

**OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER -CUM-  
WILDLIFE WARDEN, KORAPUT FOREST DIVISION, KORAPUT**

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Memo No. 4530/

Dated 26/09/2022

To

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Korapat Circle, Korapat.

Sub: - Proposal for Forest Diversion of 697.979 Ha. of forest land for Pottangi Bauxite Mining Lease in Village Pottangi under Pottangi Tahasil of Korapat District in favour of M/S NALCO Ltd.(Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/29981/2017).

Ref: - 1. Letter No.14992/9F(MG)-377/2021 Dated 29.07.2022 of Chief Conservator of Forests (Nodal) O/o the P.C.C.F & HoFF, Bhubaneswar.  
2. Your Office Memo No.2397 dated 30.07.2022.

In inviting a kind reference to above memos, the compliance on observations of GoI, MoEF & CC, New Delhi is submitted here with in 3 (Three) sets.

Further updated Part-I and Part-II of application form-A is submitted here with after uploading the required data/ documents on Parivesh Portal for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: - Compliance in 3 (Three) sets  
KML file/shape file in CD.

*N. Das*  
26/9/2022  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Korapat Forest Division.

Memo No. 4531 /

Dated 26-09-/2022

Copy forwarded to the Group General Manager, (Mines) M/s NALCO Damanjodi for information and necessary action with reference to letter No.NAL/GGM (Mines)/2021/58 dated 28.09.2021.


*N. Das*  
26/9/2022  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Korapat Forest Division.

**Diversion of 697.979 Ha. of forest land for Pottangi Bauxite Mining Lease in Village Pottangi under Pottangi Tahasil of Koraput District in favour of M/s NALCO Ltd.(Proposal No.FP/OR/MIN/29981/2017).**

Condition No.	Conditions and Compliance.
<b>i.(a)</b>	A Kuchha road is observed to be passing through the forest area proposed for Diversion. State Government may comment on the present use of the road and alternate road, if any, required to be provided as the area is proposed to be closed for mining.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The said Roads were constructed by GSI/MECL during exploration stage for preparation of pits & trenches as mentioned in Page No.35, 36 & 48 of the Mining Plan. These roads are not public road as the ML area is situated at an altitude of 1200-1500 Meter above MSL without any habitation. (Copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-I</b> ). Copy of Mining Plan enclosed.
<b>(b)</b>	Site suitability certificate has been submitted in respect of 294.70 ha. of degraded forest land only. Complete certificate for the entire forest land of 1400 ha proposed for raising CA needs to be submitted by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The site suitability certificate for the entire land of 1400 ha. proposed for raising Compensatory Afforestation has been submitted along with the C.A. Scheme in the Diversion Proposal. The copy of said site suitability / Land suitability certificate is enclosed as <b>Annexure-II</b> . It is committed that, before Plantation if any illegal encroachment/shifting cultivation found in the allotted area for C.A. then that will be removed and Plantation will be undertaken as per the Scheme approved by office of the P.C.C.F., & HoFF, Govt. of Odisha with the cost to be provided by user agency.
<b>(c)</b>	CA has been proposed in 16 patches of the total forest area for Compensatory Afforestation, 139 ha land is classified as moderately dense forest, 458 ha as open forest, 414 ha as scrub and 393 ha as non-forest (land without tree cover) in terms of forest classes. The State Government may, therefore, re-confirm the suitability of such area for raising Afforestation and if required alternate sites, suitable for raising CA may be identified and inform the Ministry, Support documents showing details of various attributes such as KML, files, derived from the Differential GPS surveys, CA Scheme suitability certificate etc. should also be furnished.
<b>Compliance.</b>	In lieu of 139 ha Moderately Dense Forest (MDF) an additional area of 140.00 ha. has been identified and allotted in Godmak PRF under Laxmipur Range of Koraput Forest Division. In this regard Topo sheet, DGPS Maps, KML/ shape file in CD, DSS Analysis report of the said area, CA Scheme and Site suitability Certificate for raising compensatory Afforestation is enclosed as <b>Annexure-III</b> .
<b>(iii)</b>	As the schedule-I species have been reported in the area, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW Odisha on the likely impact of the project on the movement of wildlife in general and elephant in particular needs to be furnished by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	As the Mining Lease area is having Schedule-I & Schedule-II species, Site Specific Wild Life Conservation Plan has been prepared and will be submitted to R,C.C.F. Koraput Circle soon for its onward transmission to P.C.C.F (Wildlife) & CWLW, Odisha for approval. In this regard memo No.2449 dtd.07.09.2022 of D.F.O. Koraput Division asking for Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan is enclosed as <b>Annexure-IV</b> .

(iv)	As the area has schedule-I and schedule-II species, comments of PCCF (Wildlife) and CWLW, Odisha on the likely impact of the project on the movement of wildlife in general and elephant in particular needs to be furnished by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	Similar as above explained in the point No.iii.
(v)	From the purpose wise breakup of forest land, the following may be ascertained:-
(a)	40.077 ha has been reported to be scattered between the mineralized zone. Plan if any proposed by the user agency for the management and upkeep of these areas during the onset of mining operations may be intimated by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The land use pattern for 40.077 Ha. as given in the FDP, submitted on 13.11.2017 prior to approval of Mining plan was a tentative one. Subsequently Mining plan approved on 27.07.2018 by IBM. Nalco undertake to abide by the Mining plan stipulation. The copy of land use pattern as mentioned in the conceptual plan approved by IBM is enclosed as <b>Annexure-V.</b>
(b)	An area of 28.326 ha has been proposed for statutory buildings which appears to be exaggerated, therefore, statutory building wise detailed breakup of 28.326 ha of forest land may be informed by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The area of 28.326 ha proposed for the statutory Building is for entire life of the mine (conceptual period). However, mining operations proposed to be taken up in south Block first and for this an area of 5.333 ha. has been demarcated for statutory Buildings. Rest of the area proposed is for other Blocks, which will be used as and when mining is taken up in those blocks in future. This is reflected in the table given in the Conceptual plan Map enclosed as <b>Annexure-V</b> in remark column. NALCO has given an undertaking to use minimum forest land for infrastructure project. However, in the undertaking they have mentioned the construction of Statutory Building is of temporary in nature. The same will be demolished / wind up and that area will be utilized for mining purpose as mining activity progress from one block to other.
(c)	Similarly, further details of area proposed for primary crusher and power line corridor may also be provided by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	Land for primary crusher and Power corridor has been estimated and approved by IBM as 10.230 ha. and 12.400 ha respectively. This is indicated in the conceptual plan approved by IBM. Copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-V.</b>
(d)	Details of area proposed for Dumping of overburden is not available in the purpose-wise breakup. Comments in this regard may be provided by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The waste (over burden) is proposed to be back filled into mined out pits. The waste (over burden) generated in the first three years of mining will be dumped temporarily in the portion of the central block adjacent to South Block and used for backfilling of mined out pits in south block in fourth and fifth year and plantation will be taken up.' The proposed dumping of over burden is also available in the conceptual plan approved by IBM (over 5.230 ha.) Copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-V.</b>

(e)	A consolidated KML file clearly showing various components of the proposed Mining Project may be submitted by the State.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The Consolidated KML file has been uploaded and the same has enclosed as <b>Annexure-VI.</b>
(vi)	Cost benefit Ration has been estimated as 1:258.356 (pg 233/c) which is exorbitantly high. It seems appropriation of cost and benefits components has not been done properly. The analysis may be revised by the user agency by applying appropriate economic tools to accurately estimate the various parameters and detailed analysis thereof may be submitted to the Ministry.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The revised Cost benefit Ratio has been prepared a fresh and uploaded on Parivesh portal as per the format given by MoEF & CC., GoI after taking into account the cost of Compensatory Afforestation approved by the Nodal Officer attached with the FDP. Now the ratio comes to 1:26.13. The copy of said Cost Benefit analysis is enclosed as <b>Annexure-VII.</b>
(vii)	Mining Plan stated to be approved by the IBM, Bhubaneswar over an area of 697.979 ha has not uploaded online, rather a receipt of Rs.1,75,000/- addressed to NALCO has been submitted, Processing authorities in the State needs to scrutinize the correctness to the documents uploaded online before submitted the proposal to the Ministry and to ensure that correct and legible detail is uploaded online. The State Government may also confirm that land use proposed in the proposal is in conformity with the land use proposed in the approved Mining Plan.
<b>Compliance.</b>	The approval letter of Mining Plan by IBM letter No.MP/FM/13-012/BHU/2018-19 dated 27.07.2018 is enclosed as <b>Annexure-VIII.</b> The hard copy of the Mining Plan is enclosed along with the Diversion Proposal & the same has been uploaded.

  
 Divisional Forest Officer,  
 Koraput Forest Division.  
*Divisional Forest Officer*  
 Koraput Forest Division