



महाराष्ट्र शासन
वनविभाग



उपवनसंरक्षक मध्य चांदा वनविभाग, यांचे कार्यालय मुल रोड, चंद्रपूर

दुरध्वनी क्र 250561/233508-07172 .E-mail :-dycfcentralchanda@mahaforest.gov.in

क्रमांक- कक्ष-12/सर्व्हे/जमीन/2023-24/ 1778
प्रति,

चंद्रपूर, दिनांक :- 10/02/2024 23/02/2024

मा. मुख्य वनसंरक्षक
चंद्रपूर वनवृत्त, चंद्रपूर

विषय :- Diversion of 12.07 ha. Forest land in favour of Western Coalfield Ltd. Ballarpur under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Sakhari - Irawati (Pouni III) Opencast Mine Project at Village Sakhari., ta. Rajura, in Chandrapur District of Maharashtra State-Regarding.

संदर्भ :- १) मा. अपर प्रधान मुख्य वनसंरक्षक व केंद्रस्थ अधिकारी, म. रा. नागपुर यांचे कार्यालयाचे पत्र क्रमांक कक्ष- १७/नोडल/ आयडी- १२४१७/२१४३ दिनांक १७/१०/२०२३.
२) आपले कार्यालयाचे पत्र क्रमांक कक्ष ३(१)/जमीन/ २६०१ दिनांक ०२/११/२०२३.
३) प्रकल्प यंत्रणेचे पत्र क्रमांक WCL/BA/AGM/PLG/714 दिनांक 14/12/2023.

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उपरोक्त विषयांकीत प्रकल्प प्रस्तावात केंद्र शासनाने एकुण २ आक्षेप नोंदवुन पुर्तता करणे बाबत संदर्भित पत्र क्रमांक १ व २ अन्वये कळविलेले होते. प्रकल्प यंत्रणेने त्यांचे स्तरावरील त्रुटी क्रमांक १ चा पुर्तता अहवाल या कार्यालयास सादर केलेले आहे. सदर अहवालाशी हे कार्यालय सहमत असुन पुढील कार्यवाहीस्तव पुर्तता अहवाल सादर करण्यात येत आहे.

Sr. No.	Queries	Compliance
i	In query (v), it was asked that " as per detail provided in the Part-I, the total project area has been indicated as 820.70 ha. While the same is mentioned as 1140.59 ha. In the deliberation of REC dated 14/10/2022. Exact position in this regard may be informed." The State Government in their reply have informed that the total project land acquired for the project as per the requirement is 1152.66 ha. Further the State Government have mentioned the details of the said land in the same reply that total land area is mentioned as 327.41 ha. This is not found to be in conformity with the total project area mentioned in part-I of the proposal. Clarity in the above matter is required.	This point has been complied by User Agency.
ii	In query (vi), it was asked to assess the efficacy of the Wildlife Management Plan of Rs. 20 lakhs, as recommended by the State, in term of holistic impact of the mining activity on the surrounding flora and fauna. The state Government has not provided a copy of the same.	Sakhri Irawati project has a total forest area of 12.07 hectares in C. no. 603 at Village Sakhri and is proposed for diversion. There is no other forest area adjacent to this compartment. So WCP of 20 L is made for adjoining forest patch, Jogapur RF Block to ensure maximum benefit to wildlife. Details of the RF block are as follows - Jogapur Reserve Forest Block in Rajura Range is dense forest with mixed and

diverse shrubs. It has at least 5 tigers, sloth bears, leopards, wild dogs, wild boars, peacocks, sambars, nilgai, jackals, deer, chausinga, reptiles and various types of birds and insects.

For their conservation, WCP proposes bore wells with solar-powered pumps, creating artificial water bodies for harsh summer months, clearing the dominant and unpalatable Kukkadranjhi species to allow for grassland development and purchase of rescue vans for rapid rescue operations.

सहपत्र :-वरील प्रमाणे


(श्वेता बाड्डु)

उपवनारक्षक,
मध्य चांदा वनविभाग, चंद्रपूर



प्रतिलिपी :- क्षेत्रीय महाप्रबंधक, वेस्टर्न कोलफिल्ड लिमी. बल्लारपुर यांना माहितीस व आवश्यक कार्यवाहीस अग्रेषित.

समर्थ

पत्र क्रमांक 2402

उप वनसंरक्षक
मुख्य चान्दा वन विभाग
चांचे कार्यालय

11 DEC 2023

पत्र क्रमांक... 2402
आ. क्र. दि. 18/12/23



Western Coalfields Limited
Office of the Area General Manager
Ballarpur Area
P.O.SASTI, DISTT.CHANDARPUR(MS) Pin-442706
Tel 07173-230105, 230260 Fax- 07173-230076

File No : W.C.L/ BA / AGM / PLG / 714

Date : 13/12/2023

14

To,

✓ The Dy.Conservator of Forests
Central Chanda Chandrapur,

Sub :- Diversion of 12.07 Ha. Forest land in favor of Western Coalfields Ltd.
Ballarpur under Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980 for Sakhari- Irawati
(Pouni-III) Opencast Mine project at Village Sakhari, Tal. Rajura,
District- Chandrapur in the State- Maharashtra - regarding.

Ref. :- (i) F.No. FC-II/MH-165/2021-NGP/12320
(ii) Kaksha /Survey/ Land /20023-24/1928

Dated 13/10/2023.
Dated 13/11/2023.

Sir,

With reference to the above mentioned subject please find
enclosed here-with the point wise reply in english of 2 queries
alongwith annexures.

This is kind information and further necessary action at
your end.

Yours Faithfully

Area Planning Officer
Ballarpur Area

Encl. A.a.
C.C. to
1. APO BA
2. SAM, PSA

Reply to the queries raised by MoEF&CC, Head Office/ IRO, Nagpur against the FC proposal for diversion of 12.07 Ha forest land.

- i. In query (v), it was asked that "as per detail provided in the Part-I, the total project area has been indicated as 820.70 ha. while the same is mentioned as 1140.59 ha in the deliberation of REC dated 14.10.2022. Exact position in this regard may be informed."

The State Government in their reply have informed that the total project land acquired for the project as per the requirement is 1152.66 ha. Further the State Government have mentioned the details of the said land in the same reply that total land area is mentioned as 327.41 ha.

This is not found to be in conformity with the total project area mentioned in part-I of the proposal. Clarity in the above matter is require.

Reply: Vide letter dtd. 09.02.2023 IRO Nagpur raised 7-point EDS. The query (v) is reproduced below:

Quote

As per detail provided in the Part-I, the total project area has been indicated as 820.70 ha while the same is mentioned as 1140.59 ha in the deliberation of REC dated 14.10.2022. Exact position in this regard may be informed by the State Government.

Unquote

In reply to the above, WCL has already submitted that the Project Report for Pauni-III OC mine was prepared in March, 2009 for a target capacity of 1.25 Mty. The Board directed for entering into Coal Supply Agreement with prospective consumer on Cost Plus Basis to yield 12% IRR at 85% target capacity and clearance from CIL. **However, the Cost-Plus agreement is not yet finalized.**

The acquisition process was started in the year 2012 wherein **820.70 Ha** land notified under section 4(1) of CBA(A&D) Act, 1957 vide S.O. no. 3159 dtd. 03/10/2012 including 12.07 Ha. Forest Land. Subsequently, 778.54 Ha land (including 12.07 Ha Forest land) notified under section 7(1) of CBA(A&D) act, 1957 vide S.O. no. 3054(E) dtd. 09/10/2014 which is "Intention to acquire" as per the requirement of project. The application for diversion of 12.07 Ha was submitted vide ref. no. WCL/BA/AGM/PLG/83 dtd. 14 -16/02/2015. As such, the Part-I of FC application indicates 820.70 Ha ~~Forest~~ land.

Subsequently, the land rates were increased in Maharashtra as per MSGR 2014 and in absence of Cost-Plus Agreement with prospective consumers in respect of Pauni-III OC it was decided by the management of WCL to combine the Pauni-II OC & Pauni-III OC projects with common infrastructure facilities for better economics of the two projects. Accordingly, a Project Report for Amalgamated Pauni-II & III OC mine was prepared by CMPDI in May, 2015. The target of this Amalgamated mine was envisaged as 3.25 Mty (0.75 Mty of Pauni-II OC and 2.50 Mty of Pauni-III OC) & maximum possible proved reserves in both the blocks were considered.

As per the recommendation of EAC, the project was renamed as Pauni-II Expn. OC which was approved by WCL Board in its 281st meeting held on 19.09.2016. The total land requirement for Pauni-II Expansion OC Mine is 1152.66 ha out of which Agricultural land is 1050.99 ha, Govt land is 89.60 ha and forest land is 12.07 ha. The details are as follows:

Sl No.	Particulars	Quarry-I			Quarry-II	Total Land
		Existing Land (Acquired for Pauni OC)	Additional Land	Total Land	Additional Land	
1)	Tenancy Land	21.61	281.03	302.64	748.35	1050.99
2)	Govt.Land	0.00	24.77	24.77	64.83	89.60
3)	Forest Land	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.07	12.07
Total		21.61	305.80	327.41	825.25	1152.66

However, considering the position of the mine and the surged demand of power grade coal from WCL mines for the power plants of Maharashtra and as per the requirements of MOEF&CC (for project involving forest land but not having Stage - I FC in hand), a Mining Plan by excluding the Forest land and adjacent non-forest land (for maintaining mine geometry) was prepared as Phase-I for the expansion capacity (0.60 to 3.25 MTPA) and balance land area of 1095.52 ha which was approved by WCL Board on 26.12.2018. The Mining is going on in this ML Area of 1095.52 ha land only.

All these facts have been recorded by EAC in its meeting held on 24.01.2019. **Minutes of the said EAC meeting is also attached for ready reference.** It is also noted by EAC that, as soon as, the Stage - I FC for 12.07 ha forest land is received, the application for EC will again be made for additional land only, since the Public Hearing and ToR have been secured for the total land of the project i.e. 1152.66 ha.

It was also noted by REC that the project involves 1152.66 Ha land out of which **1140.59 ha** is non-forest and remaining 12.07 ha is Forest Land. Minutes of the meeting held on 14.10.2022 attached for ready reference.

It is also to submit humbly that in reply of query (v) submitted through State Govt., there was error in printing the above table as such the details were captured for only Quarry-I involving **327.41 Ha**. However, the total area is 1152.66 Ha comprising 327.41 Ha of Quarry-I and 825.25 Ha of Quarry-II.

- ii. In query (vi), it was asked to assess the efficacy of the Wildlife Management Plan of Rs. 20 lakhs, as recommended by the State, in term of holistic impact of the mining activity on the surrounding flora and fauna. The state Government has not provided a copy of the same.

It requested to clarify the lands involved and submit the proposal with clarity and an SCN for further needful.

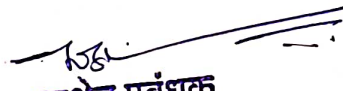
Reply: The query (vi) raised by IRO Nagpur vide letter dtd. is reproduced below:

Quote

To mitigate the impact of project activity on the wildlife, preparation of Wildlife Management Plan of Rs. 20 lakh has been recommended by the State Government, same need to be approved by the PCCF (Wildlife) and specific comments in term of holistic impact of the mining activity on the surrounding flora and fauna need to be submitted.

Unquote

Reply: The Maharashtra State Forest Deptt. is requested to provide comments on this query along with a Self-Contained Note (SCN). User Agency undertakes to abide by the directives issued by MH State Forest Deptt./ IRO Nagpur in this regard.


उपक्षेत्र प्रबंधक
पवनी उपक्षेत्र बल्लारपूर (WCL)