

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS: SAMBALPUR.

Memo No. 2338 /3F(M) 97 /2021

Dated, Sambalpur the, 29th, September, 2023.

To

The Conservator of Forests(Nodal),
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub:-

Proposal for non-forestry use of 417.073 ha. & Re-Diversion (Change of Land use) of 171.774 ha. forest land in favour of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited for Integrated Lakhanpur- Belpahar-Lilari Opencast Coal Mining Project in district Jharsuguda (Odisha)-reg.

Ref:-

(i) No.8-280/1989-FC, Vol. dt.01.09.2023 of Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
(ii) Your Memo No.18081 dt.05.09.2023.
(iii)Memo No.5428 dt.26.09.2023 of DFO, Jharsuguda Forest Division.

In inviting a reference to the memo cited above, the Divisional Forest Officer, Jharsuguda Forest Division has submitted the point wise compliance report as sought for by Advisory Committee, MoEF & CC, Govt. of India vide his memo No.5427 dt.26.09.2023 (**copy enclosed**) is sent herewith for favour of your information and necessary action at your end.

Encl.:- Compliance report (3 copies).

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests
Sambalpur Circle.

Memo No.

/Dated

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Jharsuguda Forest Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No.5427 dt.26.09.2023.

Regional Chief Conservator of Forests
Sambalpur Circle



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Please check
[Signature]

ଜଙ୍ଗଲ, ପରିବେଶ ଓ ଜଳ ବାୟୁ ପରିବର୍ତ୍ତନ ବିଭାଗ, ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାର
ଖଣ୍ଡ଼ିୟ ବନାୟୁକାରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ ଝାରସୁଗୁଡ଼ା ବରଗଣ୍ଡା ।

ଇମେଲ.- dfo.jharsuguda@odisha.gov.in, ଦୂର ଭାଷ/ ପଫା. ନଂ- ୦୨୭୪୫ ୨, ୫୫୦୪୫ ।

Memo No. 5427 /4F (Misc.),
Dated Jharsuguda the 26th September, 2023.

To,
The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,
Sambalpur.

Sub: - Proposal for non-forestry use of 417.073 ha. & Re-diversion (Change of Land use) of 171.774 ha. forest land in favour of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited for Integrated Lakhanpur-Belpahar-Lilari Opencast Coal Mining Project in district Jharsuguda (Odisha)-reg.

Ref: - (i) No.8-280/1989-FC, Vol. dt.01.09.2023 of the Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
(ii) Memo No. 18080/9F(MG)-372/2021, dt.05.09.2023 of the Conservator of Forests (Nodal), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, BBSR.

In inviting a kind reference to the memo cited above on the captioned subject, I submit herewith the point wise compliance report on the observations raised by the Advisory Committee, MoEF & CC, Govt. of India for favour of kind information & necessary action.

(i) *The proposal wise KML file of the 541.622 ha forest area which has been already diverted shall be submitted by the State government in different colours.*

In compliance to the above, the KML file of 541.622 Ha of already diverted forest area has been enclosed in CD/DVD format.

(ii) *The RO Bhubaneswar has submitted the monitoring report for the proposals which were approved for change in land use of 25.238 ha and re-diversion of 84.399 ha. The details of these earlier re-diversion proposals and change in land use with KML file in different colours shall be submitted.*

In compliance to the above, the details of earlier diversion are as follows:

Sl No.	Project Name	Re-Diversion/Change of Land Use	Clearance granted on
1	Lakhanpur OCP	84.399 Ha [Re-diverted out of 233.43 Ha]	Stage -II Clearance obtained Vide No. F.No 8-280/1989 -FC(Vol-I) Dated 19 th January, 2012
2	Lakhanpur OCP	25.238 Ha [Re-diverted out of 233.43 Ha]	STAGE -II Clearance obtained Vide No. F.No 8-280/1989 -FC(Vol-II) Dated 2 nd November, 2018

The KML file of 25.23 Ha and 84.399 Ha of change of land use of already diverted forest area has been enclosed in CD/DVD format.

- (iii) *The UA has submitted an approved integrated mining plan which was approved in 2018. The area involved in 6 different diversion proposals has now been integrated for which change of land use of 171.77 ha is proposed. Because mining operations are going in the earlier diverted area in which land use change is being sought, therefore, there is a possibility that the mines will have been operating as per the latest land use plan which has not been approved under FCA, 1980 till date. The report on this issue shall be submitted by the State.*

In compliance to the above, as submitted by the User Agency & verification of the KML file, the mining plan for Integrated Lakhanpur-Belpahar-Lilari OCP (40MTY) has been approved by MCL Board on 23.10.2018 as per which the mining activities in 171.774 Ha has been proposed.

However, the respective projects viz. Lakhanpur OCP, Belpahar OCM and Lilari OCP are operating as per their respective approved mining plan. The area of 171.774 Ha for which change of land use has been proposed has not been disturbed and therefore the land use pattern has been maintained as per the approved mining plan of respective projects i.e. Lakhanpur OCP, Belpahar OCM and Lilari OCP.

- (iv) *State Government shall submit the status of reclamation of the mined out area and explore the possibility of using them for ACA. A detailed report shall be submitted.*

In compliance to the above, as submitted by the User Agency, the Status of Reclamation of the mines is tabulated below:

Mines	Backfilled area		External OB Dump		Block & Avenue		Total	
	Area	Plants	Area	Plants	Area	Plants	Area	Plants
Belpahar OCP	108.80	266750	55.33	138250	252.50	413664	416.63	818664
Lakhanpur OCP	129.70	268350	17.50	43750	41.92	200244	189.12	512344
Lilari OCP	26.00	58015	25.40	72251	70.10	178939	121.50	309205
Total	264.50	593115	98.23	254251	364.52	792847	727.25	1640213

Further, as per the approved Mining Plan & Mine Closure Plan of Integrated Lakhanpur-Belpahar-Lilari OCP, the present area of Lakhanpur OCP and Belpahar OCM has been proposed to be rehandled and dumping respectively.

Therefore, the existing reclaimed areas will be utilized for mining and its allied activities in the proposed Integrated Lakhanpur-Belpahar-Lilari OCP (40MTY). Hence, at present it is not feasible to offer the reclaimed areas of the projects for ACA.

- (v) ***The State shall submit a detailed report on implementation of SSWLMP along with the justification for delay in implementation.***

In compliance to the above, the User Agency has submitted the details of expenditure incurred in respect of SSWLMP, which are furnished below:

The Site-Specific Wildlife Management Plan have been approved by the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Odisha and Lakhanpur OCP and Belpahar OCM of MCL has deposited Rs.2,05,00,000/- on 18.05.2011 and Rs.3,35,17,000/- on 20.01.2014 respectively in the CAMPA fund.

The user agency (MCL) has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1,48,57,425/- (against the approved amount of Rs.36,00,000/-) in respect of Lakhanpur OCP. In case of Belpahar OCP, the user agency (MCL) has incurred an expenditure of Rs.19,47,12,15/- (against the approved amount of Rs. 1,54,00,000/-) on carrying out approved project area interventions.

Further, no fund allocation and requisition has been made by this office previously. However, the approved interventions will be included in CAMPA APO-2024-25.

- (vi) ***The justification for not filing the Prosecution report in the violation cases shall also be submitted.***

In compliance to the above observation, OR case No.113 of 96/97, OR case No.120 of 97/98, OR case No.125 of 97/98, OR case No.17 of 1999/2000, OR case No.118 of 1999/2000 of Belpahar Range have been booked against the MCL authorities at that time. As per the available records of this office, no prosecution report has been filed in the court and the reason for the same is unknown as per the available records.

Jharsuguda Forest Division has been created after reorganization of Forest Department with effect from 1st October, 2003 and the Division was then named as Sambalpur (North) Division. Subsequently, the Division has been renamed as Jharsuguda Division with Headquarters at Jharsuguda in 2013. However, the


prosecution report will be filed in the court in future after obtaining of relevant records from the Divisional Forest Officer, Sambalpur Forest Division.


In respect of OR case No.17 of 1999/2000 and OR case No.118 of 1999/2000, the cost of Penal Compensatory Afforestation has been deposited by the User agency and subsequently, 138 Ha. four times area under violation has been raised over degraded forest land in Grindola RF by erstwhile DFO, Sambalpur Division.

Encl: Compliance report (4 copies)

Memo No. 5428 /Dated. 26.09.2023.

Copy forwarded to the Conservator of Forests (Nodal), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, BBSR for favour of kind information and necessary action with reference to his letter No. 18080/9F(MG)-372/2021, dt.05.09.2023.


Divisional Forest Officer,
Jharsuguda Forest Division.


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Jharsuguda Forest Division.