has been attached as Annexure A including Stage-II FC letter and Form-A Part-I of recent forest diversion proposal. In addition, the fresh proposals submitted adjacent to the mining lease in question have also been submitted with Form A, Part-I of their diversion proposal as **Annexure-VI**.

In view of the above, the compliance to the observations of Government of India, MoEF & CC (FC Division), New Delhi is sent herewith for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: Compliance in one set

Yours faithfully

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 18169 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy along with the compliance report forwarded to the Dy. Director General of Forests(Central), MoEF & CC, IRO, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Lr. No.8-06/2023-FC dated 27.02.2023 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Encl:Compliance in one set

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 18170 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy along with the compliance report forwarded to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to with reference to Lr. No.8-06/2023-FC dated 27.02.2023 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.

Encl:Compliance in one set

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 18171 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy forwarded to PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha, Prakruti Bhawan, Plot No. 1459, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007 for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 2478 dated 03.07.2023 of RCCF, Angul Circle.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)


Memo No. 18172 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy forwarded to the Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul Circle for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 3412 dated 28.08.2023.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

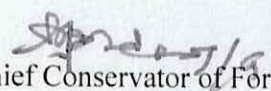
Memo No. 18173 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to Memo No. 3413 dated 28.08.2023 of RCCF, Angul Circle.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)

Memo No. 18174 /Dt. 07.09.2023

Copy forwarded to the Project Officer, Mahanadi Coal Fields, Subhadra Area, At/Po/Dist-Angul, Odisha, Pin-759122 for information and necessary action with reference to Lr. No.8-06/2023-FC dated 27.02.2023 of the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, Government of India, MoEF& CC (FC Division), New Delhi.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Diversion and Nodal Officer, FC Act)