

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS; ANGUL CIRCLE, AT/PO- HAKIMPADA, ANGUL- 759143, ODISHA, Phone-06764-296010 (O), 296011(Res), Email Id: <u>rccfangul@gmail.com</u>.

Memo No. 34/2 /5F-FC-08/2023 Dated- 28.8.23

To The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act) O/o. the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Odisha.

Sub: - Proposal for Seeking prior approval of Central Government under section 2 (ii) of the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s Mahanadi Coal filed Ltd. for non-forestry use of 125.24 ha forest land for Subhadra OCP Coal mining under Forest Division projects of Subhadra Area by Mahandi Coalfields Limited.

Ref: -

1. Letter No.8-06-2023-FC dated 27.2.2023 of GoI, MoEF & CC (FC Division). 2. Your Memo No.13669/9F (MG) 398/2022 dated 07.07.2023.

In inviting a reference to the memos cited above on the subject this is to inform that the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Division vide his Memo No.5110 dated 23.8.2023(**Copy enclosed**) has submitted point-wise compliance on the observation made vide your memo under reference. The point-wise compliance is furnished below :-

Observation No. (ii) A

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

In compliance to this observation, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, 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 his Letter No-8330/CWLW-FDWC-FD-0011-2023, dated - 27.07.2023. (Copy enclosed as-Annexure-I).

ObservationNo. (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

As reported by the DFO, Angul Forest Division 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, Soil Moisture Conservation Plan vide Work Order No- WO/CPC/SCML/22-23/11, dated -15.11.2022 (copy enclosed as Annexure-II). The Consultant has communicated that for identification of land equivalent to mining lease area and preparation of Soil Moisture Conservation Plan will take approximately 07 to 09 months period. (Copy enclosed as Annexure-III). Based on the communication of the Consultant, the compliance to the 2^{nd} shortcoming will take considerable time, due to which approval of Forest Clearance Stage-I of Subhadra OCP will get further delayed.

Further, the user agency has submitted an undertaking to submit the Stream Conservation Plan, Soil Conservation Plan and other measures to prevent adverse impact of Mining on water bodies duly approved by RCCF, Angul Circle with Stage-I compliance which is enclosed as Annexure-IV. In this connection the DFO has reported that the UA will pay for preparation and implementation of the above plans.

In view of the above, the annexures and undertaking furnished by the User Agency and duly signed by the DFO, Angul Division is forwarded herewith in three sets for favour of information and necessary action.

Encl: - As above.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul.

Memo No. 3413 / Dated. 28-8-23

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Angul Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo no.5110 dated 23.8.2023.

> Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, 2Angul.

Memo No. <u>3414</u> / Dated. 28.8-29 Copy forwarded to the General Manager, Subhadra Area (MCL) for information and necessary action .

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Angul