EXPANSION OF BHATADI OC CHANDRAPUR AREA, WCL

EC FOR ENHANCEMENT OF CAPCITY FROM 0.975 MTPA TO 1.365 MTPA (40%) WITHIN EXISTING LAND AREA OF 847.37 HA UNDER PROVISIONS OF 7(ii) OF EIA NOTIFICATON 2006



(Submitted against the Minutes of 42nd EAC Meeting held on 24-01-2019)

February, 2019 WESTERN COALFIELDS LIMITED NAGPUR

Sub:- EC for Expansion of Bhatadi OC for enhancement of capacity from 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA within existing EC sanctioned area of 847.37 ha under provisions of 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006.

Ref: i) 42nd EAC meeting, 36th EAC meeting & 28th EAC meeting held on 24-01-2019, 31-08-2018 and 17-04-2018 respectively and subsequent approved minutes of the meeting.

ii) Request for reconsideration submitted to Additional Director (IA) Mining, MoEF & CC vide letter dated 17-12-2018

iii) Appeal submitted to Secretary MoEF & CC vide letters dated 18-12-18 & 09-02-2019

iv) Submission of Information vide e-mail dated 18-09-2018

1. Introduction:

- i. Based on the Mining Plan approved by WCL Board vide letter dated 10-11-2017, application for EC for Expansion of Bhatadi OC for enhancement of capacity from 0.975 MTPA to 1.465 MTPA in existing area of 847.37 ha under clause 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 was submitted through online portal of MoEF & CC vide dated 06-02-2018.
- ii. The EAC considered the proposal in its 28th, 36th & 42nd EAC meeting held on 17-04-2018, 31-08-2018 & 24-01-2019.
- iii. Subsequent to the EAC meetings, request for reconsideration of Expansion of Bhatadi OC for grant of EC was submitted to Secretary, MoEF & CC vide letter dated18-12-2018 & 09-02-2019 and to Additional Director, MoEF & CC vide letter dated 17-12-2018.

2. EAC Meeting:

After detailed deliberation in the meeting, the Expert Committee observed the following as recorded in the published Minutes of Meeting:

<u>Quote</u>

28.2.4 The EAC, after deliberations 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.

In view of the above, the proposal was not taken forward.

<u>Unquote</u>

The application for EC was solicited for atleast 40% capacity enhancement with the same parameters i.e. from 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA with exemption of public hearing (PH was conducted on 20-07-2004 as per EIA Notification, 1994) as per the O.M. Dated 15-09-2017. This application was uploaded on 02.07.2018. It was submitted that EC compliance from Regional Office, MoEF & CC has been secured vide no. 3-16/2015 dated 05-02-2018 which was also deliberated in the 28th EAC meeting held on 17-04-2018.

The subject proposal was again deliberated in the 36th EAC meeting held on 31.08.2018. After detailed deliberation in the meeting, the EAC observed the following as recorded in the published minutes of meeting:

<u>Quote</u>

36.4.3 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. Based on the recommendation of the EAC, the proposal was not taken forward.

36.4.4 The Committee, after detailed deliberations, observed that their recommendation during the meeting held on 17-18 April, 2018 in respect of conducting fresh public hearing is yet to be complied with. The Committee insisted for the same for further consideration of the proposal.

In view of the above, the proposal was not taken forward.

<u>Unquote</u>

Subsequent to the MoM of 36th EAC meeting, additional information in respect of Expansion of Bhatadi OC is submitted to MoEF & CC vide email & through online portal.

Further, a request for reconsideration of Expansion of Bhatadi OC for grant of EC was submitted to Additional Director, MoEF & CC vide letter dated 17-12-18 and an appeal was submitted to Secretary, MoEF & CC vide letter dated 18-12-18 (Enclosed as Annexure)

Thereafter, the proposal has once again been put up before the EAC in its 42nd meeting held on 24th January, 2019. The observation of EAC is placed below:-

Quote

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 if its earlier observations, reiterated the same recommendations.

<u>Unquote</u>

Subsequent to the Minutes of 42nd EAC meeting held on 24-01-2018, an appeal has been submitted to Secretary, MoEF & CC vide letter dated 09-02-2019 for reconsideration of Expansion of Bhatadi OC for grant of EC for 1 year (i.e. up to 31st March, 2020)

3. Submission:

Subsequent to Minutes of 42nd EAC, following is submitted for kind consideration

- The existing EC for Expansion Bhatadi Expansion OC was accorded for 0.975 MTPA in an area of 847.37 ha under EIA Notification 2006 vide letter no.J-11015/151/2014-IA-II(M) dated 19-03-2015.
- ii. The present application has been made for enhancement of 40% in production capacity within EC sanctioned land area i.e 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA in an area of 847.37 ha based on the approved Mining plan/Scheme as per the O.M. Dated 15.09.2017.
- iii. The Public Hearing for the entire area of 847.57 ha with 0.65 MTPA production capacity was held on 20-07-2004 **as per EIA Notification 1994**, subsequently EC for 0.65 MTPA was accorded based on the Public Hearing.
- iv. In view of the observation of EAC, it is submitted that :-

a)PH was conducted as per EIA Notification 1994 and amendments thereafter.

b)The minutes of the meeting & present compliance is given below:

Present status of Issues raised during Public Hearing in respect of Bhatadi OC Mine, Chandrapur

S.N	Issues Raised	Compliance		
1.	Shri. Subhash Gourkar, member of Panchayat	The arrangements provided for environmental		
	Samiti Chandrapur	protection are as follows:		
	The arrangement provided for environmental	<u>Air Pollution Control</u> :		
	protection is inadequate. Tree plantation is necessary between adjoining villages.	1)30 Nos. of Mist Spray provided in CHP.		
	Sprinkling of water on road to control Fugitive dust emission is not sufficient, additional tanker shall be provided to strengthen the	2) 13 No. of Sprinklers provided along Coal Transport Road.		
	system. He also suggested to Sprinkler water at	3) 3 Nos. of High Efficiency Rainguns around CHP Area.		
	coal handling plant, covering of coal transportation trucks. He also demanded for	4) 3 Mobile tankers have been provided.		
	tarring of Tirwanja via. Kawathi to Chota Nagpur road as coal carrying trucks plying on this road. Also repairing of Bhatadi to	5) 30 Nos. Of Sprinklers provided along Coal Stock Yard (CSY) during 2018-19 at an cost of Rs. 25.96 lakhs.		
	Padmapur & Erai dam road. Also complaints about damage of drinking water pipe lines due	6) 1 Nos. Of Mechanical Road Sweeping Machine has been procured for coal transportation road for Rs. 36.00		
	to transportation of W.C.L's coal carrying	lakhs. RTO formalities under process.		
	trucks. He also pointed out Ground water table			
	goes down and development of cracks in			

S.N	Issues Raised	Compliance
	houses due to blasting in mine.	
		Water Pollution Control:
		1)2 Nos. of Sedimentation tanks are provided.
		2) 1 nos. Of Settling tank constructed during 2018-19 at an cost of Rs. 8.45 lakhs.
		3) ETP of 75 KLPD capacity has already been provided for recycling of water after washing of HEMM
		4) Construction of DETP of 50 CMD Capacity.
		Regarding tree plantation till date 182675 numbers of trees have been planted covering an area of 56.47 hectares.
		Regarding sprinkling of water on road to control fugitive dust emissions, BOCP has deployed 4 no. of mobile tankers for water spraying purpose of following capacity:
		1) 3 Nos. of 28 KLD operate continuously in mine area.
		2) 1 Nos. of 8 KLD sprinkling water from Tirwanja checkpost to Tirwanja village.
		Besides this 13 no. fixed type water sprinklers are also provided from CHP to Weighbridge Area
		The following arrangement of dust suppression is provided at CHP:
		Rainguns: 3 nos. (high efficiency)
		Mist spraying: 30 Nos.
		CHP has also been provided with GI Sheet cladding to contain fugitive dust emissions.
		All trucks carrying coal are properly covered with tarpaulin so as to minimize spillage of Coal.
		The Coal Transportation road from Tirwanja Checkpost upto Padoli Junction 9.10 km has been tarred / Black topped.
		Repairing of Bhatadi to Padmapur & Erai Dam Road has also been tarred/ blacktopped.

S.N	Issues Raised	Compliance
		Regarding provision of Drinking water, WCL has carried out various activities including Borewell installation, WCL is Supplying treated mine water through pipeline to Tirwanja Village. Installation of 1 nos. RO plant (1000 Iph) completed. Work for installation of additional 1 Nos. RO Plant of 1000 Iph under process.
		CMPDIL is carrying out Groundwater table monitoring on regular basis for 4 seasons in a year within the core zone (Mine area) & Buffer zone (10 km area from mine boundary) and it is observed that there is no much depletion of ground water table.
		To minimize the effect of ground water depletion following water harvesting schemes have been implemented.
		 Ground water recharge structure near Tiwanja village Strengthening Maal Gujari Talaav at Tirwanja.
		Regarding cracks in houses due to blasting in mines all precautions under Coal mines Regulations are taken and blasting safety zone of 500 mtr is also maintained.
2.	Sau Upre, Sarpanch, Bhatadi expressed that W.C.L is not taking care to sprinkle water properly on the road near village. Overburden is adjacent to village and causing entry of storm water in village, no Garland drain is provided	WCL has provided water tankers for sprinkling water on road near Bhatadi village. Water tanker of capacity 8KLPD is plying on regular basis for sprinkling water on village road.
	yet to collect and discharge of surface rainwater from OB dams WCL shall bear entire expenditure of maintenance of water treatment facility and W.C.L should carry out tarring of road and community development works in village.	Garland Drain of 4 km. length and 2.5 m x 2.5 m dimension has been provided along OB dump adjacent to village so as to prevent storm water/rain water/OB dump runoff from entering into the village and the same is being cleaned periodically.

S.N	Issues Raised	Compliance				
3.	Shri Doke, N.G.O's Ballarpur, stated that groundwater level is depleting in the nearby mine area	CMPDIL is carrying out Groundwater table monitoring on regular basis for 4 seasons in a year within the core zone (Mine area) & Buffer zone (10 km area from mine boundary) and it is observed that there is no much depletion of ground water table. Ground water recharge structure near Tiwanja village and Strengthening Maal Gujari Talaav at Tirwanja. Roof top water harvesting structures have been built at various locations by WCL Chandrapur area such as RSA Sub area, AGM office for recharging the ground water.			n the core from mine no much nja village nja. en built at ch as RSA	
4.	Shri Bhaskar Tajane, Tirwanja said that W.C.L should adopt village Tirwanja for development.	Development Activities carried out in Tirwanja village have already been covered in CSR			nja village	
5.	Shri K A mohitkar Tirwanja said W.C.L should construct School building outside village	New School Building at Tirwanja was constructed in 2013.			ructed in	
6.	Panel recommendations	Details of Plantation carried out till date:				
	 (i) W.C.L shall carry out massive tree plantation especially between villages and mines, OB Dumps and Avenue plantation outside their area which will be helpful in maintaining ecological balance (ii) W.C.L shall provide adequate fix water sprinklers at Coal Handling Plant, Coal transportation road, Weigh Bridge, Haul roads etc to control negative dust emission. (iii) W.C.L shall ensure that all the trucks carrying coal shall be covered with tarpaulins properly to avoid spillage of coal on the roads and overloading of coal shall strictly be avoided. (iv) Adequate water sprinkling shall be carried out on roads passing through villages to avoid function of the strict of the spinor of the strict of the spinor of the strict of the spinor of the	- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	Year 1997-98 1998-99 1999-2000 2000-01 2002-03 2004-05 2010-11 2011-12 2016-17 2018-19 Total	No of Plants 50000 nos 50000 nos 28000 nos 28000 nos 7000 nos 50000 nos 10000 nos 1850 nos 325 nos = 182675 Nos	Area 8.61Ha 14.50 Ha 10.05 Ha 4.42 Ha 2.83 Ha 3.02 Ha 4.0 Ha 4.0 Ha 4.0 Ha 0.74 Ha 0.20 Ha 0.10 ha 56.47 Ha	
	fugitive dust emission due to movements of trucks. (v) W.C.L shall take massive groundwater table recharging works and effective utilisation of mine water discharge such as irrigation at	 30 Nos. of Mist Spray provided in CHP. 13 No. of Sprinklers provided along Coal Transport Road. 3) 3 Nos. of High Efficiency Rain guns around CHP Area. 				

S.N	Issues Raised	Compliance
	nearby villages.	4) 3 Mobile tankers have been provided.
	 W.C.L shall also ensure that if there is a scarcity of water due to depletion of groundwater level due to mining activities they shall supply water to the affected villages. (vi) W.C.L shall maintain Over Burden dumps to avoid nuisance to villages and carry out massive tree plantation on the Over Burden. (vii) W.C.L shall carry out blasting in daytime only, using advanced technology to avoid ill effects due to blasting to nearby residents. also W.C.L shall maintain the record of blasting using vibrometer. (viii) W.C.L shall install continuous air monitoring station in the vicinity of the mine and adjoining villages and submit the results who the district Administration and local bodies on weekly basis. (ix) W.C.L shall initiate mass community development programs in the vicinity of the affected villages in consultation with the district administration, M.P.C Board & Local Body and yearly proposal for approval of the District Administration. 	 5) 30 Nos. Of Sprinklers provided along Coal Stock Yard (CSY) during 2018-19 at an cost of Rs. 25.96 lakhs 6) 1 Nos. Of Mechanical Road Sweeping Machine has been procured for coal transportation road for Rs. 36.00 lakhs. RTO formalities under process. Overloading avoided and 100% tarpaulin covering of Trucks carrying coal is ensured. Mobile tankers 1) 3 Nos. of 28 KLD continuously in mine area. 2) 1 Nos. of 8 KLD sprinkling water from Tirwanja checkpost to Tirwanja village Mine water discharge of BOCP is being used by villagers for agriculture purpose. No scarcity of water being reported. WCL has also provided garland drain of 4km length and 2.5 m X 2.5 m dimensions along D1 dump and plantation of 12.41 Ha. on OB dumps. Blasting is strictly restricted to daytime Fortnightly monitoring is carried out on regular basis by CMPDIL for Air and Water Quality. Reports are regularly submitted to state bodies such as MPCB and available online for Other bodies and individual on WCL website.

v. From the above it may be seen that the issues raised during the public hearing have all been addressed and as such there is no pending works.

Further, the O.M dated 15/09/2017 clearly stipulates that in case, Public Hearing already conducted for the total mine lease area involved and no more area is required for proposed expansion, then exemption for fresh Public Hearing against 40% enhancement in capacity can be solicited.

The subject proposal for 40% enhancement in capacity fulfils the above conditions as detailed out in earlier paragraphs.

Compliance against O.M. Dated 15.09.2017:-

S.N	Conditions	Compliance Status
1	Predicted air quality parameters are within the prescribed norm.	An exercise carried out through FDM90121 for proposed expansion. The predicted air quality levels are found within the prescribed norms.
2	conveyor system up to the silo and then loading to railway wagons	Coal is dispatched to CSTPS of . M/s. MSPGCL through road. The road is black topped avenue plantation has been developed. To eliminate air pollution due to coal transportation by road, the main consumer i.e. M/s. MSPGCL has planned to take coal from the Bhatadi OC through Pipe Conveyor of approx. 6.25 km length to their thermal power plant CSTPS, Chandrapur. The work is in advance stage of installation. In this regard, it is mentioned that recently, the competent approval from Ministry of Coal for installation of Pipe Conveyor system by MSPGCL through WCL acquired land for transportation of Coal from Expansion of Bhatadi OC to Padmapur Wagon loading system of CSTPS, Chandrapur has been received vide letter no.43022/8/2018-LA IR.
3		The deployment of surface minor in the subject mine is not

S.N	Conditions	Compliance Status
4	for the total mine lease area involved and no more area is	Public hearing has already been conducted on 20-07-2004 as per EIA Notification, 1994 for the total mine area of 847.57 Ha and no more area is required for the proposed expansion.
5	maintained by the concerned	It is submitted that EC compliance from Regional Office, MoEF & CC has been secured vide no. 3-16/2015 dated 05- 02-2018 which was also deliberated in the 28th EAC meeting held on 17-04-2018 and also on 31.08.2018. All the conditions have been recorded as Complied/in progress in the above EC Compliance Certificate.
6	consent to establish/operate, clearance from CGWA, approval of mining plan & the mine closure plan, mine closure status as	For the proposed project for expansion from 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA after receipt of EC, the application for consent to establish & consent to operate will be made. However the existing consent renewal valid upto 31.03.2019. The application for NOC from CGWA has been submitted vide letter no WCL/ENV/HQ/20-J&17-U/263 dated 13.06.2016. The mining plan including the mine closure plan for proposed expansion in production capacity from 0.975 MTPA to 1.465 MTPA has been approved by WCL board in its meeting held on 31.10.2017 and communicated vide letter dated 10.11.2017. For the existing project. Escrow account against approved MCP has already been opened and till 2017-18, Rs. 22.197 crores have been deposited. There is no forest land involved and as such FC is not applicable.

4. Air Pollution Control Measures:

- Regarding observation of EAC for adequate mitigating measures to address the air quality concern, it is submitted that appropriate pollution control measures are already in place which are being operated & maintained to keep the air pollution level within the permissible limits. The details of pollution control measures are detailed out in subsequent paragraphs.
- $\mathfrak{u}.\;$ Details of existing pollution control measures at Bhatadi OC is placed below:
 - a. 16 nos. of fixed sprinklers installed along coal transportation road
 - b. 30 Nos. of Mist sprinklers installed at CHP

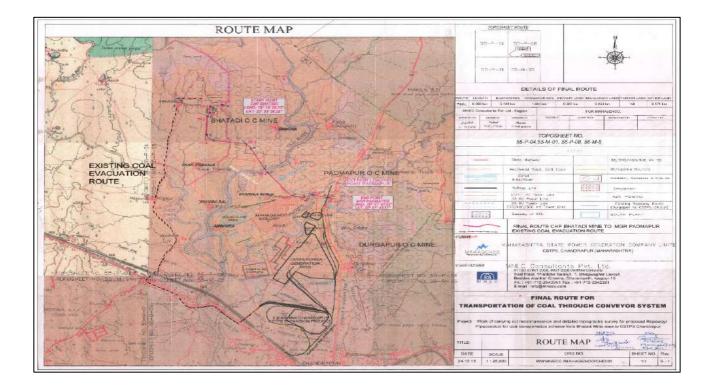
- c. 03 nos. of High efficiency Rain Guns installed at CHP Area.
- d. 3 Nos of mobile tankers with 28KL capacity & 1 No of mobile tankers with 18KL capacity are deployed for dust suppression at haul road, near coal stock yard etc.
- e. 1,82,350 Nos. of saplings planted till date
- f. 1 No. of Mechanical Sweeping machine commissioned at Chandrapur Area
- g. CHP side cladding with GI sheets
- h. Blacktopping / Concreting of approx. 10.80 kms
- i. Tarpaulin covering of Coal Transportation Trucks

Proposed Additional Measures:

To eliminate air pollution due to coal transportation by road, the main consumer i.e. M/s. MSPGCL has planned to take coal from the Bhatadi OC **through Pipe Conveyor of approx**. 6.25 km length to their thermal power plant CSTPS, Chandrapur. **The work is in advance stage of installation.**

In this regard, it is mentioned that recently, the competent approval from Ministry of Coal for installation of Pipe Conveyor system by MSPGCL through WCL acquired land for transportation of Coal from Bhatadi Expansion OC to Padmapur Wagon lading system of CSTPS, Chandrapur has been received vide letter no.43022/8/2018-LA & IR.





Future Scenario: As indicated above, installation of pipe conveyor for coal transportation from Bhatadi OC to CSTPS will eliminate the air pollution due to coal transportation by vehicles.

5. Conclusion

In this regard, it would be pertinent to mention here that as per the present extant O.M. Dated 15.09.2017, the exemption from Public Hearing(PH) in case of 40% expansion in capacity can be accorded provided that" Public hearing already conducted for the total mine lease area involved and no more area is required for the proposed expansion".

In case of Bhatadi OC, the Public Hearing was conducted for 847.57 ha(subject proposal is for 847.37 ha) on 20th July, 2004. The proposed 40% expansion in production capacity is solicited within the PH area and no more area is required for expansion of capacity.

In this regard it may be worthwhile to mention here that the subject mine is being operated with departmental equipment with gap against the enhanced capacity is being met through Hiring of Equipment(HoE), thereby overall increase of 0.39 MTPA can be undertaken in one go.

Considering the demand of the power grade coal from MAHAGENCO (especially CSTPS, Chandpur) and depleting reserves of nearby operating OC mines, the subject mine i.e. Expansion of Bhatadi OC has the potential to make enhanced contribution for bridging the gap between demand and

supply to a significant extent. As such, the subject project is an identified project for meeting the target coal production of 2018-19.

Further, this enhancement of 40% is an interim arrangement to meet the assigned target as there is a proposal for Revised Project Report (RPR) for Expansion of Bhatadi OC (NW) mine with 2.0 MTPA requiring additional land which is under process of approval. The application for grant of ToR based on the feasibility report is under preparation and is to be submitted shortly. The project would then mandatorily require conduction of fresh Public Hearing and is expected to come up in next 12 months i.e. upto 31st March, 2020.

5. Submission:

In view of the above, it is most earnestly solicited that the subject application may kindly be reconsidered for grant of Environmental Clearance for 40% enhancement in production capacity for Expansion of Bhatadi OC (from 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA) within existing land area of 847.37 ha with exemption of fresh Public Hearing as per the O.M. Dated 15.09.2017 for a period of one year only i.e. up to 31st March, 2020.

"Under Jurisdiction of Nagpur Court Only"

वेस्टर्न कोलफील्डस लिमिटेड (भारत सरकार का मिनी रत्न - श्रेणी । उपक्रम) Western Coalfields Limited (A Miniratna - Cat. I Government of India Undertaking) CIN-U10100MH1975GOI018626

पंजीकृत कार्यालय : कोल इस्टेट, सिविल लाइन्स, नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र) - 440001 Regd. Office : Coal Estate, Civil Lines, Nagpur (M. S.) - 440001

WCL:CMD:Secy: 12 - P/84

The Secretary, Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryawaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi- 110 003

Dear Sir,

Sub:- Grant of EC for Expansion of Bhatadi OC regarding.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for being so supportive and understanding in granting EC for Penganga OC Expansion & Umrer OC Expansion which will help WCL in augmenting the production substantially in this fiscal.

In this regard, it may be mentioned that, for achieving the production target in this fiscal there are only few mines with favourable mining conditions where production can be enhanced provided EC for the expanded capacity is accorded.

Out of the mines having the potential as stated above, ECs for Penganga OC & Umrer OC have been accorded and there is one more mine namely Bhatadi OC which has been deliberated in last EAC meeting held on 24-01-2019.

EAC has directed for conduction of fresh public hearing for proposed expansion of 0.39 MT. In this regard we would like to apprise you that this project has been certified by Regional Office, MoEF & CC, Nagpur with zero "Non-Compliance and Partly complied" vis-a-vis the existing EC. Moreover for minimizing the adverse impact on air quality due to enhancement of production, we are commissioning the Pipe Conveyor system jointly with Mahagenco for transportation of coal from pithead to siding thereby eliminating the road transportation completely.

It may be worthwhile to mention here that the increase in production is very meagre i.e. only0.39 Mt and the Mining Plan/Project Report for further enhancement of capacity upto 2.0 MTPA with additional land is in advance stage of approval. Once the Mining Plan / Project Report gets approved, after obtaining ToR, public hearing will be conducted within 12-18 months.

In view of the above, it is earnestly solicited that the proposal of Expansion of Bhatadi OC for enhancement of capacity by only 0.39 MT upto 31st March, 2020 may be kindly be considered for grant of EC.

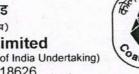
We sincerely not only hope but also believe that your continued support and understanding will certainly help us in scaling new heights in terms of achievement of enhanced production so as to meet the demand of the domestic coal substituting imports to the extent possible for the nation.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully

(Rajiv R. Mishra) Chairman-cum-Managing Director

cc: Secretary (Coal), Govt. of India, New Delhi - for kind information. cc: Chairman, CIL - for kind information.





अध्यक्ष-सह-प्रबंध निदेशक का कार्यालय Office of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director : 2510315, 2510440 Fax: 0712-2510500 2510314 (R)

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9th February, 2019

"Under Jurisdiction of Nagpur Court Only"

वेस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड (भारत सरकार का मिनी रत्न - श्रेणी। उपक्रम) Western Coalfields Limited (A Miniratna - Cat. I Government of India Undertaking) CIN-U10100MH1975GOI018626

पजीकृत कार्यालय : कोल इस्टेट, सिविल लाइन्स, नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र) - 440001 Regd. Office : Coal Estate, Civil Lines, Nagpur (M. S.) - 440001 E-mail : cmd.wcl@coalindia.in website : http//westerncoal.gov.in

NGP/WCL/CMD/SECY/12-P/51

18th December, 2018

To The Secretary, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi – 110 003

Sub :- Expansion of Bhatadi Opencast Coal Mine Project - Grant of EC reg.

Dear Sir,

The Bhatadi Opencast coal mine project located in Wardha Valley Coalfield with an EC of 0.975 MTPA, is having favourable mining conditions to achieve coal production beyond its existing EC capacity in this fiscal. Accordingly, the application for enhancement of EC capacity by 40% for expansion of Bhatadi OC from 0.975 to 1.365 MTPA (+ 0.39) with exemption of Public Hearing (as there is no increase in land area for the proposed enhancement in capacity) has been made on 06.02.2018 u/s 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 within the ambit of O.M. dated 15.09.2017. The mine will be reaching its existing EC capacity by last week of December 2018 and without EC for enhanced capacity, mining operations will have to be discontinued for remaining three months of this fiscal.

EAC, while considering the aforesaid application, vide its meeting held on 17.04.2018 & 31.08.2018 regarding grant of EC, has observed for conduction of fresh Public hearing as the last Public hearing was conducted in 2004 (before inception of EIA,2006). Regarding conduction of fresh Public Hearing for this meagre incremental production (0.39 Mt), it may be mentioned here that, the subject mine is proposed to be taken up for further enhancement in both capacity as well as land area for which fresh Public Hearing will be conducted as per the extant provisions.

It may be worthwhile to indicate here that performance of this mine vis – a- vis the existing EC is satisfactory as the compliance certificate against the existing EC has been secured from RO, MoEF&CC and there are no "Non Compliance" & "Partly compliance" recorded. Moreover to eliminate the adverse impact due to air pollution, construction of pipe conveyor for transportation of coal upto Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station via existing MGR is in full swing.

Therefore, it is solicited that EC for enhancement in capacity from 0.975 to 1.365 MTPA to expansion of Bhatadi OC with exemption of Public hearing to continue the mining operation for incremental production in the balance period of this FY 2018-19 may kindly be considered for grant for at least one year.

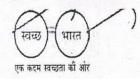
faithfully,

(Rajiv R. Mishra) Chairman-cum-Managing Director



अध्यक्ष-सह-प्रबंध निदेशक का कार्यालय Office of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director 2510315, 2510440 Fax : 0712-2510500 2510314 (R)





केवल नागपर कोर्ट के अधिकार क्षेत्र में

वेस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लिमिटेड

Western Coalfields Limited

(मिनीरत्न कंपनी) (A Miniratna Company) (कोल इंडिया लि. की अनुषंगी कंपनी) (A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

पर्यावरण विभाग

Environment Department TELE/FAX: 0712 -2510151 Email- gmenvironment@westerncoal.gov.in CIN - U10100MH1975GOI018626 www.westerncoal.nic.in पंजी. का. : कोयला विहार, सिविल लाइन्स, नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र) - 440001/ Regd. Off. : Coal Estate, Civil Lines, Nagpur (MS) - 440001 संदर्भ संख्याः वेकोलि/ मुख्यालय/ पर्यावरण/3-A & 20-C/ दिनांक: १४/१२/२०१८ 1398 सेवा में. डॉ. एस. के. श्रीवास्तव,

वैज्ञानिक - इ, अतिरिक्त निदेशकं (आइ ए),

IA-II (कोल माइनिंग) डिविजन, भारत सरकार,

स्पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवाय परिवर्तन मंत्रालय,

इन्दिरा पर्यावरण भवन, जोरबाग रोड,

नई दिल्ली - 110 003.

विषय:- Expansion of Bhatadi OC- Appeal for reconsideration of the minutes of 28th & 36th EAC meeting held on 17-04-2018 & 31-08-2018

Sir.

This has reference to the deliberations in respect of Expansion of Bhatadi Opencast Coal Mine Expansion Project (for expansion in capacity from 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA in an area of 847.37 ha) in the 28th EAC (held on 17-04-2018) & 36th EAC (held on 31-08-2018). The respective minutes quoted as below:-

Quote:

(i) 28th EAC held on 17.04.2018:

28.2.4 The EAC, after deliberations noted that the last public hearing for the project was conducted by State Pollution Control Board on 20th July 2004 i.e. much before the inception of 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.

In view of the above, the proposal was not taken forward.

(ii) 36th EAC held on 31.08.2018:

36.4.4 The Committee, after detailed deliberations, observed that their recommendation during the meeting held on 17th -18th April, 2018 in respect of conducting fresh public hearing is yet to be complied with. The Committee insisted for the same for further consideration of the proposal.

The Proposal was therefore deferred for the needful on the above lines.

Unquote:

In this reference it is to mention here that a compliance report vis - a - vis the observation of EAC as quoted above, has been submitted to MoEF & CC through online portal on 08-10-2018.

:2:

Now, we would like to draw your kind attention to the following submission:-

A) The EC for Expansion of Bhatadi OC from 0.65 MTPA to 0.975 MTPA (50 %) was secured under section 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 as per O.Ms vide dated 19-12-2012 & 07-01-2014

The salient features of the aforesaid O.Ms :

i) The O.M dated 19-12-2012 quoted as below :

Quote:

Expansion projects for Coal sector mining fall in two categories – (i) Projects that have obtained an EC under the EIA Notification 1994 and (ii) Projects that have obtained EC under the EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC may consider exempting Public Hearing for the capacity expansion proposal of existing coal mining projects, which have obtained EC under any one of these Notifications, which are for one time capacity expansion of up to 25 % in the existing mining operation, within the existing mine lease area, under clause 7(ii) of the EIA Notification, 2006.....

And as such an expansion would be considered for these expansion projects which have obtained prior EC and have undergone Public Hearing during the process of obtaining EC.

Unquote

ii) The O.M dated 07-01-2014 quoted as below:

Quote:

The matter has been considered in the Ministry of Environment & Forest and it has been decided that for expansion proposals of existing coal mining projects having production capacity up to 8 MTPA as per the EC letter, the limit of one time capacity expansion may be considered as 50 % or incremental production up to 1 MTPA, whichever is more, in the existing mining operations, within the existing mine lease area, by the EAC for exempting Public Hearing under clause 7(ii) of the EIA Notification, 2006. All other stipulations stated in earlier O.M of even number dated 19-12-2012 will continue to apply in such cases....

Unquote

Accordingly, the EC for Expansion of Bhatadi OC was applied on 28-04-2014 for expansion from 0.65 MTPA to 0.975 MTPA i.e. only 50 % whereas as per O.M dated 07.01.2014 expansion could have been sought for incremental production up to 1 MTPA i.e. from 0.65 MTPA to 1.65 MTPA. So, there was a still a cushion of (1 MTPA - 0.325 MTPA) i.e. 0.675 MTPA as per extant guidelines.

The EC was accorded under clause 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 for Expansion of Bhatadi OC for 0.65 MTPA to 0.975 MTPA vide letter dated 19-03-2015 without conducting fresh Public Hearing.

B) Subsequently, MoEF & CC has issued an O.M dated 15.09.2017 superseding the above referred previous O.Ms dated 19.12.2014, 07.01.2014 along with subsequent O.Ms. (dated 30.05.2014, 28.07.2014 & 02.09.2014) which stipulates for exemption of public hearing while considering grant of environmental clearance to the expansion projects of coal mines, involving increase in productionn capacity up to 40% in 2-3 phases after due diligence and subject to fulfilment of certain requirements.

The present proposal of Expansion of Bhatadi OC is for expansion by 40 % of the existing EC i.e. 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA (0.39 MTPA) which is well within the maximum allowable enhancement capacity of 0.675 MTPA (as explained in previous paragraph at (A) above).

Therefore it is submitted that had these O.Ms not been superseded, the aforesaid expansion of Bhatadi for 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA could have qualified for grant of EC with exemption of Public Hearing under the O.M dated 07-01-2014

Contd..

C) Performance of the project vis-à-vis existing EC (0.975 MTPA dated 19-03-2015).

The certification of compliance against the existing EC has been secured from RO, MoEF & CC, Nagpur and the summary of compliance is placed below:

Total No. of EC Conditions	65
Complied	- 64.
Conditions complied	48
PA agreed to comply with	16
Conditions partly complied	00
Conditions not complied	00
Does not pertain to PA	01

From the above it may be seen that, there is no "Non Compliance and Partial Compliance" against the existing EC and the same was deliberated in the EAC meetings.

D) Impact due to expansion on transportation:

In this regard it is submitted that construction of Pipe Conveyor for transportation of coal up to CSTPS via existing MGR is in full swing which will eliminate road/ rail transportation completely. The details of pipe conveyor are given below:

To eliminate air pollution due to coal transportation by road, the main consumer i.e. M/s. MSPGCL has planned to take coal from the Bhatadi OC through Pipe Conveyor of approx. 6.25 km length to their thermal power plant CSTPS, Chandrapur

In this regard, it is mentioned that, the competent approval from Ministry of Coal for installation of Pipe Conveyor system by MSPGCL over WCL acquired land for transportation of Coal from Bhatadi OC EXpansion to Padmapur Wagon loading system of CSTPS, Chandrapur has been received vide letter no.43022/8/2018-LA & IR dated 14-06-18 (enclosed as Annexure – I).

Route Map along with latest photographs of Pipe Conveyor system are enclosed as Annexure- II & III

E) Justification for exemption:

In this regard it may be worthwhile to mention here that the subject mine is being operated with departmental equipment with gap against the enhanced capacity is being met through Hiring of Equipment (HoE), thereby overall increase of 0.39 MTPA can be undertaken in one go.

Considering the demand of the power grade coal from MAHAGENCO (especially CSTPS, Chandrapur) and depleting reserves of nearby operating OC mines, the subject mine i.e. Expansion of Bhatadi OC has the potential to make enhanced contribution for bridging the gap between demand and supply to a significant extent. As such, the subject project is an identified project for meeting the target coal production of 2018-19.

The mine is likely to reach EC capacity of 0.975 Million Tonnes by last week of December,2018. As such without enhancement of EC capacity, the mine is to be temporarily discontinued till 31.03.2019.

In this regard, it may be further added that, there is substantial increase in demand of power grade domestic coal as such enhancement in capacity from existing potential mines is a viable alternative which will not only meet the demand but also help in reduction of import thereby reduce burden on the national exchequer.

3

Contd..

Further, this enhancement of 40% is an interim arrangement to meet the assigned target as there is a proposal for Revised Project Report (RPR) for Bhatadi Expansion OC mine with 2.0 MTPA requiring additional land which is under process of approval. The project would then mandatorily require conduction of fresh Public Hearing and is expected to come up in next 24 months.

As such it can BE seen from the above, that conducting fresh Public Hearing for the existing land area will be valid for only 12-24 months, because within this period, it will be mandatory to conduct another Public Hearing for the expansion in land area as well as further enhancement of production capacity.

Therefore, it is most earnestly solicited that the direction of EAC (vide 28th & 36th EAC meeting) may kindly be reconsidered for grant of EC in respect of Expansion of Bhatadi OC for 40 % enhancement in production capacity i.e. 0.975 MTPA to 1.365 MTPA within the existing land area of 847.37 ha with exemption of fresh public hearing for a period of 2 years i.e. upto March 2021 u/s 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006.

Thanking you,

4

संलग्न : यथोपरि

भवदी निदेशक (तिकनिकी)

No. J-11015/30/2004.1A.II(M) Government of India Ministry of Environment & Forests

Dated, New Delhi, the December 19, 2012

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Guidelines for granting Environment Clearance for expansion of Coal Mining Projects involving one time Production Capacity Expansion of up to 25% in the existing operation -reg.

The OM of even number dated 15th April, 2010 contains the guidelines for granting Environment Clearance (EC) for expansion of coal mining sector projects.

2. Now, it has been decided that in respect of existing coal mining projects which apply for one time capacity expansion of up to 25% in the existing mining operation, within the existing mine lease area, the guidelines stated in this OM will be applicable in supersession of the guidelines of 15^{th} April, 2010.

3. Expansion projects for Coal Sector mining fall in two categories-(i) projects that have obtained an EC under the EIA Notification 1994 and (ii) projects that have obtained EC under the EIA Notification, 2006. The EAC may consider exempting Public Hearing for the capacity expansion proposals of existing coal mining projects, which have obtained EC under any one of these Notifications, which are for one time capacity expansion of up to 25% in the existing mining operation, within the existing mine lease area, under clause 7(ii) of the EIA Notification 2006 subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Such an exemption would be considered for those expansion projects which have obtained prior EC and have undergone Public Hearing during the process of obtaining EC.
- (ii) The proposal is for one time capacity expansion of up to 25% in the existing coal mining operation.
- (iii) There is no additional mine lease area involved.
- (iv) There is no change in mining method (underground to opencast).
- (v) Application for the expansion project shall include a certified report of the Regional Office of the MoEF on the issues of compliance of EC conditions stipulated for the existing project for which EC for the expansion is being sought and necessary action taken there upon by the EAC, in terms of the MoEF Circular No. J-11011/618/2010-IA.II (1) dated 30.5.2012.
- (vi) Details of the court cases, if any, pending in any Court of Law against the project as well as directions passed by any Court relating to the project shall be furnished by the proponent directly to the Environment Appraisal Committee (EAC). The EAC will deliberate upon the same and the gist of the discussion will be reflected in the minutes of the EAC meeting.
- (vii) Details of notices, if any, issued to the project under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 will be reported by the proponent directly to the EAC. The EAC will deliberate upon the same and the gist of the discussion will be reflected in the minutes of the EAC meeting.

....contd.2/-

(viii) If the project falls in a Critically Polluted Area (CPA) wherein the moratorium has been lifted, the EAC shall examine the measures-required to be implemented by the project proponent under the Environment Action Plan prepared by the State Pollution Control Board concerned and status of their implementation. In such cases, the EAC shall also examine the monitoring data furnished by the project proponent of the environmental quality of the study area/CPA in which the project falls and after due diligence, decide if any additional mitigative measures are required for the expansion.

-2-

(ix) 25% expansion in production capacity is subject to a ceiling of 2 MTPA of additional production where the transportation of the additional production is proposed by road and of 5 MTPA of additional production if such transportation is proposed by means of a conveyor and/or rail transport.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr.Manoranjan Hota Director

То

- 1 PS to MEF
- 2 PPS to Secretary (E&F)
- 3 PPS to JS(AT)
- 4 All Officers of IA Division
- 5 PMO
- 6 Ministry of Coal

No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) Government of India Ministry of Environment and Forests

小好 橋田

Pagyaváran Bhavan, C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110 003 Dated: 07 January, 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Guidelines for granting Environment Clearance for expansion of Coal Mining Projects involving one time Production Capacity Expansion in the existing operation – reg.

The O.M. of even number dated 19.12.2012 deals with the guidelines for granting Environment Clearance (EC) for expansion of coal mining projects involving one time capacity expansion of up to 25% in the existing operation.

2. The Ministry of Coal have been taking up with this Ministry, the case of smaller coal mining projects and have argued that the cap of capacity expansion up to 25% for such projects, as per the existing guidelines vide O.M. dated 19.12.2012, is inadequate as it results in relatively small increase in production in absolute terms for such mines. They have requested for increasing the limit of capacity expansion in respect of smaller projects.

3. The matter has been considered in the Ministry of Environment & Forests and it has been decided that for expansion proposals of existing coal mining projects having production capacity up to 8 MTPA as per the EC letter, the limit of one time capacity expansion may be considered as 50% or incremental production upto 1 MTPA, whichever is more, in the existing mining operation, within the existing mine lease area, by the EAC for exempting Public Hearing under Clause 7(ii) of the EIA Notification, 2006. All other stipulations stated in earlier O.M. of even number dated 19.12.2012 will continue to apply in such cases.

4. For coal mining projects having production capacity more than 8 MTPA, the provisions of the earlier O.M. of even number dated 19.12.2012 will continue to apply in toto.

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This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

(Dr. Manoranian Director

To

- 1. PS to MEF
- 2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
- 3. PPS to JS(AT) / PS to JS(MS)
- 4. All officers of IA Division
- 5. PMO
- 6. Ministry of Coal

F. No.J-11015/224/2015-IA.II Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (IA-II Section)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, N Delhi - 3 . Dated: 15th September, 2017

Office Memorandum

Sub: Environmental Clearance for expansion of Coal Mining Projects -Exemption from Public hearing - reg.

In order to facilitate grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to the expansion projects of coal mines, Office Memorandums have been issued by this Ministry from time to time providing exemption from public hearing.

2. Ministry of Coal in order to allow rapid expansion in coal production has made request for further dispensation in public hearing to expedite Environmental Clearances.

3. The request of Ministry of Coal was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in the Ministry constituted for appraisal of projects relating to Thermal and Coal sectors. The Committee has recommended for exemption from public hearing while considering grant of environmental clearances to the expansion projects of coal mines, involving increase in production capacity up to 40% in 2-3 phases after the due diligence and subject to fulfilment of certain requirements as under:-

Predicted air quality parameters are within the prescribed norms.

(i).

- (ii) Coal transportation is through conveyor system up to the sild and then loading to railway wagons, involving no transportation through roads.
 (iii) Coal minima is described.
- (iii) Coal mining is done through deployment of surface miners, replacing three dust generating operations of the conventional mining system namely drilling, blasting and crushing in one go.
 (iv) Public hearing already conducted for the totol miners.
 - Public hearing already conducted for the total mine lease area involved and no more area is required for the proposed expansion.

(v) Compliance status of EC conditions monitored by the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry is found to be satisfactory.

(vi) Other statutory requirements like Consent to Establish/Operate, Clearance from CGWA, approval of Mining Plan and the Mine Closure Plan, Mine Closure Status Report as applicable, Forest Clearance, etc are satisfactorily fulfilled.

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In view of the aforesaid recommendations by EAC, the Ministry has decided 4. to consider the proposals for grant of EC to the expansion of coal mining projects providing exemption from public hearing, in the manner and/or subject to the conditions as under -

- The proposed expansion can go up to a maximum of 40% of capacity, (a)wherein the last public hearing was conducted.
- There is no increase in area for the proposed expansion vis-a-vis the area (b) · in EC, wherein last public hearing was conducted.
- Coal transport is through conveyor system up to the silo and loading to (C). railway wagons, and not by road. (d)
- The EAC shall carry out the due diligence on all the parameters mentioned in para 3 above, and make its recommendations accordingly.
- EAC may consider the need for a third party study through an expert (e)agency in a time bound manner, after grant of EC.

This OM shall be in supersession of the earlier OMs issued by the Ministry as 5. under:

- (i) OM No. J-11015/30/2004-IA II (M) dated 19th December, 2012
- (ii) OM No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) dated 7th January, 2014
- (iii) OM No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) dated 30th May, 2014
- (iv) OM No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) dated 28th July, 2014
- (v) OM No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) dated 2nd September, 2014

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6.

This issues with approval of the competent authority.

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法律法法定法法

9/2017

(S.K.Srivastava)

Scientist E

File No.LAIR-43022/8/2018-LAIR

No. 43022/8/2018-LA&IR Government of India Ministry of Coal

New Delhi, the 14th June, 2018.

Τо,

18983/2018(1)

Chairman-cum-Managing Director. Western Coalfields Limited, Coal Estate, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440001, Maharashtra.

Subject: Proposal for permission for installation of Pipe conveyor system by Maharashtra State Power General Co. Ltd. (MSPGCL) through WCL acquired land for transportation of coal from Bhatadi expansion OC to Padmapur Wagon loading Station of CSTPS Chandrapur.

Sir,

1 am directed to refer to WCL's letter ref. no. WCL/MP(L&R)/SKG/61 dated 5/7.3.2018 on the above subject and to convey the approval of the competent authority of this Ministry to WCL for installation of pipe conveyor by MSPGCL thourgh WCL acquired land on the lease basis for a period of 25 years.

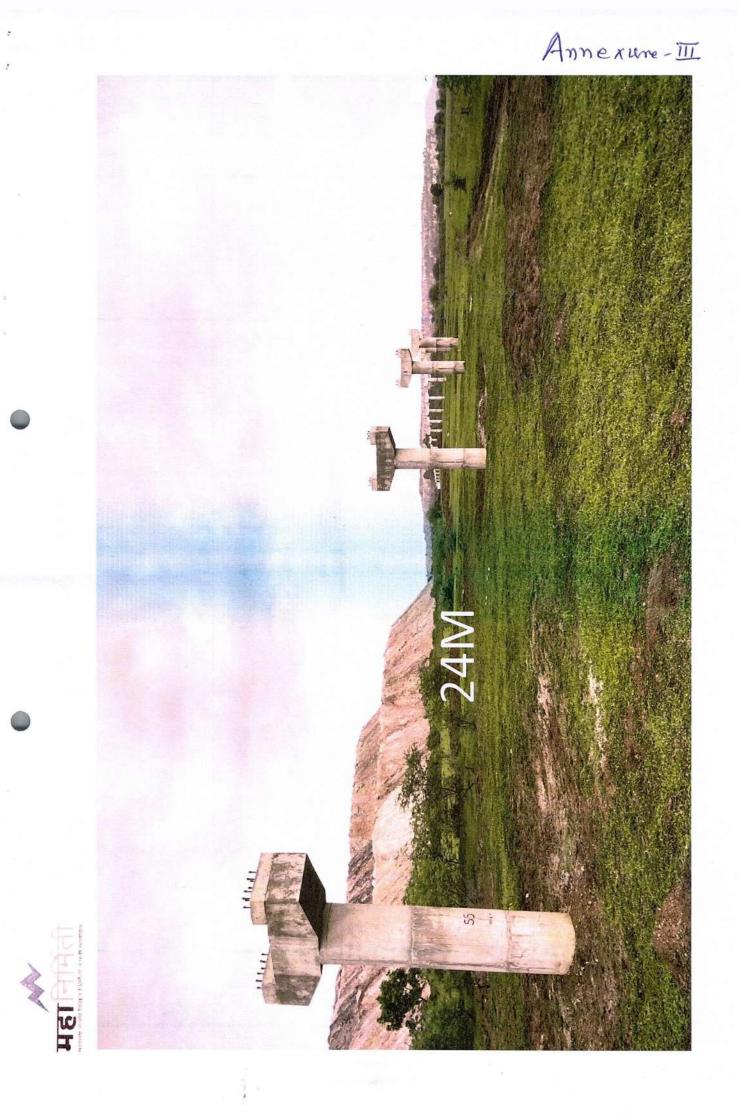
Yours faithfully

) (Cam

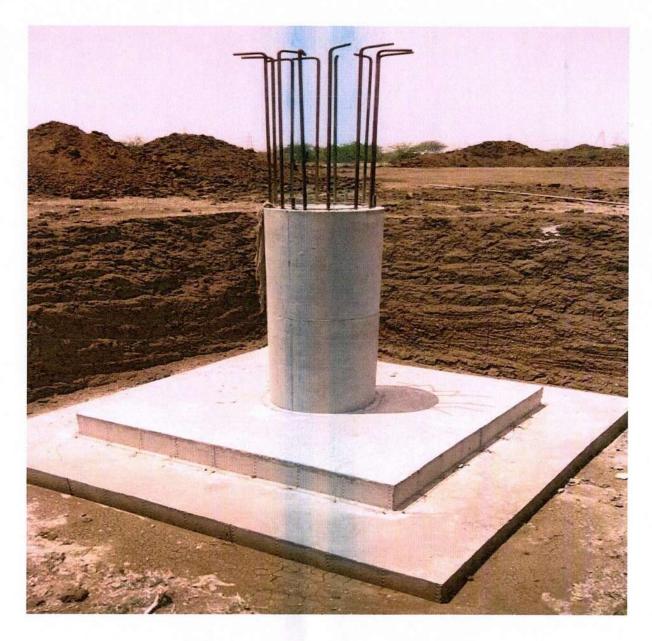
(Ram Shiromani Saroj) Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Copy to: - Chairman, Coal India Limited, Newtown, Rajarhat, Kolkata(West

Bengal)-700156.







Pipe Conveyor Footing





Annexure-III (Conte).

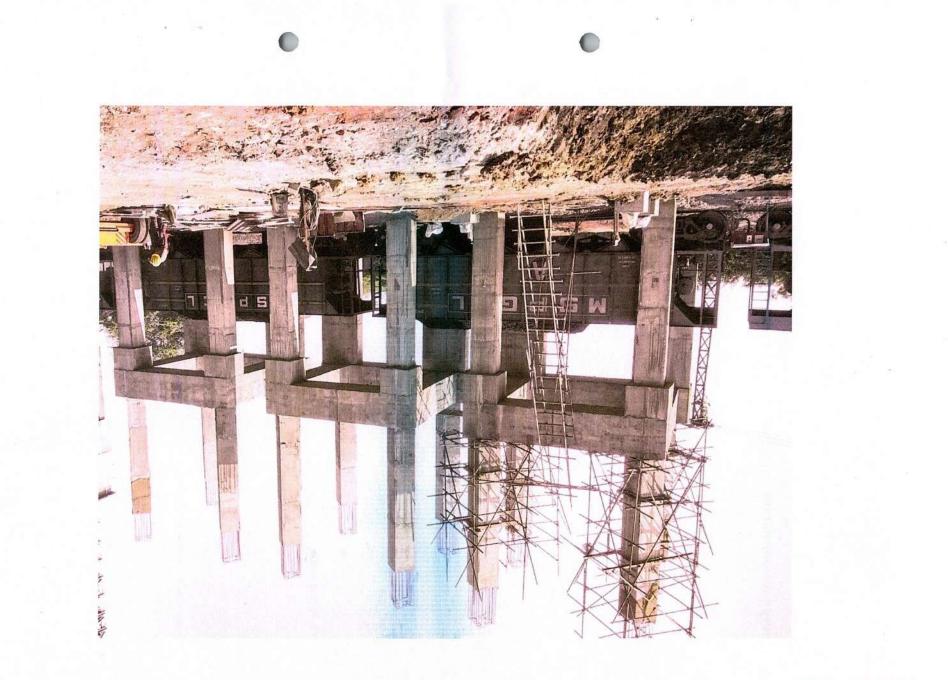


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Annexume-III (lenta). BC-2-TR-8 WITH BOLT LIFT

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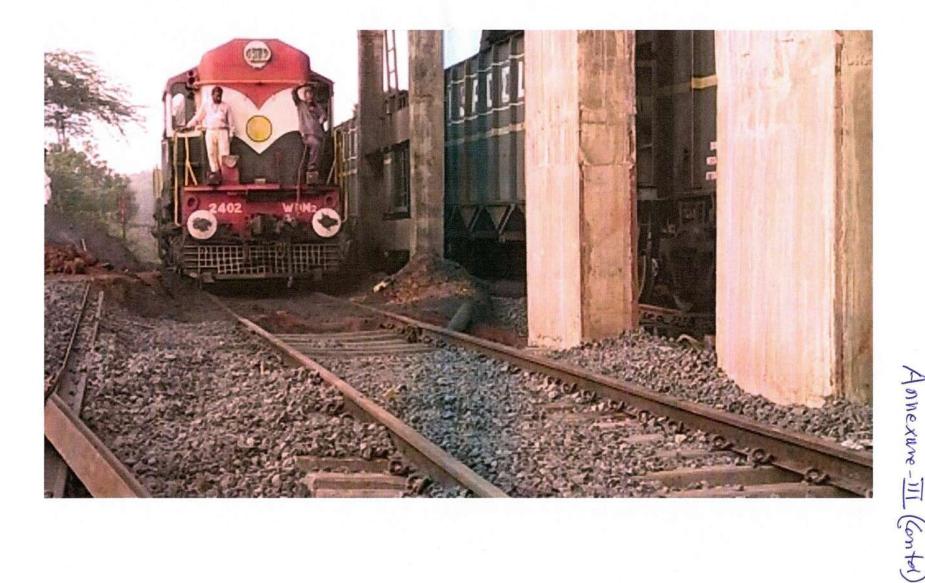


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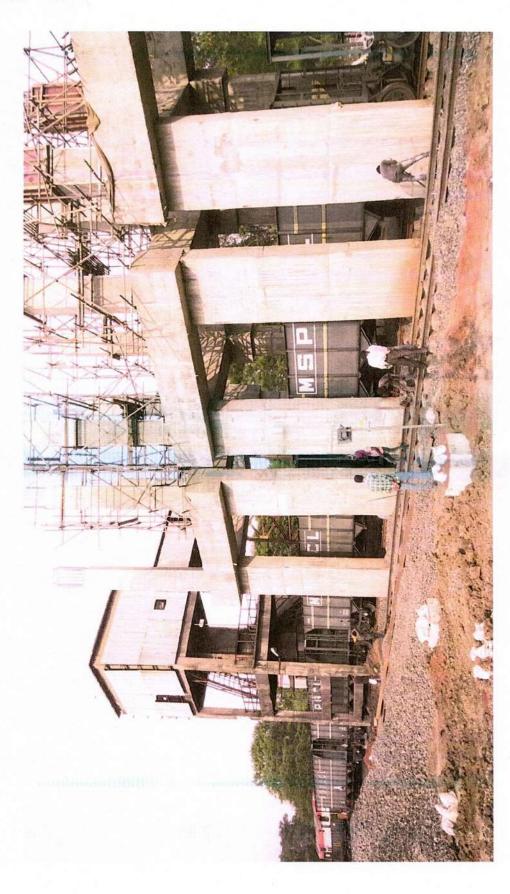


Wagon Locomotive Trial on 07.11.2018

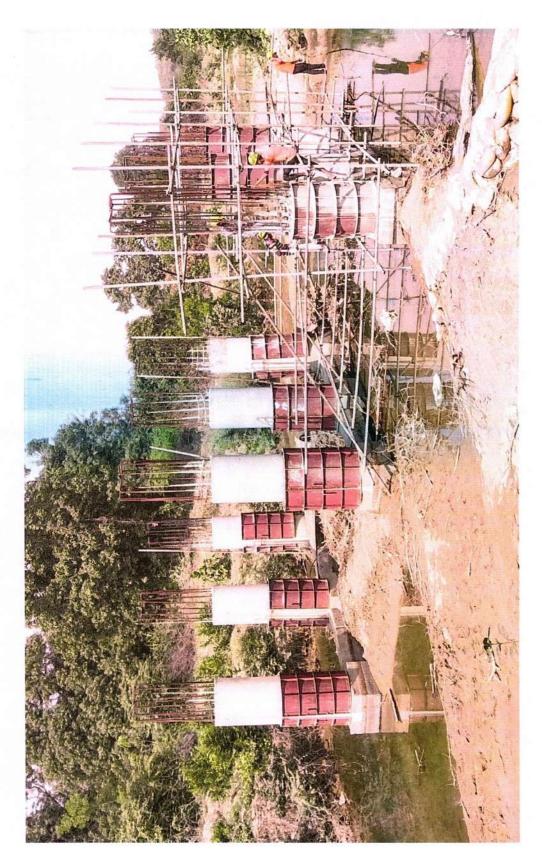




Wagon Loading Started by O&M on 07.11.2018



Motghat Nallah Crossing

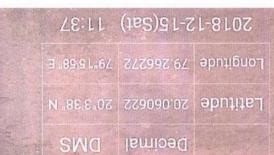


Annexure-III (Conta)

MCC Building-1 (LC1) At Padmapur End







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