

Minutes of the 42nd meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) held during 24th January, 2019 for appraisal of coal mining projects at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi-3

The 42nd meeting of the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Coal mining projects was held during 24th January, 2019 in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change at Indus Meeting Hall, Jal Wing, Ground Floor, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi to consider the proposals relating to coal mining sector. The following members were present:

1.	Dr. Navin Chandra	-	Chairman
2.	Dr. N. P. Shukla		Member
3.	Dr. Manjari Srivastava		Member
4.	Shri Surmya D Vora		Member
5.	Dr. G.P. Kundargi	-	Member
6.	Shri N.S.Mondal		Member (Representative of CEA)
7.	Dr. R. K. Giri	-	Member (Representative of IMD)
8.	Dr. S. K. Paliwal		Member (Representative of CPCB)
9.	Dr. Sunil Kumar Gupta		Member
10.	Dr. Jai Krishna Pandey	-	Member
11.	Shri S. K. Srivastava	-	Member Secretary

Confirmation of minutes

There being no comments from any of the members of the Committee, minutes of the 41st meeting of the EAC held on 13-14 December, 2018 were confirmed in the presence of the members who had been present in the 41st meeting.

Details of the proposals considered during the meeting, deliberations made and the recommendations of the Committee are explained in the respective agenda items as under:-

Agenda No.42.1

Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project of 2 MTPA in ML area of 435.68 ha of M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited, located at District Khammam (Telangana) - For Environmental Clearance

[IA/CMIN/TG/23509/2014; F. No. J-11015/212/2014-IA-II(M)]

42.1.1 The proposal is for environmental clearance to Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project of capacity 2 MTPA in mine lease area of 435.68 ha of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited located in village Kistaram, Tehsil Sathupalli, District Khammam (Telangana).

42.1.2 The proposal was earlier considered by the EAC in its meeting held during 30-31 January, 2017, wherein the Committee desired that proposal to be submitted after receipt of Stage-I approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in respect of forest land involved in the project.

After receipt of stage-I forest clearance for diversion of 285.44 ha of forest land vide this Ministry's letter dated 11th September, 2018, the proposal was again considered by EAC in its meeting held during 13-14 December, 2018. During the meeting, the Committee noted that the said forest clearance dated 11th September, 2018 is also subject to the condition as below:-
'The environmental conditions in and around Sathupalli town may be appraised by the EC Appraisal Committee separately'.

There being no information made available in compliance to the above observations, the proposal was deferred for the needful.

42.1.3 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:

The proposal is for grant of environmental clearance to Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project of capacity 2 MTPA in mine lease area of 435.68 ha of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited located in village Kistaram, Mandal Sathupalli, District Khammam (Telangana).

Project involves 285.44 ha of forest land. Stage-I forest clearance for diversion of the same for non-forestry use has been obtained vide MoEF&CC letter No.8-55/2014-FC dated 11th September, 2018.

Mining Plan for the project of 2 MTPA in mine lease area of 435.68 ha, including Progressive Mine Closure Plan, was approved by the Ministry of Coal vide their letter dated 21st March, 2014.

Public hearing for the project of 2 MTPA capacity in an area of 435.68 ha was conducted by the State Pollution Control Board on 19th November, 2015. Major issues raised in the public hearing included compensation for project affecter people, mitigation measures for pollution control, employment to land losers, de-siltation of tanks, R&R. The project proponent has proposed an action plan to comply with the commitments made in the public hearing and the same found to be satisfactory.

The in-principle/stage-I approval granted by the Ministry vide letter dated 11th September, 2018 for diversion of 285.44 ha of forest land, is inter-alia subject to the condition 'The environmental conditions in and around Sathupalli town may be appraised by the EC Appraisal Committee separately'. In compliance to the said observations, a report (prepared by Kakatiya University, Warangal) has been submitted on the study of impact of opencast mining project on Sathupalli town, flora and fauna in the adjoining forest along with measures to be undertaken to mitigate the impacts.

42.1.4 *The EAC, in the first instance, observed that the report submitted by the project proponent was lacking for the requisite details in respect of impact of mining operations on air and water quality, ground water, stability of residential structures, source of livelihood for the locals of Sathupalli town, their dependency on the forest, flora and fauna, methodology for health survey, etc. Further, the report was found generic in nature and not addressing actual assessment and impact on environmental parameters in and around Sathupalli town.*

The Committee also observed that the said report was prepared by Kakatiya University in association with the project proponent themselves, which amounts to conflict of interest and thus not acceptable.

The proposal was deferred for the needful on the above lines.

Agenda No.42.2

Bhatadi OC Expansion project from 0.975 MTPA to 1.465 MTPA (Peak) in ML area of 847.37 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited, located in Village Bhatadi, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra) - For Environmental Clearance

[IA/MH/CMIN/72758/2018, J-11015/151/2014-IA-II(M)]

42.2.1 The proposal is for expansion of Bhatadi OC from 0.975 MTPA to 1.465 MTPA in mine

lease area of 847.367 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited, located in Village Bhatadi, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra)

42.2.2 The proposal was earlier considered by the EAC in its meeting held on 17-18 April, 2018. During the meeting, the Committee noted that the last public hearing for the project was conducted by the State Pollution Control Board on 20th July, 2004 i.e. much before the inception of the EIA Notification, 2006 presently in force. The Committee desired for compliance of the present provisions of the said Notification, and insisted for fresh public hearing for the proposed expansion from 0.975 MTPA to 1.465 MTPA, even if the project area remains same.

42.2.3 The proposal was again deliberated in the 36th EAC meeting held on 31st August, 2018, wherein the Committee observed that their recommendation during the meeting held on 17-18 April, 2018 in respect of conducting fresh public hearing was yet to be complied with. The Committee insisted for the same for further consideration of the proposal. The proposal was not taken forward for the needful.

42.2.4 *The Committee, after deliberations and in view of its earlier observations, reiterated the same recommendations.*

Agenda No.42.3

Cluster No. 3 (3 Mixed mines of a combined production capacity of 3.97 MTPA peak capacity in a combined ML area of 1628 ha of M/s Eastern Coalfield Limited located in Raniganj Coalfields, District Burdwan (WB) - Amendment in Environment Clearance

[IA/WB/CMIN/61639/2014, J/11015/13/2010-IA.II(M)]

42.3.1 The proposal is for amendment in environmental clearance dated 20th October, 2014 to Cluster No.3 Coal Mining project of 3.97 MTPA capacity of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited in mine lease area of 1628 ha located in Salanpur CD Block, District Paschim Bardhaman (West Bengal).

42.3.2 The details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting, are given as under:

(i) The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo Sheet No. 73I/13 and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from 23° 44' 49.124" to 23° 47' 52.071" N and longitudes 86° 51' 34.493" to 86° 56' 30.643" E.

(ii) In view of the production target set by CIL, a re-assessment of mine capacities has been carried out for the cluster while keeping the overall cluster capacity unchanged. However, there is interchange of lease of the mines within the cluster but overall leasehold area of the cluster remains same. This re-assessment/rationalization has been done based on present condition and capability of the mines for achieving optimum production levels. The proposed changes are in line with the revised mining plan for the cluster, duly approved by the Board of Directors of ECL on 07.12.2018.

The changes with reference to the approved EC have been shown in table below (Table Showing Existing EC and Revised Proposal for Amendment of EC).

Sl. No. (as per Lease hold)	Name of the Mine	Lease hold Area (Ha)	Existing EC Capacity (MTY)	Life (Yrs)	Sl. No. (as per Lease hold)	Name of the Mine	Revised Lease hold Area (Ha)	Revised Capacity* (MTY)	Revised Life (Yrs)	Remark
As per EC dated 20.10.2014					As per Revised Proposal					
1	Dabor UG	1204	0.07	>25	1	Dabor UG & OC	1063**	2.30	>25	Capacity Reduction and Boundary Adjustment with Bonjemehari UG & OC
	Dabor OC		2.30	10						
2	Bonjemehari UG	163	0.07	>25	2	Bonjemehari UG & OC	304**	1.47	>25	Capacity Enhancement & Boundary Adjustment with Dabor UG & OC
	Bonjemehari OC		0.45	4						
3	Sangramgarh UG	261	0.08	>25	3	Sangramgarh UG & OC	261	0.20	>25	Capacity Reduction
	Sangramgarh OC		1.00	4						
Total		1628	3.97		Total		1628	3.97		

* EC is sought for the revised capacity

** Area of 141.0 Ha transferred from Dabor to Bonjemehari.

(iii) Amended Capacity of the Cluster applied for:

Sl. No.	Name of Mine	Revised Lease hold Area (Ha)	Proposed EC Capacity (MTY)	Revised Life (Years)
1	Dabor UG & OC	1063.0	2.30	> 25
2	Bonjemehari UG & OC	304.0	1.47	> 25
3	Sangramgarh UG & OC	261.0	0.20	> 25
		1628.0	3.97	

(iv) Consent to Operate for the existing capacity was obtained from the State PCB:

S. No.	Name of the Mine	Issued on by WBPCB	Valid till
1	Dabor Colliery	14.08.2018	31.03.2019
2	Bonjemehari Colliery	25.07.2018	31.03.2019

3	Sangramgarh Colliery (Production suspended)	02.03.2017	31.07.2017
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(v) A seasonal nalla is flowing within boundary of lease. The nallah has been diverted over a distance of 500 m in consultation with the Water Resource Department of the State Government.

(vi) Regular monitoring of ambient air quality is being carried out on fortnightly basis. The documented report is submitted to WBPCB and also to MoEF&CC along with half yearly EC compliance report. In general, the results of ambient air quality monitoring data were found within prescribed limits except few aberrations which can be attributed to the specific local conditions during the day of sampling.

(vii) No court cases, violation cases are pending against the project of the PP.

(viii) The project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendment issued there under. The coal production from the mines of the cluster has been going on since pre nationalization period. EC was granted to the cluster on 20.10.2014. No excess production of coal from the sanctioned capacity has been realized since the grant of EC. The coal production, realized from the project, from 2014-15 onwards, is as under:

Year	EC sanctioned capacity (MTPA)	Actual production(MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
2014-15	3.97 MTPA	1.63 MTPA	Nil
2015-16	3.97 MTPA	1.18 MTPA	Nil
2016-17	3.97 MTPA	0.98 MTPA	Nil
2017-18	3.97 MTPA	1.16 MTPA	Nil

(ix) The project involves none project affected families. R&R of the PAPs will be done as per R&R policy of CIL.

(x) Total cost of the project is Rs. 59.94 crores (existing) and Rs. 168.16 crores proposed additional. Cost of production is Rs. 1615.80/- per tonne. CSR cost is 2% of last three FYs profit. Total CSR expenditure from 2013-14 to 2017-18 is Rs. 1.74 Crores in Salanpur Area, R&R cost is Rs 166.77crores. Environment Management Cost is Rs. 1.30 crores.

(xi) Consent to operate (CTO) was obtained from the West Bengal State Pollution Control Board.

42.3.3 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following

The proposal is for amendment in environmental clearance dated 20th October, 2014 to Cluster No.3 Coal Mining project of 3.97 MTPA capacity of M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited in combined mine lease area of 1628 ha located in Salanpur CD Block, District Paschim Bardhaman (West Bengal). Public hearing for the project was conducted by SPCB on 28th March, 2014.

The amendment has been sought due to reassessment and rationalization of capacity of individual mines, also involving boundary adjustment between Dabor UG&OC and Bonjemehari UG&OC with the total capacity of the Cluster and combined mine lease area remaining the same.

Revised Mining Plan for the cluster has been prepared and duly approved by the Board of Directors M/s Eastern Coalfields Ltd on 7th December, 2018.

42.3.4 *The EAC, in the first instance, was not comfortable with the details made available vis-à-vis amendments proposed in the said Environmental Clearance. The Committee observed that revised scope of the project was lacking details for opencast and underground mining operations separately (OC&UG), both in terms of mine lease area and the production capacity,*

which would have different environmental implications. Mine Plan for the Cluster should clearly reflect the proposed changes. The Committee also insisted for past production of coal from the individual mines (OC&UG).

The proposal was, therefore, deferred for the needful.

Agenda No.42.4

Bhubaneswari Opencast Expansion from 25 MTPA to 28 MTPA in existing ML area of 638.341 ha of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. Tehsil Talcher, District Angul (Odisha) - EC Extension

[IA/OR/CMIN/87623/2018, J-11015/280/2013-IA-I I(M)pt.]

42.4.1 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:-

The proposal is for continuation of environmental clearance dated 18th February, 2018 to the expansion of Bhubaneswari Opencast expansion Project from 25 MTPA to 28 MTPA in Mining lease area of 638.341 ha of M/s Mahanadi Coalfield Limited at district Angul (Odisha).

The project was granted environmental clearance by the Ministry vide letter dated 18th February, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to compliance of certain terms and conditions, inter-alia including the following:-

- (i) Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board, and regular monitoring shall be carried out for particulate emissions (both PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5}), SO₂ & NO_x. The monitoring results for the period during summer season (April-June, 2018) shall be submitted to the State PCB and the Regional Office of this Ministry.
- (ii) 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. Also, based on the monitoring results, the Committee shall examine adequacy and efficacy of the pollution control measures and its impact on ambient air quality.

The Ministry's Regional Office at Bhubaneswar has conducted site inspection of the project site on 24th December, 2018 to monitor the status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance dated 16th February, 2018, and submitted report vide their letter dated 26th December, 2018. The project proponent has submitted action plan on 26th December, 2018, addressing concerns/observations of the RO. The same was, however, yet to be endorsed by the Regional Office.

42.4.2 *The EAC, after detailed deliberations and duly considering observations of the Ministry's Regional Office in their letter dated 24th December, 2018, recommended for continuance of the environmental clearance dated 16th February, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to the terms and conditions stipulated therein remaining the same.*

Agenda No.42.5

Coal Washery of 2.5 MTPA in an area of 9.93 ha of M/s Phil Coal Beneficiation Pvt Ltd at Village Ghutku Tehsil Takhatpur, District Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) - Amendment in EC

[IA/CG/CMIN/34509/2015, J-11015/418/2015-IA-II(M)]

42.5.1 The proposal is for amendment in environmental clearance dated 31st July, 2017 granted by the Ministry in favour of M/s M/s Phil Coal Beneficiation Pvt Limited to their project of

Coal Washery of 2.5 MTPA in an area of 9.93 ha of at Village Ghutku Tehsil Takhatpur, District Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh). The said EC stipulates one of the specific conditions regarding coal transportation, as under:-

'Transportation of raw coal, clean coal, middlings and rejects shall be by rail with wagon loading through silo.'

42.5.2 Based on recommendations of the EAC, the said EC was amended vide letter dated 16th April, 2018 to revise the above condition as below:

'Transport of raw coal, washed coal and the rejects shall be through road/rail (60% by rail and 40% by road) with the exemption from wagon loading through silo, for a period of two years i.e. up to 31st March, 2020 only.'

42.5.3 The project proponent has now requested for waiver off the condition in view of coal transportation not possible by rail due to non availability of sufficient number of rakes, and also wagon loading through silos not economically viable and feasible for smaller washeries. Accordingly, amendment has been sought to permit coal transportation by road only till the rakes are made available by the railway authorities.

42.5.4 *The EAC, in the first instance, expressed concern over the proposals repeatedly submitted by the project proponent for amendment in the said EC. To consider the present proposal, the Committee insisted for a detailed study to be undertaken for assessment of carrying capacity of the proposed route by road, impact of increased traffic on air quality and the local habitation, and to submit the same within six months for consideration.*

The Committee was also of the opinion that the washery may continue to operate in the mean time irrespective of the above condition, but with adequate pollution control measures and strictly complying with the provisions of the Ministry's Notification dated 2nd January, 2014 limiting coal transportation with ash content not exceeding 34%.

Agenda No.42.6

EC for Chotia-I Coal Mine Project of 0.75 MTPA opencast Cum Underground capacity in mine lease area of 863 ha of M/s Bharat Aluminium Company Limited located in village(s) Chotia and Bania, Tehsil Podiuprodha, District Korba (Chhattisgarh)- Revalidation

[IA/CG/CMIN/21032/2005, J-11015/96/2004-IA.II (M)]

42.6.1 The proposal is for revalidation of environment clearance to Chotia-I Opencast cum UG Coal Mining Project of 0.75 MTPA in mine lease area of 863 ha of M/s Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) located in village(s) Chotia and Bania, Tehsil Podiuprodha, District Korba, Chattisgarh in pursuance of this Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018.

The project was earlier granted environmental clearance by the Ministry in favour of M/s Prakash Industries Ltd vide letter dated 10th November, 2005 for 0.75 MTPA in mine lease area of 1101 ha. Subsequent to cancellation of the coal block pursuant to the order of Supreme Court, and its reallocation to M/s BALCO, the said EC was transferred in their name on 4th June, 2015.

Public Hearing was conducted on 4th September, 2004 by the State Pollution Control Board.

The project area involves 643.46 ha of forest land. As stated by Project Proponent, approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 181.50 Ha and 459.269 ha of forest

land for non-forestry purposes has been obtained vide MoEF&CC letter No. 8-64/2005-FC and 8-64/2005-FC dated 10th Nov, 2005 and 4th Jan, 2011 respectively.

Mine Plan was approved by Ministry of Coal vide letter dated 4th August, 2004 wherein mine lease area is 1101 ha of Chotia I. However, Mine lease area was reduced by Chhattisgarh State Government to 863 ha of Chotia I on January, 2006

Consent to operate has been obtained by the PP from the Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board and the same is valid up to 31th March, 2020.

42.6.2 *The Committee, after deliberations, desired for preparation of the EIA/EMP report based on one season baseline data along with the details in respect of the following:-*

- *Public Consultation, including public hearing, shall be conducted through concerned SPCB as per the provisions/procedure contained in the EIA Notification, 2006 for information of the stakeholders about the present coal mining operations inviting comments and their redressal,*
- *Mining Plan and the Progressive Mine Closure Plan duly approved by the competent authority,*
- *Compliance status of the conditions stipulated in the environmental from the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.*
- *Consent to operate from the State Pollution Control Board for the present mining operations.*
- *Redressal of issues raised during the last public hearing conducted by the SPCB.*
- *Coal production realized from the mine from 1993-94 vis-à-vis capacity stipulated in the environment clearance.*
- *Need assessment survey for the activities proposed under the CSR and the comprehensive plan to be prepared accordingly for implementation by the project proponent. Also, impact of the CSR activities undertaken at an interval of 5 years to be evaluated and a report to be submitted.*
- *Stage-I/Renewal of forest clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, as the case may be, of the forest land involved in the project.*
- *Details of court cases and the compliance status.*

Agenda No.42.7

Expansion of Kulda OCP from 10 MTPA to 14 MTPA of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in an ML area of 634.205 ha located in Tehsil Himgir, District Sundergarh (Odisha) - For EC extension

[IA/OR/CMIN/61822/2017, F.No. J-11015/3/2017-IA-II(M) part]

42.7.1 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:-

The proposal is for continuation of environmental clearance dated 22nd March, 2018 to the expansion of Kulda Opencast Coal Mining project from 10 MTPA to 14 MTPA of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in an area of 694.205 ha (mine lease area of 634.205 ha) located in Tehsil: Himgir, District Sundergarh (Odisha).

The project was granted environmental clearance by the Ministry vide letter dated 22nd March, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to compliance of certain terms and conditions, inter-alia including the following:-

(i) Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board, and regular monitoring shall be carried out for particulate emissions (both PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5}), SO₂ & NO_x. The monitoring results for the period during summer season (April-June, 2018) shall be submitted to the State PCB and the Regional Office of this Ministry.

(ii) 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. Also, based on the monitoring results, the Committee shall examine adequacy and efficacy of the pollution control measures and its impact on ambient air quality.

The Ministry's Regional Office at Bhubaneswar has conducted site inspection of the project site on 12th November, 2018 to monitor the status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance dated 22nd March, 2018, and submitted report vide their letter dated 26th December, 2018. The project proponent has submitted action plan on 28th December, 2018, addressing concerns/observations of the RO. The same was, however, yet to be endorsed by the Regional Office.

42.7.2 *The EAC, after detailed deliberations and duly considering observations of the Ministry's Regional Office in their letter dated 26th December, 2018, recommended for continuance of the environmental clearance dated 22nd March, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to the terms and conditions stipulated therein remaining the same.*

Agenda No.42.8

Coal Washery of 2.5 MTPA in an area of 9.85 ha of M/s Paras Power & Coal Beneficiation Limited, located Village Ghutku, Tehsil Takhatpur, District Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh) - For EC Amendment

[IA/CG/CMIN/89725/2018, F.No. J-11015/70/2016-IA-II(M)]

42.8.1 The proposal is for amendment in environmental clearance dated 22nd November, 2018 granted by the Ministry in favour of M/s Paras Power & Coal Beneficiation Limited (PPCBL) to their project for setting up coal washery of 2.5 MTPA in an area of 9.85 ha located in village Ghutku, Tehsil Takhatpur, District Bilaspur (Chhattisgarh).

42.8.2 The said EC stipulates conditions No.4 (iii) and 4.1 c(i) regarding coal transportation, as under:-

'4(iii) Transportation of coal from mine to the washery shall be carried out through conveyor belts, and then to the prospective consumers/TPP by rail through silo.

4.1(c)(i) Transportation of coal by road shall be carried out by covered trucks/conveyors. The transportation of clean coal and rejects shall be by rail with wagon loading through silo. Effective measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of particulates such as roads, belt conveyors, loading/unloading and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be controlled at source. It shall be ensured that the ambient air quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board.'

42.8.3 The project proponent has now submitted that the condition 4(iii) would require laying of 60 km long conveyor belt for coal transportation from coal mine to washery and also arrangements for wagon loading through silos, which is not economically viable and feasible for smaller washeries. Regarding condition No.4.1(c) (i), coal transportation by rail is also not due to non availability of sufficient number of rakes from railways.

Accordingly, amendment has been sought to permit coal transportation by road from mines to washery only till the rakes are made available by the railway authorities and also, maximum evacuation of clean coal through rail.

42.8.4 *The EAC, after deliberations, asked for a detailed study to be undertaken for assessment of carrying capacity of the proposed route by road, impact of increased traffic on air quality and the local habitation, and to submit the same within six months for consideration of the Committee.*

Meanwhile and for the washery to continue its operations, the Committee agreed for revising the condition as under:-

'Transport of raw coal, washed coal and the rejects shall be through road/rail (60% by rail and 40% by road) with the exemption from wagon loading through silo, for a period of one year.'

Agenda No.42.9

Batura OCP of 2 MTPA (Normative)/3 MTPA (Peak) in an area of 967.473 ha of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited in Districts Anuppur and Shahdol (MP) - Environment Clearance

[IA/MP/CMIN/60381/2016; No. J-11015/65/2017-IA.II (M)]

42.9.1 The proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance to the Batura Opencast Project with capacity of 2.0 MTPA (Normative)/3.0 MTPA (Peak) in the Mine lease area of 967.473 ha of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited located in Districts Anuppur and Shahdol (Madhya Pradesh).

42.9.2 Facts of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting, are given as under:

(i) The Batura OC Block located in the western part of Sohagpur Coalfield lies in Village Khanda, Tahsil Annuppur, District Annuppur and about 12 Km North of Annuppur town and about 55Km South West of Shahdol, the district headquarters.

(ii) Joint Venture: No

(iii) The latitude and longitude of the project are 23⁰12'10"N to 23⁰14'10"N and 81⁰ 41'28"E to 81⁰ 43'20"E, respectively.

(iv) Terms of Reference for the Batura Opencast Mining Project was issued vide Ministry's letter dated 21.3.2017. An amendment in ToR with respect to correction in the co-ordinates of the coal block has been issued vide Ministry's letter dated 5.7.2017.

(v) Mining Plan for the project, including Progressive Mine Closure Plan, was approved by the Board of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Ltd was approved in its meeting held on 9th September, 2018.

(vi) The project involves total land of 967.473 ha for quarry, industrial and residential complex, safety zone, external dumps, roads and rehabilitation colonies. The detailed land use pattern is as under:

Land use	Within Mine Lease Area (ha)	Outside Mine Lease Area (ha)	Total Area (ha)
Agricultural Land	570.558	132.519	703.077
Forest Land	76.840	24.600	101.440

Waste Land	107.920	8.554	116.474
Grazing Land	3.030	0.000	3.030
Surface water bodies	16.842	1.930	18.772
Settlements	24.410	0.270	24.680
Total	799.600	167.873	967.473

(vii) The post mining land use pattern of Mining lease area is as under:

Land Use	Land Use (ha)				Total
	Plantation	Water body	Public Use	Undisturbed	
External OB Dump (with Top soil spreading)	26.816	-	-	-	26.816
Reclaimed internal dump (with Top soil spreading)	689.24	-	-	-	689.24
Excavation	-	110.36	-	-	110.36
Roads & Built up area	-	-	59.007	-	59.007
Greenbelt area	57.45	-	-	-	57.45
Undisturbed area	24.6	-	-	-	24.60
Total	798.106 ha	110.36 ha	59.007 ha	-	967.473 ha
Total (%)	82.5%	11.4%	6.1%	-	100%

(viii) Total forest land in the proposed mining project is 101.44 ha. The forest land of 76.840 ha has been diverted for Batura Opencast Mine vide Ministry's Forest Clearance (Stage-I) letter dated 20th November, 2017.

(ix) There are no ecologically sensitive areas such as Biosphere Reserves/National Parks/WL Sanctuaries/ Elephant Reserves is not available within 10 km radius of the project. There are no Schedule-I species as per Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in the core and buffer zones of the project.

(i) There are no court cases/litigations pending against the project.

(ii) As coal demand for TPS has no firm linkage, the project may be linked to new upcoming thermal power projects likely to come in nearby Coalfield. As there is no railway siding nearby, a rail line will be laid upto Batura Opencast Project from Anuppur junction for a distance of about 20 km.

(iii) Total net geological reserve is 41.2629 MT. Total mineable reserves of the proposed mine have been estimated as 33.44 Million Tonnes with a corresponding Overburden volume of 307.08 Million m³. The percent of extraction would be 81%. There are three major coal seams with thickness and grade ranging from 0.2-4.7 m and A-G, respectively. The grade of the coal is G-5 and the stripping ratio is 9.18 cum/tonne. The average gradient varies from 5⁰ and thickness ranging from 0.10m to 4.63m.

(iv) Surface Miner has been proposed to work for extraction of coal based on geo-mining parameters of the quarry. Both coal production and OB removal will be done through outsourcing. Coal mined by the surface miner will be transported by trucks/dumpers from the pit to coal receiving station. From the coal receiving station, coal is transported to Coal Handling Plant by 8 nos. of belt conveyors with capacity of 800 TPH each.

(v) The estimated life of the mine is 20 years.

(vi) The maximum depth of Batura opencast mine will be 68.58 m. Technical reclamation would involve breaking and levelling the top of OB dumps, filling of gulleys and terracing etc.

The technical reclamation of backfilled dump will start from 1st year onwards. The height of external dump bench is restricted to only 30 m. There will be two benches, one upon another. The de-coaled area after simultaneous backfilling and external dump area will be levelled by means of dozers keeping a mild slope of about 1 in 200 for surface water drainage for plantation and other recreational purposes.

- (vii) The height & width of benches will depend upon the size and capacity of HEMM deployed. However, in coal for surface miner, the width of bench may be kept as 30m. In OB, the width of working and non-working will be kept 30 m and 20 m respectively. The maximum height of the bench will be kept below 15 m. The running slope of the benches will be kept at 65° - 70°. The provision of Coal Mine Regulation and related circulars shall be strictly followed for designing bench parameters in coal and OB. Considering the average mine floor gradient of about 3 -4°, the coal benches are proposed to be parallel to the seam floor and self-draining. The top OB benches are also proposed to be levelled.
- (viii) Katna nala is flowing through the Southern portion of the proposed mine area which ultimately discharges into Son River. Besides smaller hillock capped by Dolerite with roughly north-south trend is present in the Eastern and Northern parts of the blocks.
- (ix) Baseline data has been collected during October- December, 2015 (one season).
- (x) Total quantity of topsoil 4.52 Million m³ will be removed, stock-piled and redistributed to achieve uniform thickness consistent with the post mining land uses, contours and surface water drainage system.
- (xi) The total volume of internal OB dump has been estimated as 302.00 Million m³. The internal dumping will start when about 80m space is available on quarry floor. The total volume of external dumps has been estimated as 5.08 Million m³, which will be placed in safety zone and some additional land of 32 Ha adjoining to safety zone will be acquired for that. It is estimated that upto 5th year OB will be placed in external as well as internal dump. From 6th year onwards all the OB will be accommodated in internal dumps only

Type of Dump	Area (ha)	Quantity of Overburden (Mm ³)
Internal Dump	689.24	302
External Dump	26.81	5.08

- (xii) Total water demand for this Project works out to be around 324 m³/day. The water demand has been envisaged to be met from 4 nos. bore wells. Ground water clearance will be obtained.
- (xiii) The pre-monsoon of ground water levels in the study area are in the range of 5.05-12.45 m with an average depth of 8.75 m bgl. Post-monsoon of ground water levels in the study area are in the range of and 2.78-7.25 m with an average depth of 4.23 m bgl.
- (xiv) The groundwater inflow in Batura Opencast Mine is projected as 3351 m³/day (1.22 MCM) which is around 2.69% of the yearly net groundwater recharge. Water discharge rate from Batura OCP is estimated at 1.22 MCM /annum. The water discharge from Sharda OCP which is within 10 km radius of the proposed project is 1.64 MCM/annum. Considering the domestic & industrial use and 20% return flow in to the groundwater system, the net discharge of two mines is about 2.02 MCM/Annum. The final mine void would be in 110.36ha with depth of 60m, which is proposed to be converted into water body.
- (xv) The mine water is free from any serious pollutants except for suspended solids. With low sulphur content in coal, no acid mine drainage is anticipated. The mine water will be discharged on surface after passing through the sumps and sedimentation tanks. Thus, no quality degradation of mine water will be anticipated. The mine discharge will be effectively utilized for industrial / dust suppression in mine areas and irrigation use by local public.
- (xvi) There would be creation of about 697.55 ha of forest by way of compensatory afforestation, reclamation of dumps etc. as against degradation of 79.31 ha of forest by the

mining activity. It is estimated that 17 Lakh trees will be planted and maintained in this area by end life of mine.

- (xvii) The number of affected land oustees has been estimated as 825 and the number of families to be displaced from the villages falling within the mine block as 1870.
- (xviii) The Public Hearings have been conducted in Anuppur and Shahdol Districts of Madhya Pradesh at Gram Panhayat Khanda, Tehsil Anuppur, District Anuppur and Village Rampur, Tehsil Budhar, Dist. Shahdol on 24.7.2018 and 29.10.2018, respectively. The major issues raised during the public hearing are land degradation, air pollution control, protection of water bodies and forest, adequate compensation for land and Rehabilitation Package, employment, medical facilities for locals as the pollution from the proposed mine will cause respiratory problems and other illnesses.
- (xix) The estimated project cost is Rs.203.82 Crores. The capital cost of Environmental Protection Measures (EMP) is Rs.41.99 Crores which includes R&R cost of Rs.29.29 Crores. The recurring cost of Environmental Protection Measures (EMP) is Rs. 8.51 Crores/Annum. The estimated employment generation is 248 persons.
- (xx) Benefits of the project: Project will considerably improve the socio-economic status of the adjoining areas. This will result in benefits such as improvements in physical infrastructure; improvements in social infrastructure, increase in employment potential, contribution to the exchequer, meet energy requirement and post-mining enhancement of green cover. Rs. 6 lakh per ha per tonne has been considered in miscellaneous cost on account of cost for adequate mine closure, aimed for rehabilitation of disturbed area, which should be acceptable to local community as well as regulatory authority.

42.9.3 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:-

The proposal is for environmental clearance to Batura Opencast Coal Mining Project of capacity 2 MTPA (Normative)/3 MTPA (Peak) of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited in mine lease area of 967.473 ha (mine lease area 799.6 ha) in District Shahdol and Anuppur (MP).

Project involves 101.440 ha of forest land. Stage-I forest clearance for diversion of 76.840 ha has been obtained vide MoEF&CC letter 20th November, 2017. The remaining forest land of 24.6 ha, earmarked for safety zone, is yet to be diverted for non-forestry purposes.

Mining Plan for the project, including Progressive Mine Closure Plan, was approved by the Board of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Ltd was approved in its meeting held on 9th September, 2018.

ToR for the project was granted on 21st April, 2017. Public hearing was conducted by the State Pollution Control Board on 24th July, 2018 in District Anuppur and 29th October, 2018 in District Shahdol (MP). Major issues raised in the public hearing included adequate compensation for land and Rehabilitation Package, mitigation measures for pollution control and land degradation, employment to land losers, protection of water bodies and forest, provision of medical facilities for locals as the pollution from the proposed mine will cause respiratory problems and other illnesses. The project proponent has proposed an action plan to comply with the commitments made in the public hearing and the same found to be satisfactory.

Baseline data was collected during October-December, 2015, and was considered to be the border line case vis-à-vis this Ministry's guidelines in this regard.

42.9.4 *The Committee, after deliberations, asked for inputs/clarifications in respect of the following:-*

- *Base line air quality data more than three years old and thus not in conformity with the extant norms/guidelines in this regard.*

- Air quality for PM₁₀ (98th percentile values) already on much higher side at many of the locations, would not allow more mining operations without adequate mitigating measures.
- Diversion plan for Katna Nallah requires approval of the concerned regulatory authority (Water Resources/Irrigation Department).
- Mine Plan for the project duly approved by the competent authority.
- R&R Plan for the project affected families.
- Diversion of 24.6 ha of forest land for non-forestry purposes.

The proposal was, therefore, deferred for want of needful on the above lines.

Agenda No.42.10

Expansion of Pauni-II Opencast Coal Mine from 0.6 MTPA to 3.25 MTPA with increase in ML area from 316.30 ha to 1095.52 ha of M/s Western Coalfield Limited located in District Chandrapur (Maharashtra)- Environment Clearance reg.

42.10.1 The proposal is for grant of Environment Clearance to expansion of Pauni-II OC from 0.6 MTPA to 3.25 MTPA with increase in ML area from 316.30 ha to 1152.66 ha of M/s Western Coalfield Limited located in District Chandrapur (Maharashtra).

42.10.2 Details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents and as revealed from the discussions held during the meeting, are given as under:

- The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo Sheet No56 M/1 and 56 M/5 and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from N 19° 48' 19" to N 19° 48' 19" N and longitudes E 79° 13' 48" and E 79° 16' 13".
- Coal linkage of the project is proposed for MahaGenco, KPCL, GSCCL & various consumers
- Joint venture cartel has not been formed.
- Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA), where the MoEF&CC's vide its OM dated 13th January, 2010 has imposed moratorium on grant of environment clearance.
- Employment generated is 945 Nos. Employment provided is 182 nos., Monetary compensation given- 20 Nos. balance 743 Nos. persons will be provided employment from the project
- The project is reported to be beneficial in terms of: It will bridge the gap (to the extent of the peak production capacity of the project) between demand & supply of non-coking coal for the power houses and other bulk consumers of western as well as southern part of the country.
- Earlier, the environment clearance to the project was obtained under EIA Notification, 1994 vide Ministry's letter NoJ-11015/71/2005-IA.II (M) dated 02.02.2006 for 0.60 MTPA in mine lease area of 316.30 ha.
- Total mining lease area is 1095.52 ha. Mining Plan (Including Progressive Mine Closure Plan) has been approved by the WCL Board on Vide letter no WCL/BD/SECTT/BM-307/2018/830 dated 26.12.2018.
- The land usage pattern of the project is as follows:

Pre-mining land use details (Area in Ha)

S. No.	Land Use	Within ML Area	Outside ML Area	Total
1	Agricultural Land	718.69	0	718.69
2	Forest Land	0	0	0
3	Wasteland	60.53	0	60.53
4	Grazing Land	0	0	0
5	Surface Water Bodies	0	0	0
6	Settlements	0	0	0
7	Others (Industrial)	316.30	0	316.30

8	Old Excavation Area (East Quarry)	0	0	0
9	Old Excavation Area (West Quarry)	0	0	0
10	Old OB Dumps	0	0	0
11	Roads & Mine Infrastructure	0	0	0
12	R & R Colony	0	0	0
13	Staff Colony	0	0	0
14	Green Belt	0	0	0
15	Balance Area	0	0	0
	Total Project Area =	1095.52	0	1095.52

Post Mining

(x) The total land requirement for Pauni-II Expansion OC Mine is 1152.66 ha. Out of 1152.66 ha land, 21.61 ha land which is already acquired for Pauni OC has to be transferred to Pauni-II Expansion OC by boundary readjustment.

(xi) Total agricultural land of 1050.99 ha and govt land of 89.60 ha is involved in the project. About 12.7 ha of forest land is also required. The application for Stage – I FC has already been made but FC is yet to be secured.

(xii) Now considering the present position of the mine and the surged demand of power grade coal from WCL mines for the power plants of Maharashtra and as per the requirements of MoEF& CC (for project involving forest land but not having Stage – I FC in hand), a Mining Plan by excluding the Forest land and adjacent non-forest land (for maintaining mine geometry) has been prepared as **Phase – I** for the expansion capacity (0.60 to 3.25 MTPA) and balance land area (316.30 ha to 1095.52 ha).

(xiii) However, as soon as, the Stage – I FC is received, the application for EC will again be made for additional land only, since the Public Hearing and ToR have been secured for the total land of the project i.e. 1152.66 ha.

(xiv) The proposed arrangement of proceeding ahead with **Phase – I** (with the expansion capacity excluding the forest and adjacent non – forest) is an interim arrangement for a period of maximum 24 months (considering physical possession of forest land) and it will help the project to achieve considerable increase in production following all the requirements

S. No.	Land use	Land use (ha)				Total
		Plantation	Water Body	Public Use	Undisturbed	
1	External OB Dump	214.57	0	0	0	214.57
2	Top Soil Dump	35.40	0	0	0	35.40
3	Excavation / Quarry	107.0	188.35	0	0	295.35
4	Roads	0.5	0	1.5	0	2.0
5	Built-up Area (Colony/office)	3.0	0	7.0	0	10.0
6	Green Belt	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0
7	Undisturbed Area	0.0	0.0	186.41	0.0	186.41
8	Internal OB dumps	58.93	0.0	0.0	0.0	58.93
9	Virgin area	350.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	350.0
	Total Area =	769.4	188.35	194.91	0.0	1152.66

(xv) Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 42.847MT with 30.63 MT mineable reserves. Out of total mineable reserve of 30.63MT, 30.63 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 72.0 %.

(xvi) Two seams with thickness ranging from 2.55 m – 10.95 m are workable. Grade of coal is G-9, stripping ratio 1 in 6.19, while gradient is 1 in 6 to 1 in 7.

(xvii) Method of mining operations envisages by Opencast with Shovel dumper combination method

(xviii) Life of mine is 13 years.

(xix) The project has three external OB dumps in an area of 214.57 ha with 90 m height and 184.32 Mm³ of OB. The OB from the current mining operations shall be backfilled from 6th year onwards, one internal OB in an area of 107.0 ha with 80.73 Mm³ of OB is envisaged in the project.

(xx) Total quarry area is 295.35 ha out of which backfilling will be done in 107 ha while final mine void will be created in an area of 188.35 ha with a depth of 200 m. Backfilled quarry area of 107 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation. Final mine void will be converted into water body

(xxi) Transportation of coal has been proposed by dumpers in mine pit head, from surface to siding by tippers/dumpers and at sidings by payloaders.

(xxii) Reclamation Plan in an area of 769.4 ha, comprising of 214.57 ha of external dump, 35.40 ha of top soil dump, 107.0 ha of internal dump, 412.43 ha for green belt development.

(xxiii) No forest land has been reported to be involved in the Phase-I project.

(xxiv) No National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Eco-Sensitive Zones have been reported with 10 km boundary of the project.

(xxv) The ground water level has been reported to be varying between 6.05 m to 8.40 m during pre-monsoon and between 1.85 m to 7.90 m during post-monsoon. Total water requirement for the project is 880 KLD.

(xxvi) Application for obtaining the approval of the Central Ground Water Authority for withdrawal of groundwater from CGWA has been applied vide 21-4/728/MH/MIN/2017 on 19.01.2017.

(xxvii) Public hearing has been conducted on 01.12.2018 for Pauni-II Expansion OC as per ToR granted vide letter no. J-11015/80/2016.IA-II (M) dated 30.03.2017 (3.25 MTPA production capacity in an area of 1152.66 ha). Place of Public Hearing: Manoranjan Kendra, Sasti colony, Near CGM office, WCL Ballarpur area, Tal. Rajura, Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra.

(xxviii) Major issues raised in the public hearing includes:

- New approach road to the agriculture fields of nearby villagers
- Water scarcity in nearby villages
- Compensation to the farmers encroached land of state government revenue department
- Nallah Diversion and its impact over agriculture land.
- Development of Nimni village as Model village.
- Compensation to the PAF against land acquired for the project by December, 2018
- Compensatory jobs to be provided earliest to eligible land losers.
- CSR work to be carried out in nearby villages.
- Issues due to blasting
- Damage to the crop due to dust generated during to transportation of coal.
- Due to overburden, the water enters in the nearby fields and damage crops.
- Skill development programme for local youths from project affected nearby villages.
- Medical camps to be organized on monthly basis.
- Dust pollution in nearby villages.
- Installation of continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations.

The above issues were duly addressed and report has been submitted to State PCB.

(xxix) The proposal for renewal of consent considered in the 6th Consent committee meeting of MPCB for 2018-19 held on 17/18.12.2018 at MPCB, Mumbai vide application no. MPCB

CONSENT 0000039454. Consent to Operate (CTO) for Pauni II OC of 0.60 MTPA production capacity granted renewal up to 31.01.2022. Formal letter awaited.

(xxx) Sakhari & Lendi Nallah is flowing along boundary of lease. The nallah will be diverted in consultation with the Water Resource Department of the State Government.

(xxxi) Baseline monitoring of environmental parameters has been carried out during Nov'2015 to Jan'2016.

(xxxii) Regular monitoring of ambient air quality is being carried out on fortnightly basis. The documented report is submitted to MPCB and also to MoEF&CC along with half yearly EC compliance report. In general, the results of ambient air quality monitoring data were found within prescribed limits.

(xxxiii) No court cases, violation cases are pending against the project of the PP.

(xxxiv) The project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 1994 and amendment issued thereunder. The coal production from the mine was started from the year 2016-17 onwards. No excess production of coal from the sanctioned capacity has been realized since the commencement of mining operations. The coal production, realized from the project, from 1993-94 onwards, is as under:

Year	EC sanctioned capacity (MTPA)	Actual production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
2016-17	0.60	0.510	Nil
2017-18	0.60	0.306	Nil
2018-19 (upto 31-12-18)	0.60	0.543	Nil

(xxxv) The project involves 954 nos. project affected families.

(xxxvi) Total cost of the project is Rs. 483.6948 crores. Cost of production is Rs.1018.96/- per tonne., CSR cost is Rs.2 per tonne, R&R cost is Rs 318.58 crores. Environment Management Cost is Rs. 97.09 lakhs.

(xxxvii) The proposal for renewal of consent considered in the 6th Consent committee meeting of MPCB for 2018-19 held on 17/18.12.2018 at MPCB, Mumbai vide application no. MPCB Consent 0000039454. Consent to Operate (CTO) for Pauni II OC of 0.60 MTPA production capacity granted renewal up to 31.01.2022. Formal letter awaited.

42.10.3 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:

The proposal is for revalidation of the environmental clearance dated 2nd February, 2006 as mandated under the Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018, and grant of environmental clearance to expansion of Pauni-II Opencast Coal Mining project from 0.60 MTPA to 3.25 MTPA in mine lease area of 1095.52 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd located in village Sakhri, Tehsil Rajura, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006.

There is no forest land involved in the project.

Terms of reference for the project in an area of 1152.66 ha (includes forest area 12.07 ha) was granted by the Ministry on 30th March, 2017. Public hearing was conducted by the SPCB on 1st December, 2018. Meanwhile, the project area was revised to exclude the said forest area and adjacent non-forest area 45.07 ha. Baseline data was collected during November, 2015 to January, 2019.

Mining Plan, including the Progressive Mine Closure Plan, for the increased coal production capacity of 3.25 MTPA within the revised mine lease area of 1095.52 ha was approved by the Board of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd in its meeting held on 24th December, 2018.

Earlier, the Environmental Clearance to Pauni-II OC coal mine for its capacity of 0.60 MTPA in an area of 316.30 ha, was accorded by the Ministry vide letter dated 2nd February, 2006 based on public hearing conducted on 6th November, 2004. The Regional Office (WCZ) of the Ministry at Nagpur has carried out site inspection in 24th September, 2018 and submitted its report on compliance of EC conditions vide letter dated 2nd January, 2019.

The proposal for re-validation of environmental clearance in accordance with the Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018 was considered by the EAC in its meeting held on 31st August, 2018. As per observations of the EAC, public Notice for information of the stakeholders about present coal mining operations of capacity 0.60 MTPA in mine lease area of 316.30 ha, was issued on 4th/5th October, 2018 inviting comments within one month. As informed, no comments/suggestions were received within the prescribed time frame. Also, all other requirements insisted by the EAC for revalidations of the EC were observed to be complied with.

The project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendment issued there under. No excess production of coal from the sanctioned capacity has been realized since the commencement of mining operations.

Renewal of Consent to operate for the existing capacity of 0.60 MTPA has been obtained from the SPCB and is valid up to March, 2022.

42.10.4 *The EAC, after detailed deliberations, recommended for revalidation of the existing environmental clearance dated 2nd February, 2006, and grant of environmental clearance to the expansion of Pauni-II Opencast Coal Mining Project from 0.60 to 3.25 MTPA in mine lease area of 1095.52 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located at village Sakhri, Tehsil Rajura, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra) for a period of one year, subject to compliance of terms and conditions as applicable, and the additional conditions as under:-*

- *The project proponent shall collect and analyze one season data for environmental parameters and submit for consideration of the EAC before 31st December, 2019.*
- *The project proponent shall obtain Consent to establish from the State Pollution Control Boards for the proposed peak capacity of 3.25 MTPA prior to commencement of the increased production.*
- *Transportation of coal from face to Coal heap shall be carried out by truck. Further, the coal transportation from Coal heap to Coal Handling Plant shall be carried out through covered trucks.*
- *To control the production of dust at source, the crusher and in-pit belt conveyors shall be provided with mist type sprinklers.*
- *Mitigating measures shall be undertaken to control dust and other fugitive emissions all along the roads by providing sufficient water sprinklers. Adequate corrective measures shall be undertaken to control dust emissions, which would include mechanized sweeping, water sprinkling/mist spraying on haul roads and loading sites, long range misting/fogging arrangement, wind barrier wall and vertical greenery system, green belt, dust suppression arrangement at railway siding, etc.*
- *The company shall obtain approval of CGWA for use of groundwater for mining operations at its enhanced capacity of 3.25 MTPA.*
- *Continuous monitoring of occupational safety and other health hazards, and the corrective actions need to be ensured.*
- *Persons of nearby villages shall be given training on livelihood and skill development to make them employable.*
- *To ensure health and welfare of nearby villages, regular medical camps shall be organized at least once in six months.*
- *Thick green belt of adequate width at the final boundary in the down wind direction of the*

project site shall be developed to mitigate/check the dust pollution.

- *Efforts shall be made for utilizing alternate sources of surface water, abandoned mines or else whatsoever and thus minimizing the dependability on a single source.*
- *A third party assessment of EC compliance shall be undertaken once in three years through agency like ICFRI /NEERI/IIT or any other expert agency identified by the Ministry.*

Agenda No.42.11

Krishnashila OCP from 6.25 MTPA to 7 MTPA of M/s Northern Coalfields Limited in an area of 851.78 ha located in Tehsil Dudhi, District Sonbhadra (Uttar Pradesh) - Continuation/Extension of EC

[IA/UP/CMIN/91208/2018, F.No. J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)]

42.11.1 During deliberations, the EAC noted the following:-

The proposal is for continuation of environment clearance dated 12th March, 2018 granted by the Ministry to the expansion of Krishnashila Opencast Coal Mine from 6.25 MTPA to 7 MTPA by M/s Northern Coalfields Limited in an area of 851.78 ha located in Tehsil Dudhi, District Sonbhadra (Uttar Pradesh).

The project was granted environmental clearance by the Ministry vide letter dated 12th March, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to compliance of certain terms and conditions, inter-alia including the following:-

(i) Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board, and regular monitoring shall be carried out for particulate emissions (both PM₁₀ & PM_{2.5}), SO₂ & NO_x. The monitoring results for the period during summer season (April-June, 2017) shall be submitted to the State PCB and the Regional Office of this Ministry.

(ii) 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. Also, based on the monitoring results, the Committee shall examine adequacy and efficacy of the pollution control measures and its impact on ambient air quality.

The Ministry's Regional Office at Lucknow has conducted inspection of the project site on 24th November, 2018 to monitor the status of compliance of conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance dated 12th March, 2018, and submitted report vide their letter dated 26th December, 2018.

42.11.2 *The EAC, after detailed deliberations and duly considering observations of the Ministry's Regional Office in their letter dated 26th December, 2018, recommended for continuance of the environmental clearance dated 12th March, 2018 for a period of one year, subject to the project area not covered under the moratorium imposed by the Ministry, and terms and conditions stipulated in the said EC remaining the same.*

08/02/2019

https://mail.gov.in/iwc_static/layout/shell.html?lang=en&3.0.1.2.0_15121807

Subject: **Re: Draft 42nd Minutes of Meeting-Coal Mining-24 January 2019**
To: Munna Kumar Shah <munna.shah@gov.in>

Date: 02/07/19 10:11 PM
From: navin chandra <navinchandrarrl@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: navin chandra <navinchandrarrl@yahoo.com>

07/02/2019

Dear Dr. Shrivastava Ji/Shah Ji,

I have gone through the Minutes of the meeting held on 24/01/2019. The Minutes are in order and ready for uploading on the website of MoEF&CC.

(NAVIN CHANDRA)

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