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Dated the January 7, 2002

To

General Manager (Environment)  
M/s South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.,  
Seepat Road, P.O.No.60,  
BILASPUR-495 006,  
Chhattisgarh

Subject: Nawapara underground coal mine of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited located in Maheshpur Village, Tehsil Surajpur Development Block, Surguja District, Chhattisgarh - ex-post-facto environmental clearance reg.

Sir,

This has reference to Ministry of Coal's letter No.43011/8/2001-CPAM dated 07.03.2001 and your letters dated 15.03.2001, 22.06.2001, 16.07.2001, 17.07.2001, 18.07.2001, 26.09.2001 and 25.10.2001 on the subject mentioned above. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application. The mine is in operation since 1995 without prior approval of the Ministry. Show cause notice under section-5 of the EPA, 1986 was issued to the Company on 24.12.1999. The total mining lease area of 451.4 ha. includes area for colony and 71.98 ha. of forest land. Forestry clearance has been obtained. Displacement of families from the mine site is not involved. The annual targeted production capacity of the mine is 0.18 million tonnes. Approval from the State Pollution Control Board has been obtained. Public hearing was held on 18.08.1998 and 14.12.1998. Water requirement of 270 m<sup>3</sup>/day will be met from tube wells. Capital cost of the project is Rs.19.14 crores.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above mentioned coal mine of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited for 0.18 MTY production involving lease area of 451.4 ha. under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 04.05.1994 and 10.04.1997 subject to the compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:

**A. Specific conditions**

- (i) Regular monitoring of subsidence movement on the surface over working area and impact on water bodies / vegetation / structures / surrounding should be continued till movement ceases completely. In case of observation of any high rate of subsidence movement, appropriate measures should be taken to avoid loss of life and material. Cracks should be effectively plugged with ballast and clayey soil / suitable material.

- (ii) Top soil should be properly stacked with proper slope at earmarked dump site (s) with adequate measures and should be used for reclamation and rehabilitation of the mined out areas.
- (iii) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from mineral dumps. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drain should be regularly desilted and maintained.
- (iv) Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of dumps to check run-off and siltation should be based on the rain fall data.
- (v) Mine discharge after proper settling should be made available for agricultural purpose through a properly developed distribution network.
- (vi) Coal handling plant should be provided with adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- (vii) A green belt of adequate width should be raised by planting the local species along the mine boundary, dumps, ventilation fan, road, colony and in selected open areas in consultation with local DFO / Agriculture Department. Density of tree should be at least 2500 plants / ha.
- (viii) Study report on subsidence and stage wise development plan starting from 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation till the end of the mine at an interval of 5 years should be submitted to the Ministry within six months.
- (ix) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality should be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The interval of monitoring should be four times a year – pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November and winter (January)), and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to MoEF and Central Ground Water Board for information.
- (x) A detailed mine decommissioning plan should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests five years in advance for approval.
- (xi) The project proponent should submit an action plan for eco-development measures and / or welfare measures for the local community within three months and obtain approval of the Ministry. The amount to be spent on eco-development /welfare measures should be at least 0.25% of the project cost. This is in addition to the amount already committed for community development activities in TMP and letter No. SECL/BSP/ENVT/2001/67 dated 15.03.2001.

- (xii) The project authorities should implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Chattisgarh region.

**B. General conditions**

- i. No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- ii. No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral coal and waste should be made.
- iii. Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as the buffer zone for RPM, SPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> & CO monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features, and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- iv. Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> & CO) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional office at Bhopal and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- v. Drills should be wet operated or with dust extractors.
- vi. Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly monitored and data recorded properly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, wagon loading, dumps, loading & unloading sites should be provided and properly maintained.
- vii. Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operations of HEMM, etc should be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- viii. Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1993 and 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- ix. Acid mine water, if any, has to be treated and disposed of after conforming to the standard prescribed by the competent authority.
- x. Environmental laboratory should be established with adequate number and type of pollution monitoring and analysis equipment in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- xi. Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.

Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to coal dust and take corrective measures, if needed.

- xii. A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- xiii. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry.
- xiv. The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- xv. A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom and suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- xvi. State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collector's office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- xvii. The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen at web site of the Ministry of Environment & Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.

3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

4. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance.

5. The above conditions will be enforced, inter alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules.

(K. K. Jain)  
Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Secretariat, Raipur.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, E - 2 / 240 Arera Colony, Bhopal - 462 016.
4. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar New Delhi - 110 032.
5. Chairman, Chattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, 14/3, Park Street, Choubey Colony, Raipur.
6. Advisor (EI), Ministry of Environment and Forests, New Delhi.
7. Monitoring file.
8. Guard file.
9. Record file.

  
(K. K. Jain)  
Director