Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,

Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110003 **Dated: June, 2023**

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Subject: Diversion of 139.86 ha forest land in compartment No. RF-276 & PF-277, 278, 279 of Village- Muhair and Padri, Range Baidhan of Singrouli Forest Division for Block-B Expansion Opencast Coal Mining in favour of M/s Northern Coalfield Limited in Singrauli District of Madhya Pradesh State (Online No. FP/MP/MIN/44294/2020) – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the PCCF (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Madhya Pradesh letter No. F-1/823/2021/10-11/2176 dated 26.05.2023 on the above mentioned subject and inform that:

- I. The State Government has now submitted the KML file of the mining lease boundary covering an area of 1756.77 ha. In the said kml file it has been found that the user agency has excluded or not applied for the diversion of 24.186 ha forest land. This 24.186 ha forest patch is adjacent to RF-276 (11 ha) which has been proposed for excavation work. The justification for keeping the 24 ha area within the mining lease out of diversion proposal and the proposed measures for the protection of the same shall be submitted.
- II. The total forest & non-forest area under Safety zone found through KML file is 15.99 ha whereas the safety zone area mentioned in the Mining plan is 18.08 ha. This needs clarification and submission of correct KML file of Safety zone as per approved mining plan.
- III. As per DSS analysis it has been found that out of 15.99 ha area under safety zone, total 1.464 ha area of safety zone is falling under the compartment No PF-277, PF-278 & PF-279 which have been proposed for dumping and RF-276 which has been proposed for excavation purpose. Therefore, the State Govt. shall clarify whether 1.464 ha area of safety zone coming under proposed diversion will be utilized by the user agency for dumping and excavation work or otherwise.
- IV. The mining plan mentions an area of 18.08 ha for safety zone whereas the same has not been mentioned in the component wise break-up in online Part-I. The same needs clarification.
- V. As per DSS analysis it has been found that the two newly proposed CA patches namely Range-Jiyavan, Compt No.PF 770, PF 771 (25 ha) and Range-Jiyavan, Compt No.PF 752, PF 753 (25 ha) cannot be accepted for carrying out plantation work because the same CA sites have already been proposed by the State Govt. vide their letter dated 29.03.2023 in the In-Principle/ Stage-I approved Bina Kakari

- Amalgamation OC Project. Therefore, the State government shall revisit the CA areas and propose Compensatory Afforestation areas as per extant rules and guidelines.
- VI. The DGPS map and SoI map of CA sites proposed in the instant proposal have not been uploaded by the State Govt. in online Part-II. The same needs to be uploaded online.

In view of the above, the state govt. is requested to submit the above information at the earliest for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by Suneet Bhardwaj Date: 26-06-2023 12:55:52

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Sd/-

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

- 1. The PCCF (HoFF), Department of Forest, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
- 2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal;
- 3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal;
- 4. User Agency;
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.