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No. 8-280/89-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
Deptt. of Environment, Forests & Wildlife  
Paryavaran Bhavan, CGO Complex,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003.

October 8, 1990.

To

The Secretary  
Forest Department  
Govt. of Orissa,  
Bhubaneshwar.

5731  
7-10-90

Subject:- Diversion of 233.43 ha. of forest land for Lakhanpur opencast coal mining project in Sambalpur District.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. OF(Cons.)/38/81/8542 dated 12.4.89 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Govt. in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendation of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section 2 of the Forest(Conservation) Act, 1980 for release of 233.43 ha. of forest land for Lakhanpur opencast coal mining project in Sambalpur Distt., subject to the following conditions :-

- i) The legal status of the forest land will remain unchanged.
- ii) Compensatory plantation to be raised over equivalent non-forest land at the cost of the project. The non-forest land identified for this purpose should be handed over to the Forest Deptt. and notified as protected forests before the release of forest lands being diverted by these orders. Compensatory afforestation scheme to be formulated expeditiously & a copy of the same sent to the Ministry for record. Regional CCF, Bhubaneshwar to monitor the progress of afforestation.
- iii) Mined over area to be reclaimed/restored after mining/quarrying is over.
- iv) In order that the construction labour and staff while working on the project in the forest area may not cause destruction to the forest area for meeting their fuelwood needs, the user agency will establish fuelwood depots, and will provide the fuelwood to them free of cost.
- v) Arrangements to be made by the project authorities for free supply of fuelwood or other sources of energy to the staff and labourers engaged in the project free of cost.
- vi) No explosives should be allowed to be stored in the forest area.

File Forest  
12/10/90

- vi) The conditions/safeguards proposed by the Environment wing of this Ministry while clearing the project, to be followed rigidly.
- viii) The safety zone may properly be demarcated.
- ix) Tree plantation may be done in the safety zone in consultation with Forest Department.

Yours faithfully,

*WKS*

( BHAGWAN SINGH )

ASSTT. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTS

Copy to :-

1. Principal CCF, Govt. of Orissa, Bhubuneshw
2. CCF(Central), Regional Officer, Bhubaneshwa
3. Regional Officer(HQ), New Delhi.
4. Guard file.

*WKS*

( BHAGWAN SINGH )

ASSTT. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF FOREST

Copy to Project Officer,  
Laxmanpur

*[Signature]*  
16/11/90