

No.J-11015/280/2013-IA-II(M)pt.
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA-II (Coal Mining) Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, N Delhi-3
Dated:18th March, 2019

To,

The Chief General Manager (CP&P)
M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
PO - Jagruti Vihar, Burla,
District **Sambalpur** - 768 020 (Odisha)

E-mail: cgmenvt2014@gmail.com; gmenvt_mcl@yahoo.co.in

Sub: Environmental Clearance for Bhubaneswari Opencast Expansion Project from 25 MTPA to 28 MTPA of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd in ML area of 638.341 ha in Tehsil Talcher, District Angul (Odisha) - Clarification - reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No.IA/OR/CMIN/87623/2018 dated 28th December, 2018 on the above mentioned subject.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, vide letter dated 16th February, 2018, has granted environmental clearance to the expansion of Bhubaneswari Opencast Coal Mining Project from 25 to 28 MTPA in mine lease area of 638.341 ha, subject to compliance of certain terms and conditions, which *inter-alia* included the following:-

'The EAC shall review compliance of the actions taken on observations of the Regional Office before December, 2018, and make its recommendations for continuance of the project thereafter....'


3. On examination of the records, it is noted that there was no time frame prescribed for the said environmental clearance. As per one of the conditions stipulated therein, the EAC was to review compliance of the actions taken on observations of the Regional Office before December, 2018 and to make its recommendations for continuance of the project thereafter.

4. To monitor compliance status of the conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance, site inspection was carried out by the Ministry's Regional Office at Bhubneswar on 24th December, 2018, and the report in this regard has been forwarded vide letter dated 26th December, 2018. The sectoral EAC in its meeting held on 24th January, 2019, has recommended for continuance of the environmental clearance dated 16th February, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to terms and conditions stipulated therein remaining the same.

5. In view of the above, it is to clarify that the environment clearance dated 16th February, 2018 granted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change in favour of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd to the expansion of Bhubaneswari Opencast Coal Mining Project from 25 to 28 MTPA in mine lease area of 638.341 ha located in Tehsil Talcher, District Angul (Odisha), remains valid for a period of 30 years or life of the mine, whichever is earlier.




6. Meanwhile, it is also noted that total mine lease is 658.724 ha, which includes forest land of 20.383 ha falling under excavation area. The said forest land is yet to be diverted for non-forestry purposes and thus having a direct bearing on the said environmental clearance. Accordingly, you are requested to clarify the status in this regard for further action into the matter.


18/03/2019
(Munna Kumar Shah)
Scientist D

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional office (EZ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, A-31, Chandershekharpur, **Bhubaneswar** - 751023 (Odisha)
3. The Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar (Odisha)
4. The Member Secretary, CPCB, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi -32
5. The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi
6. The Member Secretary, Orissa State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilkanthanagar, Unit VIII, Bhubaneswar - 751012 (Odisha)
7. The Advisor, Coal India Limited, SCOPE Minar, Core-I, 4th Floor, Vikas Marg, Laxmi nagar, New Delhi
8. The District Collector, Jharsuguda, Government of Odisha
9. Monitoring File 10. Guard File 11. Record File 12. Notice Board


18/03/2019
(Munna Kumar Shah)
Scientist D