



Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Impact Assessment Division)

To,

The GM (Mining) Environment  
Western Coalfields Limited

**Subject:** Grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed Project Activity under the provision of EIA Notification 2006-regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Environmental Clearance (EC) in respect of project submitted to the Ministry vide proposal number IA/MH/CMIN/284193/2021 dated 02 Aug 2022. The particulars of the environmental clearance granted to the project are as below.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. EC Identification No.                   | EC22A042MH113245   |
| 2. File No.                                | J-11015/242/2008-IA.II(M)  |
| 3. Project Type                            | Expansion  |
| 4. Category                                | A  |
| 5. Project/Activity including Schedule No. | 1(a) Mining of minerals  |
| 6. Name of Project                         | Gauri Pauni Expansion OCP for enhancement in production capacity from 3.40 MTPA (2.50 + 0.90) to 3.50 MTPA and increase in land area from 931.53 ha (676.53 + 255.00) to 1618.0 ha (1613.00 Ha & 5.00 ha |
| 7. Name of Company/Organization            | Western Coalfields Limited   |
| 8. Location of Project                     | Maharashtra  |
| 9. TOR Date                                | 20 Jan 2021  |

The project details along with terms and conditions are appended herewith from page no 2 onwards.

Date: 27/12/2022

(e-signed)  
Lalit Bokolia  
Scientist F  
IA - (Coal Mining sector)

*Note: A valid environmental clearance shall be one that has EC identification number & E-Sign generated from PARIVESH. Please quote identification number in all future correspondence.*

*This is a computer generated cover page.*



**F No. J-11015/242/2008-IA. II(M)]**  
Government of India  
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**Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**

**To**

The General Manager (Environment),  
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,  
Coal Estate, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Civil Lines,  
Nagpur - 1 (Maharashtra)  
Email: [gmenvironment.wcl@nic.in](mailto:gmenvironment.wcl@nic.in); [wclenv@yahoo.in](mailto:wclenv@yahoo.in)

**Sub: Amalgamation with expansion of Gauri- Pauni Open Cast Mining Project for increase of production from 3.40 MTPA (2.50 + 0.90) to 3.50 MTPA with increase in Mine Lease area from 916.11 ha (676.53 + 239.58) to 1296.42 ha (1291.42ha + 5 ha) of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located at Villages Gauri & Pauni, Taluka Rajura, District Chandrapur, (Maharashtra) – For Environmental Clearance- reg.**

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No. IA/MH/CMIN/284193/2021 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2022, submitted to this Ministry for grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Amalgamation with expansion of Gauri- Pauni Open Cast Mining Project for increase of production from 3.40 MTPA (2.50 + 0.90) to 3.50 MTPA with increase in Mine Lease area from 916.11 ha (676.53 + 239.58) to 1296.42 ha (1291.42ha + 5 ha) of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located at Villages Gauri & Pauni, Taluka Rajura, District Chandrapur, (Maharashtra).

2. The project/activity is covered under category 'A' of item 1(a) 'Mining of Minerals' the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006
3. The proposal was considered by the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2022, 36<sup>th</sup> meeting held during 20-21 October, 2022 and 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held during 17-18 November, 2022. The details of the project, as per the documents submitted by the project proponent, and also as informed during the meeting, are reported to be as under: -
  - (i) The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo Sheet No. 56 M/1 & 56 M/5 (IAC) E-44B-1 & E-44VB-5 (OSM) and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from Latitudes N 19°47'44" to 19°50'03" and longitudes E 79°14'42" to 79°18'12".

- (ii) Coal linkage of the project is proposed for Thermal power plants of MAHAGENCO & other miscellaneous consumers.
- (iii) No Joint venture cartel has been formed
- (iv) Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA), where the MoEF&CC's vide its OM dated 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 has imposed moratorium on grant of environment clearance.
- (v) Employment generation: employment to 573 nos. (Permanent – 273 nos., Temporary - 200 nos.) Persons will be provided from the project.
- (vi) Standard Terms of Reference issued vide F.No. J-11015/242/2008-IA.II (M) on 20th January, 2021.
- (vii) The project is reported to be beneficial in terms of the following

Sl. No	Type of Project Benefits	Details of Project Benefits
1	Environmental	Conservation of coal. Also it will lead to positive environmental impacts like green cover, mine water utilization, etc. Out of Total 1618.0 ha, 920.0 ha i.e (56.86%) Area will be brought under plantation.
2	Social	The project will lead to development of roads, ancillary industries, Improvement in social & living standards by providing opportunities of direct & indirect employment to local community
3	Financial	A substantial percentage of population is dependent on mining industry directly or indirectly. Because of this mining project some of the local population may take direct employment but a substantial impact will be on creation of indirect job opportunities and employment

- (viii) Total mining lease area as per block allotment is 1613 ha + 5 Ha Outside mine lease area. Mining Plan (Including Progressive Mine Closure Plan) has been approved by the WCL Board in its 333rd meeting held on 29th June, 2021. It was communicated vide letter no WCL/Office of CS / BM-333/ 2021-22 / 238 dated 05.07.2021.
- (ix) The land usage pattern of the project is as follows:

**Pre-Mining land Use Details:**

Sl. No.	Land use	Within ML area (Hectare)	Outside ML area (Hectare)	TOTAL (Hectare)
a.	Agriculture land	1281.42	5	1286.42
b.	Forest land	0	0	0
c.	Surface water bodies	0	0	0
d.	Settlements	0	0	0
e.	Waste land	0	0	0
f.	Others (Govt. land)	10	0	10
g.	Grazing land	0	0	0
Total		1291.42	5	1296.42

## Land Use During Mining

Sl. No.	Land Use category	1 <sup>st</sup> year (1.4.2022)	5 <sup>th</sup> Year
1	Backfilled Area upto GL	0	191
	(Reclaimed with plantation)	0	0
2	Excavated Area (Not reclaimed)/void)	360	275
3	External OB dump	250	280
	(Reclaimed with plantation)	0	30
4	Green belt area*	0	0
5	Undisturbed area	626.42	421.91
	(Brought under plantation)	0	20
6	Roads	10	25
	(Avenue plantation)	0	1
7	Land for Pauni village Rehab.	0	5
	(Brought under plantation)	0	1
8	Embankment	30	68.51
	(Avenue plantation)	0	0
9	Nalla Diversion	0	10
	(Plantation around nala diversion)	0	0
10	Area around buildings and infrastructure	20	20
	(Plantation around Infrastructure)	0	1
<b>Total (Ha)</b>		<b>1296.42</b>	<b>1296.42</b>
<b>Plantation (Ha)</b>		0	53.00

### Post Mining Land use Pattern:

As per the present proposal, EC is being solicited for expansion with amalgamation project of two mines i.e. for Gauri Pauni Expansion OCP for enhancement in production capacity from 3.40 MTPA (2.50 + 0.90) to 3.50 MTPA and increase in land area from 931.53 ha (676.53 + 255.00) to 1296.42 ha (1291.42 ha & 5.00 ha outside boundary for rehabilitation) with a life of 5 years.

This is being an interim arrangement and after 5 years of period, the Quarry – I of presently running Pauni – II OC will get merged with the proposed project after its exhaustion of reserves. It may be mentioned here that, EC will be secured for the total land area of 1618.0 ha after 5 years.

As such the Post Mining land use details of 1618.0 ha, has been placed below:

Sl. No.	Land Use	Plantation (ha)	Water Body (ha)	Public Use (ha)	Undisturbed (ha)	Total
a.	Virgin area	75	0	0	117.49	192.49
b.	Excavation/ Quarry	0	443	0	0	443
c.	External OBDumps	504	0	0	0	504
d.	Top-Soil Storage	0	0	0	0	0
e.	Internal OB Dumps	330	0	0	0	330
f.	Built up area (Colony/ Office)	6	0	34	0	40

Sl. No.	Land Use	Plantation (ha)	Water Body (ha)	Public Use (ha)	Undisturbed (ha)	Total
g.	Other (embankment)	0	0	68.51	0	68.51
h.	Roads	4	0	21	0	25
i.	Green Belt	0	0	0	0	0
j.	Nala Diversion	0	10	0	0	10
k.	Village Rehab	1	0	4	0	5
	Total	920.00	453.00	127.51	117.49	1618

- (x) Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 64.73 MT with 58.26 MT mineable reserve. Out of total mineable reserve of 58.26 MT, 55.34 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 85 %.
- (xi) One Composite Seam with thickness ranging from 12 m – 14 m are workable. Grade of coal is G-9, stripping ratio 1: 9.44, while gradient is 1 in 7.4 to 1 in 10.5.
- (xii) Life of mine is 5 years.
- (xiii) The project has one external OB dump in an area of 504 ha with 90 m height and 238.0 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB. One internal OB dump in an area of 330 ha with 309.86 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB is envisaged in the project.
- (xiv) Total quarry area is 773.0 ha out of which backfilling will be done in 330 Ha while final mine void will be created in an area of 443.0 Ha with a depth of 230 m. Backfilled quarry area of 330 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation. Final mine void will be converted 443.0 Ha at a depth of 230 m is proposed to be converted into water body.
- (xv) Reclamation Plan in an area of 920 ha, comprising of 504 ha of external dump, 330 ha of internal dump and 75 ha of green belt. In addition to this, an area of 11 ha, included in the other areas, has also been proposed for green belt development.
- (xvi) The proposal involves Amalgamation with expansion of two OC mines namely Gauri – I & II Expansion OC (Amalgamated) (will be getting exhausted this year) and Expansion of Pauni OC (Already exhausted). These two mines are proposed to be merged to a new mine named “Gauri Pauni Expansion OC” in which the dip side reserves plus the reserves locked in barrier between the two mines are to be extracted based on the revised Approved Mining Plan for which this EC proposal has been submitted.
- (xvii) There is no forest land involved in the project.
- (xviii) No National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries have been reported with 10 km boundary of the project. The project is outside ESZ and the ESZ of the TATR is approx. 15 kms from the project in the Northeast.
- (xix) Wildlife conservation plan for schedule – I species: Not applicable
- (xx) The ground water level has been reported to be varying between 6.50 m to 8.50 m during pre-monsoon and between 5.15 m to 7.90 m during post-monsoon. Total water requirement for the project is 960 KLD.
- (xxi) NOC for abstraction of groundwater has been secured vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465 valid upto 02.08.2023 for the existing Gauri I & II OC (Amalgamated) Expansion (2.50 MTPA) for 1300 m<sup>3</sup>/day. NOC for abstraction of groundwater has been secured vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555 valid

- upto 12.08.2023 for the existing Expansion of Pauni OC (0.90 MTPA) for 1226 m<sup>3</sup>/day. The same is being secured for the proposed project (Gauri Pauni Expansion OC – 3.50 MTPA).
- (xxii) Public hearing for the project of 3.50 MTPA capacity in an area of 1618.0 ha was conducted on 05th May 2022 at Manoranjan Kendra, Sasti Colony, village Dhoptala under the Chairmanship of ADM, District Chandrapur. Major issues raised in the public hearing include Land Acquisition, CSR related, Road, Jobs, etc. Appropriate action to address the issues raised in the Public Hearing have already been taken/proposed to be taken are deliberated in the Final EIA EMP report along with financial provisions and timeline.
- (xxiii) This is a proposed mine. Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate will be secured from MPCB after grant of EC.
- (xxiv) Diversion of Pauni Nala and Chincholi Nala is involved in project. The nallah will be diverted with due permission from Irrigation Department of the Maharashtra State Government and following design of CDO, Nashik.
- (xxv) Baseline for Ambient Air Quality has already been generated from Oct'2020 to Dec'2020 (Post Monsoon Season) for the proposed expansion in capacity of mine and have been found to be within permissible limit. The same data has been used for preparation of EIA – EMP.
- (xxvi) No court cases, violation cases are pending against the project of the PP in respect of Environment.
- (xxvii) The project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendment issued there under. This is a proposed mine and coal production is yet to start.
- (xxviii) The project involves 196 nos project affected families from Pauni village. R&R of the PAPs will be done as per CIL norms.
- (xxix) Total cost of the project is Rs 337.3771 Crores (including WDV of Rs 48.0436). Cost of production is Rs 1708.24 per tonne (85% of target capacity), CSR cost: The fund for the CSR will be allocated based on 2% of the average net profit of the Company for the three immediately preceding financial years or Rs 2.00 per Tonne of Coal Production of the previous year whichever is higher, R&R cost is Rs 47.5156 crores. Environment Management Cost provisioned in Approved Project Report; Capital Rs 7.7739 crores & Revenue cost – Rs 6 per tonne.

4. The proposal was considered by the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) in its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting held during 17-18 November, 2022 and recommended for grant of Environment Clearance. Based on recommendations of the EAC, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords approval Expansion of **Amalgamation with expansion of Gauri - Pauni Open Cast Mining Project for increase in production capacity from 3.40 MTPA (2.50 + 0.90) to 3.50 MTPA with increase in Mine Lease area from 916.11 ha (676.53 + 239.58) to 1296.42 ha (1294.42 + 5) of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located at Villages Gauri & Pauni, Taluka Rajura, District Chandrapur, (Maharashtra)**, under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments/circulars thereto subject to the compliance of the following terms & conditions / specific conditions for environmental safeguards as stated below:-

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to establish and operate from the State Pollution Control Boards for the proposed peak capacity of 3.5 MTPA (Peak) prior to commencement of the increased production.

- (ii) PP shall implement conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding within 3 years (March-2025) as committed by PP with Sasti OCP and No road transportation shall be allowed beyond this time; accordingly, SPCB shall not grant CTO for road transportation.
- (iii) PP shall complete all non-compliance/ partial compliance in one year and the action taken report shall be submitted to Regional Office of the MOEF&CC
- (iv) PP to install a continuous air quality monitoring station at suitable location in consultation with SPCB with 9 months and data so generated shall be displayed to company main gate. Data so generated shall be linked with SPCB/CPCB website.
- (v) PP shall deploy only 40-50 tonnes covered trucks/dumper to reduce fleet size till Rapid loading system and conveyor belt system is commenced (i.e. till March, 2025).
- (vi) All previous Environmental Clearances issued by Ministry for this project shall be read with instant EC and applicable with this conditions.
- (vii) PP to obtain IRO certified post closure plan for excluded area of 15.42 ha (After reduction from 255 ha to 239.58 ha).
- (viii) PP shall install sand/aggregate segregation plant for suitable capacity to extract sand and construction aggregate within 2 years of issue of this letter.
- (ix) Active OB Dump should not be kept barren/open and should be covered by temporary grass to avoid air born of particles
- (x) PP shall deploy atleast 20% of overall fleet of dumpers/trucks as electrical or CNG/LNG based dumpers/trucks for transportation of coal/OB etc.
- (xi) No village road shall be used for transportation of coal and no road transport route shall be adopted, which is passing through any sensitive location such as schools, hospitals etc. PP shall take legal undertaking from its consumers accordingly.
- (xii) PP shall pay to farmers of agricultural land if there is any loss due to pollution/damange due to blasting activity found by concerned District Commissioner as per extent rules or norms
- (xiii) PP to prepare annual maintenance plan for diverted Stream/Nallah, and implement specifically for silt managment to maintain the flow of stream.
- (xiv) PP shall submit 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 to Ministry's Regional Office.
- (xv) Continuous Monitoring at Occupational safety and health hazards and the Corrective action need to be ensured.
- (xvi) Persons of nearby villages shall be given training on livelihood and skill development to make them employable.
- (xvii) Project proponent to plant 100,000 nos. of native trees with broad leaves along the villages and 50,000 nos of native trees along transportation route to prevent the effect of air pollution in 2 years. After completion of tree plantation, number of trees shall be duly endorsed from District Forest Officer.

- (xviii) PP shall divert the PWD road connecting Sakhri Village to Gauri Village (about 4.5 km) after taking consent from Gram Panchayat for alternate road (nearest available route). PP shall contribute in the fund for alternate road and maintenance charges of this road shall also be spent by M/s WCL.
- (xix) The Project Proponent should submit the detailed plantation plan in tabular format (year wise for entire life of mine) with proper capital and recurring cost. PP shall undertake the adequate plantation with the seedling of 10 ft height with at least 90% survival rate and the plantation shall be completed within 3 years from the start of mining operations. The casualties of each year shall be replaced every year with new saplings and such number of saplings shall not be counted in the number of saplings proposed to plant in that year.
- (xx) Hon'ble Supreme Court in an Writ Petition(s) Civil No. 114/2014, Common Cause vs Union of India & Ors vide its judgement dated 8th January, 2020 has directed the Union of India to impose a condition in the mining lease and a similar condition in the environmental clearance and the mining plan to the effect that the mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. Compliance of this condition after the mining activity is over at the cost of the mining lease holders/Project Proponent". The implementation report of the above said condition shall be sent to the Regional Office of the MoEFCC.

**4.1** The grant of environmental clearance is further subject to compliance of the Standard EC conditions as under:

**(a) Statutory compliance**

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
- (ii) The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- (iii) The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. The recommendations of the approved Site-Specific Conservation Plan/Wildlife Management Plan shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. The implementation report shall be furnished along with the six-monthly compliance report (in case of the presence of schedule-I species in the study area).
- (iv) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish/Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Committee.
- (v) The project proponent shall obtain the necessary permission from the Central Ground Water Authority.
- (vi) Solid/hazardous waste generated in the mines needs to be addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016.

**(b) Air quality monitoring and preservation**

*EC Letter of Amalgamation with expansion of Gauri Pauni OCP to M/s WCL*

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(i) Continuous ambient air quality monitoring stations as prescribed in the statute be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring of pollutants, namely PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>. Location of the stations shall be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. Online ambient air quality monitoring stations may also be installed in addition to the regular monitoring stations as per the requirement and/or in consultation with the SPCB. Monitoring of heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr, etc to be carried out at least once in six months.

(ii) The Ambient Air Quality monitoring in the core zone shall be carried out to ensure the Coal Industry Standards notified vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Data on ambient air quality and heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr and other monitoring data shall be regularly reported to the Ministry/Regional Office and to the CPCB/SPCB.

(iii) Transportation of coal, to the extent permitted by road, shall be carried out by covered trucks/conveyors. Effective control measures such as regular water/mist sprinkling/rain gun etc shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution (with higher values of PM<sub>10</sub>/PM<sub>2.5</sub>) such as haul road, loading/unloading and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all sources shall be controlled regularly. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board.

(iv) The transportation of coal shall be carried out as per the provisions and route envisaged in the approved Mining Plan or environment monitoring plan. Transportation of the coal through the existing road passing through any village shall be avoided. In case, it is proposed to construct a 'bypass' road, it should be so constructed so that the impact of sound, dust and accidents could be appropriately mitigated.

(v) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centres.

(vi) Coal stock pile/crusher/feeder and breaker material transfer points shall invariably be provided with dust suppression system. Belt-conveyors shall be fully covered to avoid air borne dust. Side cladding all along the conveyor gantry should be made to avoid air borne dust. Drills shall be wet operated or fitted with dust extractors.

(vii) Coal handling plant shall be operated with effective control measures w.r.t. various environmental parameters. Environmental friendly sustainable technology should be implemented for mitigating such parameters.

**(c) Water quality monitoring and preservation**

(i) The effluent discharge (mine waste water, workshop effluent) shall be monitored in terms of the parameters notified under the Water Act, 1974 Coal Industry Standards vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board.

(ii) The monitoring data shall be uploaded on the company's website and displayed at the project site at a suitable location. The circular No.J-20012/1/2006-IA.11 (M) dated 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.

- (iii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease area by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operations. The monitoring of ground water levels shall be carried out four times a year i.e. pre-monsoon, monsoon, post-monsoon and winter. The ground water quality shall be monitored once a year, and the data thus collected shall be sent regularly to MOEFCC/RO.
- (iv) Monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies shall be carried out once in six months and record of monitoring data shall be maintained and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/Regional Office.
- (v) Ground water, excluding mine water, shall not be used for mining operations. Rainwater harvesting shall be implemented for conservation and augmentation of ground water resources.
- (vi) Catch and/or garland drains and siltation ponds in adequate numbers and appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, coal heaps & OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the river and water bodies. Further, dump material shall be properly consolidated/ compacted and accumulation of water over dumps shall be avoided by providing adequate channels for flow of silt into the drains. The drains/ ponds so constructed shall be regularly de-silted particularly before onset of monsoon and maintained properly. Sump capacity should provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. The water so collected in the sump shall be utilised for dust suppression and green belt development and other industrial use. Dimension of the retaining wall constructed, if any, at the toe of the OB dumps within the mine to check run-off and siltation should be based on the rainfall data. The plantation of native species to be made between toe of the dump and adjacent field/habitation/water bodies.
- (vii) Adequate groundwater recharge measures shall be taken up for augmentation of ground water. The project authorities shall meet water requirement of nearby village(s) after due treatment conforming to the specific requirement (standards).
- (viii) Industrial waste water generated from CHP, workshop and other waste water, shall be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under the standards prescribed under Water Act 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules made there under, and as amended from time to time. Adequate ETP /STP needs to be provided.
- (ix) The water pumped out from the mine, after siltation, shall be utilized for industrial purpose viz. watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly.
- (x) The surface drainage plan including surface water conservation plan for the area of influence affected by the said mining operations, considering the presence of river/rivulet/pond/lake etc, shall be prepared and implemented by the project proponent. The surface drainage plan and/or any diversion of natural water courses shall be as per the approved Mining Plan/EIA/EMP report and with due approval of the concerned State/GoI Authority. The construction of embankment to prevent any danger against inrush of surface water into the mine should be as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the permission of DGMS or any other authority as prescribed by the law.
- (xi) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures to ensure riverine/riparian ecosystem in and around the coal mine up to a distance of 5 km. A rivarine/riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation / water resource department in the state government.

**(d) Noise and Vibration monitoring and prevention**

- (i) Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels as per Noise Pollution Rules, 2016 in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operation of HEMM, etc shall be provided with personal protective equipments (PPE) like ear plugs/muffs in conformity with the prescribed norms and guidelines in this regard. Adequate awareness programme for users to be conducted. Progress in usage of such accessories to be monitored.
- (ii) Controlled blasting techniques shall be practiced in order to mitigate ground vibrations, fly rocks, noise and air blast etc., as per the guidelines prescribed by the DGMS.
- (iii) The noise level survey shall be carried out as per the prescribed guidelines to assess noise exposure of the workmen at vulnerable points in the mine premises, and report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry/RO on six-monthly basis.

**(e) Mining Plan**

- (i) Mining shall be carried out under strict adherence to provisions of the Mines Act 1952 and subordinate legislations made there-under as applicable.
- (ii) Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan (including Mine Closure Plan) abiding by mining laws related to coal mining and the relevant circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS).
- (iii) No mining shall be carried out in forest land without obtaining Forestry Clearance as per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- (iv) Efforts should be made to reduce energy and fuel consumption by conservation, efficiency improvements and use of renewable energy.

**(f) Land reclamation**

- (i) Digital Survey of entire lease hold area/core zone using Satellite Remote Sensing survey shall be carried out at least once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report in 1:50,000 scale or as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MOEFCC) from time to time shall be submitted to MOEFCC/Regional Office (RO).
- (ii) The final mine void depth should preferably be as per the approved Mine Closure Plan, and in case it exceeds 40 m, adequate engineering interventions shall be provided for sustenance of aquatic life therein. The remaining area shall be backfilled and covered with thick and alive top soil. Post-mining land be rendered usable for agricultural/forestry purposes and shall be diverted. Further action will be treated as specified in the guidelines for Preparation of Mine Closure Plan issued by the Ministry of Coal dated 27<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 and subsequent amendments.
- (iii) The entire excavated area, backfilling, external OB dumping (including top soil) and afforestation plan shall be in conformity with the “during mining”/”post mining” land-use pattern, which is an integral part of the approved Mining Plan and the EIA/EMP submitted to this Ministry. Progressive compliance status vis-a-vis the post mining land use pattern shall be submitted to the MOEFCC/RO.
- (iv) Fly ash shall be used for external dump of overburden, backfilling or stowing of mine as per provisions contained in clause (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (8) of fly ash notification issued vide SO 2804 (E) dated 3rd November, 2009 as amended from time to time. Efforts shall be made to utilize

gypsum generated from Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD), if any, along with fly ash for external dump of overburden, backfilling of mines. Compliance report shall be submitted to Regional Office of MoEF&CC, CPCB and SPCB.

(v) Further, it may be ensured that as per the time schedule specified in mine closure plan it should remain live till the point of utilization. The topsoil shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and shall not be kept unutilized. The top soil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation purposes. Active OB dumps shall be stabilised with native grass species to prevent erosion and surface run off. The other overburden dumps shall be vegetated with native flora species. The excavated area shall be backfilled and afforested in line with the approved Mine Closure Plan. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/ Regional Office.

(vi) The project proponent shall make necessary alternative arrangements, if grazing land is involved in core zone, in consultation with the State government to provide alternate areas for livestock grazing, if any. In this context, the project proponent shall implement the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to acquiring grazing land.

**(g) Green Belt**

(i) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered/endemic flora/fauna, if any, spotted/reported in the study area. The Action plan in this regard, if any, shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department.

(ii) Greenbelt consisting of 3-tier plantation of width not less than 7.5 m shall be developed all along the mine lease area as soon as possible. The green belt comprising a mix of native species (endemic species should be given priority) shall be developed all along the major approach/ coal transportation roads.

**(h) Public hearing and Human health issues**

(i) Adequate illumination shall be ensured in all mine locations (as per DGMS standards) and monitored weekly. The report on the same shall be submitted to this ministry & its RO on six-monthly basis.

(ii) The project proponent shall undertake occupational health survey for initial and periodical medical examination of the personnel engaged in the project and maintain records accordingly as per the provisions of the Mines Rules, 1955 and DGMS circulars. Besides regular periodic health check-up, 20% of the personnel identified from workforce engaged in active mining operations shall be subjected to health check-up for occupational diseases and hearing impairment, if any, as amended time to time.

(iii) Personnel (including outsourced employees) working in core zone shall wear protective respiratory devices and shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.

(iv) Implementation of the action plan on the issues raised during the public hearing shall be ensured. The project proponent shall undertake all the tasks/measures as per the action plan submitted with budgetary provisions during the public hearing. Land oustees shall be compensated

as per the norms laid down in the R&R policy of the company/State Government/Central Government, as applicable.

(v) The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this Ministry's OM No.Z-11013/5712014-IA.II (M) dated 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2014, titled 'Impact of mining activities on habitations-issues related to the mining projects wherein habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area'.

**(i) Corporate Environment Responsibility**

(i) The company shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approve by the Board of Directors. The environmental policy should prescribe for standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms/conditions and/or shareholders/stake holders.

(ii) A separate Environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly to the head of the organization.

(iii) Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six Monthly Compliance Report.

(iv) Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.

**(j) Miscellaneous**

(i) The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.

(ii) The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.

(iii) The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.

(iv) The project proponent shall monitor the criteria pollutants level namely; PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> (ambient levels) or critical sectoral parameters, indicated for the projects and display the same at a convenient location for disclosure to the public and put on the website of the company.

(v) The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.

(vi) The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this Ministry's OM No.Z-11013/5712014-IA.II (M) dated 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2014, titled 'Impact of mining activities on habitations-issues related to the mining projects wherein habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area'.

(vii) The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and put on the website of the company.

(viii) The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MOEFCC regarding commencement of mining operations.

(ix) The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.

(x) The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert Appraisal Committee.

(xi) No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

(xii) Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(xiii) The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.

(xiv) The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.

(xv) The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information/monitoring reports.

(xvi) The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

5. The proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report and also that during presentation to the EAC. All the commitments made on the issues raised during public hearing shall also be implemented in letter and spirit.

6. The proponent shall obtain all necessary clearances/approvals that may be required before the start of the project. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

7. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal,

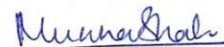
if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

8. The coal company/project proponent shall be liable to pay the compensation against the illegal mining, if any, and as raised by the respective State Governments at any point of time, in terms of the orders dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.114/2014 in the matter of 'Common Cause Vs Union of India & others.

9. The concerned State Government shall ensure no mining operations to commence till the entire compensation for illegal mining, if any, is paid by the project proponent through their respective Department of Mining & Geology, in strict compliance of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

10. This environmental clearance shall not be operational till such time the project proponent complies with the above said judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court, as applicable, and other statutory requirements.

11. All other conditions granted vide Environmental Clearance No. J-11015/242/2008-IA.II (M) dated 17.07.2009 and Environmental Clearance No. J-11015/118/2013-IA.II(M) dated 24.12.2014 shall also be applicable.



**(Munna Kumar Shah)**  
**Scientist-'E'**

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. The Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, 15<sup>th</sup>Floor, New Admn. Bldg, Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 32 (Maharashtra)
3. The Additional PCCF (Central), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (Western Central Zone), Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur-1 (Maharashtra)
4. The Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Jamnagar House, 18/11, Man Singh Road Area, New Delhi, Delhi 110001
5. The Chairman, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Kalapataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>Floors, Sion, Matunga Scheme Road No. 8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (E), Mumbai - 2
6. The District Collector, Chandrapur, Government of Maharashtra
7. Monitoring File
9. PARIVESH



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**Scientist-'E'**