

No.J-11015/86/2005-LA-II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhawan,
C.G.C. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110003.

Dated: 20th May 2005

To
Shri Praohat Kumar,
Chief General Manager (Civil/Env./L&R),
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,
Coal Estate, Civil Lines,
Nagpur - 440001.

Sub: Umrer Opencast Expansion Project of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL), in village Kanliwa, Tehsil Umrer, District Nagpur, Maharashtra -application for environmental clearance -reg.

Sir,

This has reference to M/s Coal India Ltd.'s letter dated 03.03.2003 forwarding your application and subsequent letter dated-08.03.2005 on the above-mentioned subject. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has considered the application. It has been noted that the project is for expansion of Umrer Opencast Coal Mine in terms of production capacity from 2.34 MTPA to 3.50 MTPA. The total mining lease area is 944.65 ha of which 870.90 ha is agricultural and 73.75 ha is Govt. land. Of the total lease area, area for excavation is 362.0 ha, 77.81 ha is for external dump & embankment, 40 ha is for infrastructure, and 464.84 ha is for safety zone and rationalised area. There are no National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserves found in the 10 km buffer zone. Mining will be opencast by mechanised method. Drilling and blasting are involved. Expansion of rated capacity of the mine is from 2.34 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to 3.50 MTPA of coal production. Mineral transportation of 10600 TPD of coal shall be by use of 1150 trucks per day. Ultimate working depth of mine is 145 m below ground level (bgl). Water table is in the range of 4-1012 m bgl (pre-monsoon) and 4-6.5m bgl (post-monsoon). Total water requirement is 2050 m³/d of which 1300 m³/d is mine site requirement and 750 m³/d is for township, which will be met from mine discharge water. Of the total estimated OB generation of 208.84 Mm³ from the project, a total of 128.633 Mm³ of OE has been excavated till date, of which 41.633 Mm³ is dumped as external OB dump and for construction of embankment along ML boundary and 87 Mm³ of OB has been backfilled. Public Hearing was held on 23.09.2004. NOC from Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board has been obtained on 28.02.2005. Balance life of the mine at the rated capacity is 10 years. The project has been approved by M/s WCL on 23/28.03.2005. The capital cost of the project is Rs. 4104 lakhs.

2. The Ministry of Environment & Forests hereby accords environmental clearance for the above-mentioned Umrer Opencast Expansion Coal project of M/s WCL for expansion in production of coal to 3.50 MTPA in a total lease area of 944.65 ha under the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 and subsequent amendments thereto subject to the compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:

A. Specific Conditions

- (i) Top soil should be stacked properly with proper slope at earmarked site(s) and should not be kept active and shall be used for reclamation and development of greenbelt.

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