



OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ROURKELA CIRCLE,  
AT/P.O. PANPOSH, ROURKELA-769 004.

Memo No. 4443 /3F (Misc)-771/2021.

Date: 29.12.2022

To

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

Sub:

Proposal seeking clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate change, Govt. of India for diversion of 342.870Ha forest land for non-forestry purpose towards development of Dip side of Manoharpur Coal Mining Project of Odisha Coal & Power Ltd.- Submission of compliance report reg.

Ref:

1. Your Memo No. 1047 Dtd.17.01.2022.
2. This office Memo No. 213 Dtd.18.01.2022 .
3. Memo No.7665 Dtd.26.12.2022 of the DFO, Sundargarh Division.

With reference to the aforementioned Memos on the captioned subject, the DFO, Sundargarh Division vide his Memo No.7664 Dtd.26.12.2022 addressed to this office & copy thereof endorsed to you in the next Memo of even date has submitted the point wise compliance deficiencies observed vide your Memo No. 1047 Dtd.17.01.2022 in respect of the aforementioned proposal which may kindly be perused.

The point wise compliance submitted by the DFO, Sundargarh Division is as follows:-

- 1. Ministry of coal, Government of India vide S.O. No. 529 DATED 16.07.2020 Declared acquisition of land measuring 684.62 ha (Revenue land 405.89ha & forest land 278.73 ha) under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & development) Act, 1957 for Dip side Manoharpur coal Block, IB valley coal fields in Hemgiri Tahasil of Sundargarh District, published in Gazette of India. Besides, 684.62 ha; it is proposed for utilization of 95.82 ha (64.14 ha of forest land + 31.68 ha revenue forest land) in the diversion proposal for ancillary activities outside coal block. Necessary documents in support of allotment/acquisition of 95.82 ha of forest and non-forest land is not furnished in the diversion proposal.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User Agency has intimated that, the total requirement of land for development of the coal block after DGPS survey comes to 780.44 ha (684.62ha within the coal block + 95.82 ha outside the coal block). Out of the total area, the area of Forest land is 342.870 ha and that of non-forest land is 437.570 ha.

The area falling within the Coal Block, i.e. 684.62 ha of land, has been notified in Gazette Notification under Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & development) Act, 1957. The copy of same is placed in DP at **Pg No.263(File Vol. I)**.

The total outside area required for the development of the Coal Block is 95.82 ha (64.14 ha of revenue forest land + 31.68 ha Non-Forest land).

- Forest land over 64.14 ha outside the Coal Block has been included within the diversion proposal of 342.87 ha. (278.73Ha inside the coal block + 64.14Ha outside the coal block).

The non-forest land i.e. 31.68 ha has been processed for acquisition through IDCO, Odisha. Necessary documents in support of allotment/acquisition of 31.68 ha is placed in DP at **Pg. no. 267 (File Vol. I)**. The acquisition of the same is under process.

**2. Revenue forest proposed for diversion in village sarabahal is 8.18 ha, but as per the land schedule authenticated by the Tahasildar, Hemgir it is coming to 7.37 ha. There is shortage of 0.81 ha area.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User Agency has intimated that in village Sarbahal, 8.18 ha of Revenue Forest land has been applied for the FDP and the same has been authenticated by Tahasildar, Hemgir. A copy of authenticated land schedule measuring an area of 8.18 ha is placed in DP at **Pg. No 155 (File Vol. I)**.

**3. Compensatory Afforestation**

- (i) **It is mentioned that 342.90 ha of Non-Forest land in 09 villages have been identified for CA. But the area comes to 267.00 ha as per KML file. There is shortage of 75.90 ha CA land.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, 342.902 ha of Non-Forest Govt. land was identified in Sundargarh District of Odisha for Compensatory Afforestation Purpose. But on verification of identified CA land (i.e. 342.902 ha), an area of 245.318 ha was found to be of Non-Forest land and the remaining area came under DLC list. Hence, as per applicable guidelines of DLC, apart from the Non-Forest land (i.e. 245.318 ha), DLC land over 93.691 ha and additional DLC land of 109.933ha have been taken to meet the applicable norms / criteria. Thus, the total area taken for CA purpose comes to 448.942 Ha.

Further, the User Agency has submitted the KML file of 245.318 ha (non-forest CA land), 93.691 ha (DLC land), 109.933 ha (additional DLC land) in form of CD which is attached along with the DP.

- (ii) **It is observed from the KML file that some area out of 267.00 ha fall in the State of Chhattisgarh (village Laxmanpa & Kunjanala) & Jharkhand (village Galehibahal).**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User Agency has now submitted the land over 448.942 ha (Non-Forest land 245.318 ha of, DLC land - 93.691 ha and additional DLC land - 109.933ha) for the propose of CA which falls in 15 villages in Sundargarh District of Odisha and the entire CA land (i.e. 448.942 ha) has been verified by the ORSAC after DGPS survey vide their letter dtd. 18.06.2022 and 29.11.2022 & 12.12.2022.

Further, the User Agency has submitted that as per the ORSAC verification; total CA land measuring 448.942ha is falling within the Sundargarh district of Odisha and the DGPS surveyed map certified by ORSAC for the Non-Forest govt. land, DLC land and additional DLC land which are attached along with the diversion proposal (**refer Plate 6 & 7 of File Volume II**).

**(iii) Although DGPS survey of CA land has been done, but the same has not been vetted by ORSAC.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the Non-Forest Govt. land over 245.318ha, DLC land over 93.691ha and additional DLC land over 109.933ha identified for CA have been verified by the ORSAC after DGPS survey vide their letter dt. 18.06.2022 and 29.11.2022 & 12.12.2022. and the DGPS surveyed map duly certified by ORSAC for the entire CA land are attached along with the DP (refer Plate 6 & 7 File Volume II).

**(iv) CA Scheme has not been prepared as per the guidelines issued vide O.o.NO. 1109 DATED 08.11.2021, Memo No. 21393 dated 13.12.2021 of PCCF & HoFF, Odisha.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the CA scheme has been revised and prepared in accordance with the onetime cost norm issued by PCCF & HoFF, Odisha, which is placed in DP at **Pg. No. 109 A (File Vol. I).**

**(v) Equivalent non-forest land suitable for CA should be identified and extent of area determined through DGPS survey duly vetted by ORSAC to fulfil the criteria of loss of "Land by Land".**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the Non-Forest Govt. land & DLC land over 448.942 ha has been identified for the purpose to fulfil the criteria of loss of "Land by Land" and the same has been duly vetted by ORSAC vide their letter dt. 18.06.2022 and 29.11.2022 & 12.12.2022. The DGPS surveyed map duly vetted by ORSAC for the entire CA land is attached along with the DP (refer Plate 6 & 7 File Volume II).

**(vi) Seedlings @ minimum 1000/ha of the proposed forest land for diversion is required to be planted to fulfil the criteria of loss of "Tree by Tree".**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, plantation of seedlings @ minimum 1000/ ha has been considered in the revised CA scheme to fulfil the criteria of loss of "Tree by Tree" thereby keeping the provision of plantation of 3,43,000 seedlings in the CA scheme. The revised CA scheme in this regard is placed in DP at **Page no. 190A (File Vol. I).**

**(vii) The CA Scheme is required to be revisited and revised scheme to be submitted as per the guidelines issued by the MoEF & CC and from this office.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the CA scheme has prepared & revised as per the latest guidelines of MoEF & CC / PCCF & HoFF, Odisha which is placed in DP at **Page No. 190A (File Vol. I).**

**4. Treatment map showing phased reclamation not submitted.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User agency has submitted the treatment maps showing phase wise reclamation approved by Ministry of Coal (MoC) which is placed in DP (refer Plate 9, File Vol. II).

**5. Document in support of application for obtaining certificate under FRA, 2006 from the concerned District Collector not submitted.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User agency has submitted that based on the request made by them, the Collector & District Magistrate, Sundargarh has directed BDO/Tahasildar, Hemgir to conduct Palli Sabha meeting for issuance of FRA certificate which is placed in DP at **Pg. no. 209 (File Vol. I).** Further, the User Agency has submitted an undertaking that FRA (Forest Right Act) certificate will be submitted as soon as it is obtained from the competent authority which is placed in DP at **Pg. No. 208 (File Vol. I).**

- 6. Presence of Barking Deer, Wild bear, Jackal, Fox, Indian Hare and Mongoose etc. Wild Animals is mentioned in the site Inspection Report. It is also mentioned that Elephants are visiting area occasionally. Nothing is mentioned regarding requirement of SSWLCP at the time of recommendation of the proposal.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the Site Specific Wildlife Conservation Plan with total financial outlay of Rs.847.307 lakh has been approved by the PCCF (CWLW), Bhubaneswar for the development of Dip-side Manoharpur Coal Block which is placed in DP at **Pg. no. 232 (File Vol. I)** vide letter No.9805 Dtd.04.10.2021.

- 7. Sample tree enumeration has been done over 45.603 ha in 28 sample plots as mentioned in the Diversion proposal to assess the number of trees existing in the proposed area; but not extrapolated. The number of trees to be cut and removed should be extrapolated separately for forest and non-forest land. The tree species existing over the area should be mentioned.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the User Agency has reported that sample tree enumeration has been carried out over the Forest and Non-Forest land and the No. of trees existing in the proposed area after extrapolation are as under:

The extrapolated trees over Forest land (a)-95,660 trees

The extrapolated trees over Non-Forest (Govt.+ Pvt. land)land (b)-79,200 trees

Total trees (a+b) - 1,74,860 trees

Further, the User Agency has submitted the statement showing calculation of trees by extrapolation with abstract of sample tree enumeration which is placed in DP at **Pg. No.176-177 (File Vol. I)**. Also the complete tree enumeration list of forest and non-forest land is attached separately with DP at **Pg. No.178-185**.

- 8. It is proposed to change the course of natural stream i.e. "Garianala" coming within the proposed coal bearing area. Detailed approved plan by the competent authority has not been submitted.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, Engineer-in-Chief (Water Resources) has recommended the proposal submitted for diversion of Garianalla on 01.12.2022 to Add. Chief Secretary, DoWR, Bhubaneswar for approval. The copy of this recommendation letter provided by user agency is placed in DP at **Page no. 251 (File Vol. I)** along with an undertaking regarding the submission of Catchment Area Treatment Plan (CATP), if applicable at **Pg. No.250/DP**.

- 9. The Letter of Authority has been issued in favour of Mr. Nihar Ranjan Satpathy, Deputy General Manager (Mines); but the documents and maps have been signed by persons other than the authorized signatory.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the authorized signatory for signing of documents and maps has been changed to Mr. Lella Ramachandra Reddy, AGM (Mines). A copy of authorization letter provided by user agency is placed in DP at **Page No. 14 (File Vol. I)**.

- 10. Document furnished regarding environmental clearance is illegible, a fresh clear copy is to be given. Documents and maps may be put in sequence as per check list of the diversion proposal.**

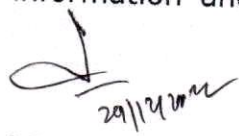
As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, the user Agency furnished an undertaking to submit Environmental Clearance after obtaining the same from the MoEF & CC. The Environmental Clearance proposal is under process and the copy minutes of meeting in this regard is place at **Pg.No. 211 to 219/DP**. The Documents and maps have been put in sequence as per check list of the diversion proposal.

- 11. KML file/shape file of proposed forest area for diversion is not furnished.**

As reported by the DFO, Sundargarh Division, KML file of the proposed forest area to be diverted in the form of CD which is attached with DP.


The diversion proposal resubmitted by the DFO, Sundargarh Division is forwarded herewith in triplicate for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.

  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle

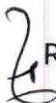
Memo No / Date:

Copy forwarded to the Divisional Forest Officer, Sundargarh Division for information and necessary action with reference to his Memo No. 7664 Dtd.26.12.2022.

  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle

Memo No / Date:

Copy forwarded to the Addl. General Manager (Mines), OCPL, Sundargarh for information and necessary action with reference to 7666 Dtd.26.12.2022 of DFO, Sundargarh Division.

  
Regional Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Rourkela Circle