

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj Road,
Jor Bagh, New Delhi

No. J-11015/58/2009-IA-II.(M)

Dated: 16th April, 2015

To,

The General Manager (Mines)
GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited
Skip House, 25/1,
Museum Road
Bangalore
Karnataka-560025

E-mail: ranjitsingh.matharoo@gmrgroup.in

Subject: Transfer of Environmental Clearance of Talabira-I Opencast Coalmine Project (3.0MTPA) in an ML area of 170.30 ha at village Khinda, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur Odisha from M/s HINDALCO Industries Ltd. to M/s GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited, Bangalore, Karnataka- reg.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendment thereto had accorded Environmental Clearance (EC) for expansion of Talabira-I Opencast Coal mine Project (1.5 MTPA to 3.0 MTPA in an ML area of 170.30 ha at village Khinda, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur, Odisha to M/s Hindalco Industries Ltd. subject to compliance of terms and conditions stipulated in the EC letter No. J-11015/58/2009-IA.II (M) dated November 8, 2011.

WHEREAS the Supreme Court of India vide judgment dated 25th August, 2014 read with its order dated 24th September, 2014 has cancelled the allocation of 204 coal blocks and issued directions with regard to such coal blocks wherein the Central Government in pursuance of the said directions has to take immediate action to implement the said order.

WHEREAS in pursuance of the judgment and order of the Supreme Court, the nominated authority has, in accordance with provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Second Ordinance, 2014 and the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Rules 2014 conducted the auction of the mines.

WHEREAS Ministry of Coal (MOC) vide its O.M. letter no. 43020/20/2014-CPAM dated 16th March, 2015 has informed MoEFCC that MOC has recently approved 23 coal blocks (15 coal blocks from Schedule II and 8 coal blocks from Schedule III of the Ordinance) through bidding to different successful bidders/ companies. MOC has requested this Ministry to facilitate transfer of the Environment Clearance and Forest Clearance of these blocks to the new successful bidders before 31.03.2015.

WHEREAS Ministry of Coal vide Vesting Order under clause (b) of sub-rule (2) of rule 7 and sub-rule (1) of rule 13 and Order no. 104/2/2015/NA dated 23rd March, 2015 has allocated the Talabira-I Coal Mines located in village Khinda, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur, Odisha, to M/s GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited, Registered Office at Skip House, 25/1, Museum Road, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560025 as the successful bidder.

WHEREAS vide Gazette Notification S.O. 811 (E) Notification dated 23.03.2015, MOEFCC has made amendments to paragraph 11 in the Gazette Notification S.O.1533 (E) dated 14th September, 2006. Vide the said amendment; where an allocation of coal block is cancelled in any legal proceeding; or by the Government in accordance with law, the environmental clearance granted in respect of such coal block may be transferred, subject to the same validity period as was initially granted, to any legal person to whom such block is subsequently allocated, and in such case, obtaining of “no objection” from either the holder of environment clearance or from the regulatory authority concerned shall not be necessary and no reference shall be made to the Expert Appraisal Committee or the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee concerned.

WHEREAS pursuant to the MOC vesting Order no. 104/2/2015/NA dated 23rd March, 2015 and MoEFCC Gazette Notification S.O. 811(E) Notification dated 23.03.2015, the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/58/2009-IA.II (M) dated 8th November, 2011 to M/s HINDALCO Industries Ltd., for Expansion of Talabira-I Opencast Coalmine project (1.5 MTPA to 3.0MTPA) in an ML area of 170.30 ha at village Khinda, Tehsil Rengali, District Sambalpur, Odisha is hereby transferred to M/s GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited, Registered Office at Skip House, 25/1, Museum Road, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560025 subject to the following conditions:

- (i) Any change in scope of work will attract the provisions of Environment Protection Act (EPA), 1986 and Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 in conjunction with the subsequent amendments / circulars.

- (ii) All conditions stipulated in the EC letter No. J-11015/58/2009-IA.II (M) dated 8th November, 2011 shall remain unchanged.
- (iii) The successful bidder shall be liable, if any, for any act of violation of the EPA 1986 / EIA Notification 2006 /subsequent amendments and circulars which it has inherited during the transfer.
- (iv) Successful bidder shall be liable for compliance of all court directions, if any.


(Dr R Warriar)
Director

Copy to :

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment & Forest, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
3. PCCF (WL), Govt. of Orissa in regard to implementation of WL Conservation Plan.
4. Chief Conservator of Forest, Regional Office (EZ), Ministry of Environment & Forest, A-Chadrashekarpur, Bhubaneswar -751023
5. Chairman, Orissa State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilkanthanagar, Unit VIII, Bhubaneswar-751012.
6. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi
7. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
8. District Collect, Sambalpur, Government of Orissa.
9. Monitoring File 10. Guard File 11 Record File.


(Dr R Warriar)
Director