

**Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
Impact Assessment Division  
(Coal Mining Sector)**

**Date of zero draft MoM sent to Chairman: 20/08/2025**

**Approval by Chairman: 22/08/2025**

**Uploading on PARIVESH: 22/08/2025**

**SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTIETH (30<sup>TH</sup>) MEETING OF EXPERT APPRAISAL COMMITTEE (EAC) HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025 FOR ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL OF COAL MINING SECTOR PROJECTS THROUGH PHYSICAL MODE.**

**11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025 [MONDAY]**

At the outset, Shri. Inder Pal Singh Matharu (I.F.S Retd.) welcomed the Expert members & other participants and requested to start the proceeding as per the agenda listed for this meeting. The list of members who participated in the meeting is at **Annexure – II**.

Confirmation of the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EAC (Coal): The minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EAC (Coal) held on 22-23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 through virtual mode have been confirmed by the EAC, along with the following corrections:

**A. Agenda Item No. 29.4:**

Minutes uploaded on PARIVESH			To be read as		
Para no. 29.4.9:			Para no. 29.4.9:		
Conditions as per EC dated 11.01.2022 and its subsequent amendment dated 29.07.2024	Description as per approved EC dated 16.01.2023	Recommendation of EAC	Conditions as per EC dated 11.01.2022 and its subsequent amendment dated 29.07.2024	Description as per approved EC dated 11.01.2022	Recommendation of EAC
Specific condition no. vi of EC dated 11.01.2022, further amended vide EC letter dated 29.07.2024	“PP shall complete the work of Railway Siding, Silo Loading System (SLS) and belt conveyor to transport coal from pit to SLS by June 2025 and till then PP is allowed for the road transportation. PP shall	Agreed.  With regard to the changes in the said condition, Committee is of the opinion to amend it as follows:  “Project Proponent shall implement the Railway Siding, Silo Loading System (SLS) and belt conveyor to transport coal	Specific condition no. vi of EC dated 11.01.2022, further amended vide EC letter dated 29.07.2024	“PP shall complete the work of Railway Siding, Silo Loading System (SLS) and belt conveyor to transport coal from pit to SLS by June 2025 and till then PP is allowed for the road transportation. PP shall	Agreed.  With regard to the changes in the said condition, Committee is of the opinion to amend it as follows:  “Project Proponent shall implement the Railway Siding, Silo Loading System (SLS) and belt conveyor to transport coal

	undertake planting of trees along roads to be used for transport during 2024 monsoon season and submit details to Regional Office by October 2024.”	<i>from pit to SLS by June 2026, and no transportation of coal shall be allowed by road thereafter.”</i>		undertake planting of trees along roads to be used for transport during 2024 monsoon season and submit details to Regional Office by October 2024.”	<i>from pit to SLS by June 2026, and no transportation of coal shall be allowed by road thereafter.”</i>
Specific condition no. x of EC dated 11.01.2022	“PP shall install sand/aggregate segregation plant from Overburden (OB) for suitable capacity to extract sand and construction aggregate within 2 years of issue of this letter.”	Agreed.  With regard to the same, Committee agreed to delete the said condition.		Specific condition no. x of EC dated 11.01.2022	Agreed.  With regard to the same, Committee agreed to delete the said condition.

**B. Agenda Item No. 29.7:**

Minutes uploaded on PARIVESH	To be read as
<b><u>Para no. 29.7.5:</u></b>  7(iv): Quantity being transported by Road and rail: 0.944 MTPA	<b><u>Para no. 29.7.5:</u></b>  7(iv): Quantity being transported by Road and rail: 0.0944 MTPA

**C. Agenda Item No. 29.8:**

Minutes uploaded on PARIVESH				To be read as			
<b><u>Para no. 29.8.2:</u></b>  W.r.t the previous approvals, proponent submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine and submitted that the mine became operational from 1996 onwards. CTO renewal has been obtained from SPCB and is valid up to 31.01.2026. Details of the same are as follows:				<b><u>Para no. 29.8.2:</u></b>  W.r.t the previous approvals, proponent submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine and submitted that the mine became operational from 1996 onwards. CTO renewal has been obtained from SPCB and is valid up to 31.01.2026. Details of the same are as follows:			
Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal Production in MTPA as per Consent/ Environmental Clearance	Excess Production	Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal Production in MTPA as per Consent/ Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
1996	0.465	0.013	NIL	1996	0.013	0.465	NIL

*MoM of 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EAC for Coal Mining sector held on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2025*

Minutes uploaded on PARIVESH				To be read as			
-97				-97			
1997-98	0.465	0.037	NIL	1997-98	0.037	0.465	NIL
1998-99	0.465	0.085	NIL	1998-99	0.085	0.465	NIL
1999-20	0.465	0.116	NIL	1999-20	0.116	0.465	NIL
2000-01	0.465	0.119	NIL	2000-01	0.119	0.465	NIL
2001-02	0.465	0.138	NIL	2001-02	0.138	0.465	NIL
2002-03	0.465	0.2	NIL	2002-03	0.2	0.465	NIL
2003-04	0.465	0.215	NIL	2003-04	0.215	0.465	NIL
2004-05	0.465	0.258	NIL	2004-05	0.258	0.465	NIL
2005-06	0.465	0.292	NIL	2005-06	0.292	0.465	NIL
2006-07	0.465	0.279	NIL	2006-07	0.279	0.465	NIL
2007-08	0.465	0.274	NIL	2007-08	0.274	0.465	NIL
2008-09	0.465	0.322	NIL	2008-09	0.322	0.465	NIL
2009-10	0.465	0.336	NIL	2009-10	0.336	0.465	NIL
2010-11	0.465	0.28	NIL	2010-11	0.28	0.465	NIL
2011-12	0.465	0.317	NIL	2011-12	0.317	0.465	NIL
2012-13	0.465	0.353	NIL	2012-13	0.353	0.465	NIL
2013-14	0.465	0.317	NIL	2013-14	0.317	0.465	NIL
2014-15	0.465	0.308	NIL	2014-15	0.308	0.465	NIL
2015-16	0.465	0.32	NIL	2015-16	0.32	0.465	NIL
2016-17	0.465	0.287	NIL	2016-17	0.287	0.465	NIL
2017-18	0.465	0.253	NIL	2017-18	0.253	0.465	NIL
2018-19	0.465	0.285	NIL	2018-19	0.285	0.465	NIL
2019-20	0.465	0.278	NIL	2019-20	0.278	0.465	NIL
2020-21	0.465	0.181	NIL	2020-21	0.181	0.465	NIL
2021-22	0.465	0.171	NIL	2021-22	0.171	0.465	NIL
2022-23	0.465	0.158	NIL	2022-23	0.158	0.465	NIL
2023-24	0.465	0.17	NIL	2023-24	0.17	0.465	NIL
2024-25	0.465	0.158	NIL	2024-25	0.158	0.465	NIL

**Agenda Item No. 30.1:**

**30.1:** Coal Washery having the capacity of 4 MTPA, within the project area of 10 Ha, by **M/s Raipur Coal Feeder Private Limited**, located at village: Daga (Bargawan); Tehsil: Deoser; District: Singrauli; State: Madhya Pradesh – **Environment Clearance based on ADS Reply – reg.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/MP/CMIN/537499/2025; Consultant: Institute for Environmental Management (IEM) - QCI/NABET/ENV/ACO/24/3193, valid up to 07.02.2027]**

**30.1.1:** M/s Raipur Coal Feeder Pvt. Ltd. has made an online application vide proposal no. IA/MP/CMIN/537499/2025 dated 13.05.2025 along with copy of EIA/EMP report, Form 1 and pre- feasibility report seeking Environment Clearance (EC) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above. The proposed project activity is listed at item no. 2(a) Under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 and appraised at Central Level.

The instant proposal was earlier submitted by the project proponent vide proposal no. IA/MP/CMIN/458319/2024, dated 11.01.2024 and the same was earlier placed in 7<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 14.02.2024. The proposal was found with certain inadequacies and the EAC *returned the project in its present form*. The PP again submitted the application vide proposal no. IA/MP/CMIN/537499/2025 dated 13.05.2025. The said project was again placed before the EAC for in the 30<sup>th</sup> EAC Meeting held on 11.08.2025.

The proposal was accorded ToR on 28.03.2022 and the same is valid till 28.03.2026.

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

**30.1.2: The Committee noted the following during the meeting:**

1. The instant proposal is for grant of Environment clearance to M/s Raipur Coal Feeder Pvt. Ltd. for Coal Washery having the washing capacity of 4 MTPA within the project area of 10 MTPA, located at village: Daga (Bargawan); Tehsil: Deoser; District: Singrauli; State: Madhya Pradesh.
2. Based on the discussion held and the documents submitted, Committee is of the view that there are many shortcomings in the project/ submission.
  - a. EAC deliberated on the DSS KML of the project area submitted by the PP. During the deliberations, neither the PP nor the EIA consultant was unable to respond to the queries of the EAC regarding the white colour patches located within the project site.
  - b. Information related to the environmentally sensitive receptors (Habitation/Educational institutions/water bodies/forest) within the core and buffer zone and mitigation measures to be adopted has not been submitted.
  - c. No information was made available regarding the land acquisition details, source of coal, mode of transportation to the plant site, water and power requirement for the project etc.
  - d. With respect to base line data collection, period of baseline data collection, name & location of the AAQ stations, AAQ wind directions, land use pattern

- of the project site, traffic assessment survey details and comparison of baseline data collected for different time frame have not been provide at all.
- e. AAQ modelling details, incremental Ground Level Concentration for PM, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> and corresponding mitigation measures to be adopted have not been presented.
  - f. Presentation was silent on the generation, treatment and utilization of solid & hazardous waste.
  - g. Mitigation measures to attenuate the pollution level have not been presented at all.
  - h. Action plan to address the public hearing concerns/issues are provided without any physical targets.
  - i. Committee observed that the photographs submitted by the PP along with the presentation are not geo-tagged.
  - j. Further, Committee also observed that the EIA Report submitted by the PP is incomplete in various aspects and found to be not in line with the Appendix III of the EIA Notification, 2006 although the proposal is submitted for second time for consideration.
3. The presentation made to the Committee was poorly drafted and there is no clarity on the salient features of the proposed project.
  4. Based on the discussion held and the documents submitted by the PP, Committee expressed its displeasure with the PP and Consultant with having a very casual approach in submitting the information to the Ministry and wasting the time of the Expert Appraisal Committee, as the PP and the Consultant failed to answer the basic queries of the EAC during the deliberation. Further, the EAC opined that the entire proposal including, the application form on Parivesh Portal, EIA Report, Presentation, EMP budget etc shall be revisited in totality and accordingly a fresh proposal shall be submitted after addressing all shortcomings including the above.

**Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.1.3:** In view of the foregoing and after detailed deliberations, the Committee ***returned the proposal in its present form*** and asked the proponent to revisit the EIA Report, application form on Parivesh portal, presentation and EMP budget in totality and submit a fresh proposal after addressing all the shortcomings.

**Agenda 30.2:**

**30.2:** Baroud Opencast Expansion Project (ML area: 1111.40 Ha with increase in production capacity from 4.2 MTPA to 4.9 MTPA), by **M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited**, located at village: Baroud; Tehsil: Gharghora; **District: Raigarh; State: Chhattisgarh** – **Environment Clearance for expansion up to 40% of capacity (i.e., second phase of 20%) as per the provisions of Ministry's OM dated 11.04.2022 – regarding.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/CG/CMIN/544597/2025; File No. J-11015/228/2007-IA-II(M)]; Consultant: CMPDIL: NABET/EIA/25-28/RA 0412 valid till 08/04/2028]**

**30.2.1:** M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited has made an online application vide proposal no. IA/CG/CMIN/544597/2025 dated 12/07/2025 along with copy of EIA-EMP report prepared based on standard ToR, Common Application Form, Form 1 and certified compliance report and sought for Environmental Clearance under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above. The proposed project activity is listed at

schedule no. (1) a under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 and is appraised at Central Level.

The project of M/s South Eastern Coalfields Ltd is a brownfield project for expansion of production capacity from 4.2 MTPA to 4.9 MTPA, for the second phase of 20% expansion as per Ministry’s OM dated 11.04.2022, within the existing mine lease area of 1111.40 Ha. Essential Details was sought on 18.07.2025 and EDS reply was submitted by the PP on 24.07.2025. Now the proposal has been placed in 30<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 11.08.2025 for consideration.

**30.2.2: Previous Approvals:** PP submitted the details of previous approvals in the chronological order as follows

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/ Validity extension/ Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (Ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
1	J-11015/99/2005-IA-II(M)	EC	0.3	97.021	20.05.2005	Implemented
2	J-11015/358/2005-IA-II(M)	EC Expansion	1.0	312.17	27.03.2006	
3	J-11015/228/2007-IA-II(M)	EC Expansion	3.5	1111.40	20.05.2009	
4	J-11015/228/2007-IA-II(M)	Expansion under 7(ii) (20 % expansion)	4.2	1111.40	21.11.2023	

The mine is under operation since 1994-95 based on the consent from the State Pollution Control Board. The details of the production since 1994-95 to 2024-25 is furnished as below. CTO renewal has been obtained from the SPCB and is valid up to 31.12.2025. Details of the same are as follows:

Year	EC Capacity (MTPA)	Actual Coal production (Million tonnes)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity (Million tonnes)
1994-95	-	0.04211	0
1995-96	-	0.02413	0
1996-97	-	0.05132	0
1997-98	-	0.08512	0
1998-99	-	0.08371	0
1999-2000	-	0.06524	0
2000-01	-	0.05562	0
2001-02	-	0.03629	0
2002-03	-	0.11225	0
2003-04	-	0.26526	0
2004-05	-	0.33834	0
2005-06*	0.3	0.94770	0.64770
2006-07*	1	1.37560	0.37560
2007-08*	1	1.37001	0.37001
2008-09*	1	1.55637	0.55637
2009-10	3.5	1.13000	0
2010-11	3.5	1.43610	0
2011-12	3.5	3.34037	0
2012-13	3.5	2.85265	0
2013-14	3.5	3.50000	0
2014-15	3.5	3.50000	0
2015-16	3.5	3.50000	0

Year	EC Capacity (MTPA)	Actual Coal production (Million tonnes)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity (Million tonnes)
2016-17	3.5	3.50000	0
2017-18	3.5	3.43781	0
2018-19	3.5	1.39419	0
2019-20	3.5	2.70020	0
2020-21	3.5	3.45472	0
2021-22	3.5	2.51527	0
2022-23	3.5	3.5	0
2023-24	4.2	4.2	0
2024-25	4.2	4.2	0

In pursuance to the OM dated 11.04.2022, certified compliance report of the EC granted for 20% expansion, along with EIA/EMP report, for the additional capacity of 20% was submitted through PARIVESH portal on 12.07.2025 by the project proponent.

\*RO, CECB Raigarh filed a case against M/s SECL for the overproduction and the same was later referred to High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur, wherein, vide CRMP No. 1264 of 2023 dated 08.02.2024, the case was disposed off in the favour of M/s SECL.

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

**30.2.3: Certified Compliance Report:** The certified compliance report was obtained from Regional Office; Raipur vide letter no: F. No. 3-50/20099(Env)/205 dated 18.02.2025 in the name of Baroud Opencast Expansion Project of M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited. The Action taken report regarding the partially/ non-complied condition was submitted to Regional Officer MoEF&CC, Raipur vide letter no: SECL/RGH/SAM/BRD/BIJ/E&F/L&R/2025/708 dated 16.03.2025. Based on ATR submitted, Regional Officer inspected the project on 25.05.2025 and issued a report on 23.06.2025. The status as per the report dated 23.06.2025 and the response of the proponent is furnished as below:

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
	With reference to the letter No.J-11015/228/2007-IA-II(M) dated 22/11/2023 of MoEF&CC.		
1.	Physical and financial status of Compensatory Afforestation implemented along with Utilization certificate & KML file have not been made available.	Project Authority in their reply furnished the details submitted by the State Forest Department vide their letter dated 25/02/2025 regarding Compensatory Afforestation implemented.	The details has been submitted regarding Compensatory Afforestation implemented.
2.	The EC letter dated 20/05/2005, 27/03/2006, 20/05/2009 neither expressly superseded nor referred in the subsequent ECs. PA neither took any corrective action from the Ministry on the observed inconsistency nor submitted six monthly compliance report regularly for all the prior ECs accorded.	Project Authority in their reply submitted compliance status of all the ECs of the project as Annexure and assured to submit six monthly compliance report for all ECs of the project in future. Ministry may examine the observed inconsistency in the ECs already accorded and may issue integrated single EC	Complied

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
		superseding all previous ECs issued to this project.	
3.	Project Authority has not effectively complied with the all the recommendations of Carrying Capacity Study undertaken in compliance with the NGT order dated 15.02.2022 in Original Application No.104/20 18 in the matter of Shivpal Bhagat & Ors vs UOI – condition No.4.(ii).	Despite of the existing operational rail network Project authority partly transporting Coal by road transport reportedly to meet local consumers and so far ash has not been used for backfilling as recommended in the NGT order. In this regard Project Authority informed that ash will be used when filling the de- coaled area. Ministry may take appropriate view in this regard.	An undertaking has been submitted for 70% of 4.2MTPA from the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project, Raigarh Area, by rail mode. As per the recommendations of the Central Level Working group Committee, the disposal of fly ash in operating mines has been deemed not feasible due to operational constraints and safety considerations.
4.	Condition No.4.(iv) “As per NGT order dated 15.02.2022 in Original Application No. 104/2018 in the matter of Shivpal Bhagat & Ors vs UOI, PP shall have to comply that when coal is sold to TPP, there is the agreement to sell that at least 25% Fly Ash of the coal sold, should be accepted by the coal company (seller) from TPP(Purchaser) failing which coal company shall be liable for civil action and other legal measures” have not been complied with. In the absence of amendment in the said condition, PA is bound to effectively comply with the condition.	Based on the reply Ministry may take appropriate view.	As per the recommendations of the Central Level Working group Committee, the disposal of fly ash in operating mines has been deemed not feasible due to operational constraints and safety considerations.
5.	While according the EC for the production capacity of 4.20 MTPA, condition No.4.(v) has been imposed erroneously by stipulating to obtain CTO for 4.32 MTPA, which needs to be amended.	Ministry may examine and amend the respective EC condition.	The EC capacity of 4.32 MTPA of Baroud OC was mentioned in the MoM of EAC held on 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2023 issued by MoEF&CC. Thereafter, request was made by PP regarding correction of capacity to 4.2 MTY, which was incorporated everywhere else in the EC letter issued except at condition no. 4(v) which was considered by PP as a typographical error and obtained CTO for 4.2 MTPA which is valid till 31.12.2025.
6.	Though the Silo loading system has already been installed, so far in-pit belt conveyor system has not been installed – condition No.4.(vi).	In the EC, the timeline for installing the in-pit belt conveyor system is mentioned as December, 2023. However, PA claims that it is applicable only at the time of 10 MTPA. Ministry may take appropriate view.	An undertaking has been submitted for inpit conveyor system. It is further clarified that the in-pit conveyor belt system is not included in the approved mine plan for the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project (5.25 MTPA). However, the in-pit conveyor



S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
			<p>belt forms part of the approved Project Report for the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project (10 MTPA).</p> <p>At present, the SILO loading system is operational, and coal is being dispatched through the SILO since Feb-2024.</p> <p>Further, during the presentation, PP submitted that, NIT for input belt conveyor will be completed by December 2025 and the budget for the same has been allocated as Rs. 13673 Lakhs. And proposed to be implemented by 31.03.2028.</p>
7.	The monitored data from the existing CAAQM station installed in the Buffer zone have not been linked with the servers of the CPCB. Further, online Continuous AAQ Monitoring Stations have not been installed in the core zone as stipulated in the CTO – condition No.4.(viii) & 4.B.(i), (ii) & J(iv).	Two CAAQM Stations installed are operational and are connected to the server of CECB. Project Authority shall connect the same with servers of CPCB.	<p>Two CAAQM Stations installed are operational and are connected to the server of CECB. Request has been made to CPCB for connecting the same to their server.</p> <p>Timeline: 30th Sept 2025</p>
8.	PA has not created embankment all across the Kurket River with a safe width of 300m – condition No.4.(ix).	Presently not made any embankment all along the Kurket River. But Project Authority partly made embankment all along the working pit. Ministry may take appropriate view based on the reply of the project authority.	<p>An undertaking has been submitted for clarification of construction of embankment all along the Kurket river.</p> <p>In the undertaking it is stated that, “<i>The Lowest RL of the mine boundary along the Kurket River is 294.44 m, whereas the High Flood Level (HFL) of the Kurket River is 287.25 m. It implies that the HFL of Kurket River is 7.19 m below the lowest working of the mine. The present working pit is 700 meters away from Kurket river and the mining activity will be restricted upto 300m away from Kurket River.</i></p> <p><i>From a safety perspective, an embankment of 2.5 m height has been constructed adjacent to the working pit. Furthermore, gap plantation is proposed within the 300 m zone from the riverbank to enhance the green belt and provide additional protection.</i>”</p>
9.	It has been observed that the commitments are partly complied. Further, PA has not made available the details	Project Authority in their reply furnished the details regarding commitments made during the Public Hearings and its	The details has been submitted to RO office regarding commitments made during the Public Hearings and its

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.</b>	<b>Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025</b>	<b>Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.</b>
	regarding the commitments made during the Public Hearing dated 31.07.2003 and 13.10.2004 and its implementation status – condition No.4.(x)	implementation status. Reportedly the commitments are being complied.	implementation status
10.	Coal transportation is permitted for one year through road as per NGT order dated 15/02/2022 in Original Application No. 104/2018 in the matter of Shivpal Bhagat & Ors vs UOI. Though the rail network has already established, coal is being transported partly through road by trucks beyond the stipulated one-year period, which is in contravention to the orders of Hon'ble NGT, CTO and EC conditions – condition No.4.(xiv), (xv) & 4.B.(iii).	The conditions have not been effectively complied with, since coal is being transported partly through road by trucks beyond the stipulated one-year period. Ministry may take appropriate view based on the reply of the Project Authority	SILO loading system is commissioned and is in operation with closed conveyor belt from truck receiving station. At present the requirement of local consumers is met through coal transportation by road through tarpaulin covered trucks. There has been progressive increase in coal transportation through rail which is expected to further increase in future. An undertaking has been submitted for 70% of 4.2 MTPA from the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project, Raigarh Area, by rail mode.
11.	As stipulated 20% of overall fleet size of dumpers/trucks as electrical or CNG / LNG based dumpers/ trucks for transportation of coal/OB etc. have not been complied with – condition No.4. (xvi).	Project Authority in their reply submitted the reason for the non-compliance and thus it has been inferred that the condition have not been complied with.	Presently no such infrastructure related to charging/LNG-CNG fueling of mine machinery or mobile fueling system is presently available within the proximity of 10 kms of the mine. However, PP hereby agree to explore the possibility for proposing e-vehicle /LNG/CNG based mining machinery and trucks on establishment of effective ecosystem for the same. Transportation through electrical or CNG based dumpers will be included in contracts, confirming the feasibility and availability of technology for the same in future contracts. Whereas; e-vehicles (light motor vehicles) for manpower transportation are deployed in the mine premises. An undertaking has been submitted for exploring the possibility.
12.	Details are not made available regarding State Biodiversity Authority and local biodiversity Committee engaged for implementation of CSR activity for developing the local market – condition No.4. (xx).	From the reply of Project Authority, it has been observed that still the condition has not been complied with. Ministry may take appropriate view.	Wildlife Conservation plan was approved by State Forest Dept. Chhattisgarh and implementing agency is also CG State Forest Department. As per EC condition a request has been raised to PCCF Chhattisgarh, regarding EC condition for engaging State Biodiversity Authority and local biodiversity

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
			Committee to be engaged for implementation of CSR activities for developing the local market as part of implementation.
13.	Details regarding implementation of the Wildlife conservation plan have not been made available along with six monthly compliance report – condition No.4.A.(iii).	Project Authority has deposited an amount of 26.82 Crs with State Forest Department towards implementation of the recommendations of the Wildlife conservation plan. PA is requested to follow-up with the implementing agency and ensure implementation and submission of the same along with six monthly compliance report.	The Wildlife conservation plan will be implemented through State Forest Department. The requisite amount of 26.82 Cr as per Wildlife Conservation Plan and demand note raised by DFO, Raigarh has been deposited, the conservation activities will be implemented by Forest Department from FY 2025-26 as per the letter received from DFO Raigarh.
14.	PA is not having valid NOC from the CGWA beyond the period 15/11/2024 – condition No.4.A.(iv).	Presently Project Authority is not having valid NOC from CGWA beyond the period 15/11/2024. Project Authority in their reply reported that the application for renewal of NOC has been submitted to the CGWA. Ministry may take appropriate view.	For renewal of CGWA NOC application has been made and fees deposited and the EAC has been done on 04.08.2025. NOC awaited.
15.	Details are not made available regarding compliance of the condition No.4.C.(x). The condition stipulated that <i>“The surface drainage plan including surface water conservation plan for the area of influence affected by the said running 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”</i>	Presently, the condition has not been complied with. Project Authority in their reply reported that work has been awarded to Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology (CCOST) for preparation of surface drainage plan including surface water conservation plan. Ministry may take appropriate view	Undertaking has been submitted along budget to the MoEF&CC
16.	A riverine / riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation / water resource department – condition	Presently the condition has not been complied with. Project Authority in their reply reported that work has been awarded to NEERI for preparing riverine / riparian ecosystem conservation	Undertaking has been submitted along budget to the MoEF&CC

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
	No.4.C.(xi).	and management plan. After preparing the study report, implementation needs to be done in consultation with the Irrigation / Water Resource Department of the State Government. Ministry may take appropriate view.	
17.	PA neither complied with the condition No.4.F.(iv) nor amended the same.	Project Authority in their reply reported that presently there is no mine void available for fly ash dumping and also reported that feasibility study is being carried out through NIT Rourkela and Report is still awaited. Ministry may take appropriate view.	The documents has been submitted related to fly ash dumping in mine. As per the recommendations of the Central Level Working group Committee, the disposal of fly ash in operating mines has been deemed not feasible due to operational constraints and safety considerations.
18.	Active OB dumps have not been stabilized with native grass species to prevent erosion and surface run off – condition No.4.F.(v).	Project Authority assured to ensure the slope of the OB dumps to stabilize by grass beds.	complied
19.	Observed an ambiguity in the stipulated condition No.4.G.(ii) regarding green belt development comprising a mix of native species (endemic species should be given priority) all along the major approach coal transportation roads, since one of the EC conditions specifies that there shall not be any coal transportation through road. The matter needs to be revisited and condition may be amended as appropriate.	Ministry may review the ambiguity in the stipulated EC conditions and appropriate action may be taken.	A 8.45 Km along the mine lease boundary a safety zone width 7.5 mtr plantation has been done through Chhattisgarh Rajya Van Vikas Nigam Limited. The maintenance will be done by CGRVVN for a period of 5 years. Plantation has also been done along the coal transportation road. The photographs are submitted.
20.	Public hearing commitments and implementation of R&R have not been effectively complied with. PA has not made available the details regarding the commitments made during the Public Hearing dated 31.07.2003 and 13.10.2004 and its implementation status – condition No.4.H.(iv) & No.4.J.(x).	Project Authority in their reply furnished the details regarding commitments made during the Public Hearings and its implementation status. Reportedly the commitments are being complied.	The details has been submitted to RO office regarding commitments made during the Public Hearings and its implementation status.
21.	PA has not obtained Public Liability Insurance under Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991– condition No.4.J.(xvi).	Project Authority neither complied with the stipulated the condition nor amended the EC condition rather citing the Ministry's Notification. Ministry may take appropriate view.	It is pertinent to mention that no hazardous substance as specified in the Notification S.O.227(E) dated 24/3/1992 is stored in BOCP. Hence the provision of Public Liability Insurance is not applicable for BOCP. The project is scheduled for expansion under clause 7(ii) as

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
			per OM F.No.IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III [E 177258] dtd 11.04.2022 and the matter will be taken up with EAC.
22.	Project Authority shall avoid stacking the coal near the railway siding.	Project Authority in their reply assured that they will avoid/minimize coal stacking near Railway siding.	complied
With reference to the EC letter No.J-11015/99/2005-IA-II(M) dated 20/05/2005 of MoEF&CC			
23.	PA has not made available any documents regarding approval obtained from the State Land use Department, Government of Chhattisgarh for diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural use – specific condition No.2.A.(i).	Ministry may take appropriate view based on the reply made available by the PA.	Mining Right of all the land involved has been granted under CBA (A&D) Act 1957. As per the said Act all the rights over the land transferred to Central Govt. for mining purpose, and therefore, diversion of Agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.
24.	Details of the implementation / conservation have not been made available – specific condition No.2.A.(xvi).	Project Authority has deposited an amount of 26.82 Crs with State Forest Department towards implementation of the recommendations of the Wildlife conservation plan. PA is requested to follow-up with the implementing agency and ensure implementation and submission of report to the Ministry and its Sub-Office.	The Wildlife conservation plan will be implemented through State Forest Department. The requisite amount of 26.82 Cr as per Wildlife Conservation Plan and demand note raised by DFO, Raigarh has been deposited, the conservation activities will be implemented by Forest Department from FY 2025-26 as per the letter received from DFO Raigarh.
25.	PA has not obtained Public Liability Insurance under Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991. – para 5 of EC letter dated 20/05/2005.	Project Authority neither complied with the stipulated condition nor amended the EC condition rather citing Ministry's Notification, which is not acceptable. Ministry may take appropriate view.	It is pertinent to mention that no hazardous substance as specified in the Notification S.O.227(E) dated 24/3/1992 is stored in BOCP. Hence the provision of Public Liability Insurance is not applicable for BOCP. The project is scheduled for expansion under clause 7(ii) as per OM F.No.IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III [E 177258] dtd 11.04.2022 and the matter will be taken up with EAC
With reference to the EC letter No.J-11015/358/2007-IA-II(M) dated 27/03/2006 of MoEF&CC			
26.	PA claims that the compliance of the condition is not required. PA either should comply with the condition or the condition should have been amended from the MoEF&CC, if it is not applicable – specific condition No.2.A.(xii).	Refer the status as mentioned above at Sr. No.8.	
27.	According to the EC, R&R involving 3 villages, namely Baroud, Bijari and Phaguram and it appears that R&R has not been completed within specified	As per the reply of the Project Authority implementation of R&R is still under progress and the status as on 06/03/2025 is furnished in their reply.	The details of R&R has been submitted to IRO, Raipur

S. No.	Observations made in CCR by the Sub Office, Raipur vide letter dated: 18.02.2025.	Updated status of compliance/ comments of Sub-Office, Raipur. Dated 23.06.2025	Action taken/ timeline provided by PP over comments of Sub-Office, Raipur.
	time-schedule – specific condition No.2.A.(xvi).		
<b>With reference to the EC letter No. J-11015/228/2007-IA-II(M) dated 20/05/2009</b>			
28.	PA has not obtained Public Liability Insurance under Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991.EC – para 5 of EC letter dated 27/03/2006.	Project Authority neither complied with the stipulated condition nor amended the EC condition rather citing Ministry's Notification, which is not acceptable. Ministry may take appropriate view.	It is pertinent to mention that no hazardous substance as specified in the Notification S.O.227(E) dated 24/3/1992 is stored in BOCP. Hence the provision of Public Liability Insurance is not applicable for BOCP. The project is scheduled for expansion under clause 7(ii) as per OM F.No.IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III [E 177258] dtd 11.04.2022 and the matter will be taken up with EAC
29.	Mineral transportation is being continued by road even after the establishment of rail link – specific condition No. 2.A.(v).	Mineral transportation is being continued by road even after the establishment of rail link. Project Authority either comply with the condition or the condition need to be amended.	An undertaking has been submitted for 70% of 4.2MTPA from the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project, Raigarh Area, by rail mode.
30.	PA has not made available complete details regarding total no. of Project Affected Family, total no. of Project Affected People, total no. of persons to whom job to be provided, No. of persons provided Jobs by PA, No. of persons paid compensation, total compensation assessed against land, Amount of compensation paid, Amount of compensation yet to be paid, No. of persons yet to be provided job, No. family yet to be rehabilitated – specific condition No. 2.A.(xxi).	As per the reply of the Project Authority implementation of R&R is still under progress and the status as on 06/03/2025 is furnished in their reply.	The implementation status of R&R is still under progress and the details submitted to IRO, Raipur
31.	PA has not obtained Public Liability Insurance under Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991– para 5 of EC letter dated 20/5/2009.	Project Authority neither complied with the stipulated condition nor amended the EC condition rather citing Ministry's Notification, which is not acceptable. Ministry may take appropriate view.	It is pertinent to mention that no hazardous substance as specified in the Notification S.O.227(E) dated 24/3/1992 is stored in BOCP. Hence the provision of Public Liability Insurance is not applicable for BOCP. The project is scheduled for expansion under clause 7(ii) as per OM F.No.IA3-22/10/2022-IA.III [E 177258] dtd 11.04.2022 and the matter will be taken up with EAC

#### 30.2.4: A. Compliance of Ministry's OM dated 11.04.2022

S. No	OM Condition	Compliance
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<b>S. No</b>	<b>OM Condition</b>	<b>Compliance</b>
i	The project should have gone through the public hearing process, at least once, for its existing EC capacity on which expansion is being sought, except those category of projects which have been exempted as per para 7 III (i) of EIA Notification 2006 and its amendments.	Last Public hearing - PH was conducted on 11.04.2008 in Raigarh District of Chhattisgarh for 3.5 MTPA capacity and project area of 1111.40 ha. Compliance of issues raised during last PH is submitted.
ii	There should not be change in Category of the project from 'B2' to BV or 'A' due to proposed modernization or expansion.	There is no change in category of the project. It is a Category A project.
iii	There is no additional land acquisition or forest land diversion involved for the proposed expansion or there is no increase in lease area with regard to mining vis-a-vis the area mentioned in the EC, based on which public hearing has been held earlier.	There is no additional land acquisition. The area is remaining same vis-à-vis last public hearing.
iv	The proposed expansion shall not be more than 50% of production capacity as mentioned in the prior EC, issued on the basis of public hearing held and the same shall be allowed in minimum three phases.	The proposed expansion is within 50% of production capacity for which last public hearing was held. This proposal is for second 20% expansion i.e. 4.2 MTPA to 4.9 MTPA (Phase II of 50% as per OM dt: 11.04.2022).
v	Predicted environmental quality parameters arising out of proposed expansion/modernization shall be within the prescribed norms and the same shall be maintained as per prescribed norms.	The predicted concentration levels of PM <sub>10</sub> , PM <sub>2.5</sub> , SO <sub>2</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> are within the limits as prescribed in GSR 742 (E) dated 25.09.2000 by MoEF&CC and NAAQS, 2009.
vi	The proposed expansion should not result in reduction in the greenbelt area as stipulated in the earlier EC, or if the existing ratio of greenbelt is more than 33%, after expansion it should not reduce below 33%.	The proposed expansion is not reducing the greenbelt area as stipulated in the earlier EC.
vii	The project proponent should have satisfactorily complied the conditions stipulated in the existing EC(s) and satisfactorily fulfilled all the commitments made during the earlier public hearing/ consultation proceedings and also the commitments given while granting previous expansion, as may be applicable. This shall be duly recorded in the certified compliance report issued by the IRO/CPCB/ SPCB, which should not be more than one-year-old at the time of submission of application.	The certified compliance report was obtained from Regional Office; Raipur vide letter no: F. No. 3-50/20099(Env)/205 dated 18.02.2025 in the name of Baroud Opencast Expansion Project of M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited. The Action taken report regarding the partially/non-complied condition was submitted to Regional Officer MoEF&CC, Raipur vide letter no: SECL/RGH/SAM/BRD/BIJ/E&F/L&R/2025/708 dated 16.3.2025. Based on ATR submitted, Regional Officer inspected the project on 25.05.2025 and issued a report on 23.06.2025. The status as per the report dated 23.06.2025 and the response of the proponent is furnished. The commitments made during the earlier public hearing are addressed duly and ATR with suitable budgetary provisions for the same is made.
viii	Public Consultation shall be undertaken [if applicable as per table below] by obtaining response in writing, as per para 7 III (ii) (b) of EIA Notification 2006, except those category of projects which have been exempted as per para 7 III (i) of EIA Notification 2006 and its amendments.	Not applicable for this proposal. The current proposal is for 2 <sup>nd</sup> 20% increase of mining capacity. The public consultation will be undertaken for expansion from 40% to 50%.
ix	Effluent monitoring including air quality monitoring systems as specified in the existing EC, if stipulated, should have been installed.	Continuous/manual air quality monitoring is being done as per EC/CTO. Water quality (surface water, effluent water and ground water) and Ground water

S. No	OM Condition	Compliance
		level are regularly being monitored and report being submitted to MoEF&CC/CECB.

### 30.2.5: Environmental Site Settings:

The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo Sheet No. 64 N/7 and 64 N/8 and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from 22°15'14" and 22°17'39" N and longitudes 83°19'22" and 83°21'47" E.

Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018

**Mining Lease:** PP submitted the following details of the mining lease:

S. No.	Govt. Order/Notifications as the case may be	Area (Ha)	Date of expiry of lease	Area involved in instant proposal (Ha)	Remarks
1	land acquired under MMDR before nationalisation	17.855	27.01.2103	17.855	Land acquired under LA act, MMDR act, CGLRC act. CBA act
2	LA Act 1894 vide no.1/A-82/2002-03 dt 28.01.2004	0.777	28.12.2102	0.777	
3	LA Act 1894 vide no.2/A-82/2002-03 dt 29.12.2003	20.339	14.01.2109	20.339	
4	LA Act 1894 vide no.6/A-82/2004-05 dt15.01.2010	88.950	18.05.2113	88.950	
5	LA Act 1894 vide no. 7/A-82/2004-05 dt 15.01.2010	17.490	18.08.2103	17.490	
6	LA Act 1894 vide no. 8/A-82/2004-05 dt 15.01.2010	14.396	18.03.2102	14.396	
7	CGLRC vide no. 14/A-67/2012-13 dt 19.05.2014	4.676	22.09.2103	4.676	
8	CGLRC vide no. 14/A-67/2012-13 dt 19.05.2014	5.584	12.06.2104	5.584	
9	CGLRC vide no. 20/A-67/2012-13 dt 19.08.2014	1.994	15.02.2116	1.994	
10	LA Act 1894 vide no. 263/A-82/2003 dt19.03.2003	25.690	27.01.2103	25.690	
11	LA Act 1894 vide no. 805/A-82/2004 dt 23.09.2004	4.860	15.12.2109	4.860	
12	LA Act 1894 vide no. 684/A-82/2005 dt 13.06.2005	0.681	27.01.2103	0.681	
13	CGLRC vide no. 4268/A-1/2017 dt 16.02.2017	31.53	28.12.2102	31.53	
14	LA Act 1894 vide no.1/A-84/2002-03 dt 28.01.2004	165.572	14.01.2109	165.572	
14	CBA Act S.O. No. 3133 dt 16.12.2010	711.006	18.05.2113	711.006	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1111.40</b>		<b>1111.40</b>	

**Forest Area:** The project involves total 381.273 ha of forest land and the details of approvals already obtained are as follows.

- 19.001 Ha (Stage-II obtained, F. No 8C/21/2003-FCW/577 Dt: 02.04.2004)
- 123.899 Ha (Stage-II obtained, F. No 8-102/2005-FC Dt: 13.12.2006)



- 238.373 Ha (Stage-II obtained, 8-35/2019-FC dt 09.11.2023)

Total broken forest area in the said project is 142.90 ha (as on 01.04.2025) and PP submitted that there is no violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

**Protected Area:** The project is not located within 10 KM of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/ tiger corridor/ elephant corridor etc.

There is presence of Schedule – I species, namely Elephant, Monitor lizard. PP further submitted that Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) was prepared by State Forest Research & Training Institute Raipur and approved by APCCF/CWLW vide letter no. 194 dt 12.07.2023. The Wildlife Management Plan is being implemented through State Forest department. An amount of Rs. 26.82 Cr/- has been deposited for implementation of the plan.

#### Other Sensitive Receptors:

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
i. Habitation	<b>Habitation (Village)</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Baroud	<1 km	SE
	Bijari	1.38 km	SE
	Porda	4.55 km	SE
	Rumkera	4.12 km	SE
	Saraipali	<1 km	S
	Faguram	2.75 km	S
	Gharghodi	5.32 km	SW
	Gharghora	<1 km	W
	Kudumkela	4.33 km	W
	Kosamghat	2.39 km	NW
	Nagdhara	2.59 km	NW
	Siwar	2.39 km	NW
	Cherchuchi	2.55 km	N
	Bulkera	1.13 km	N
	Baturakacha	4.69 km	N
	Patrapali	3.23 km	SE
	Kurmibhauna	3.76 km	E
	Pordi	4.08 km	E
	Kurmibhauna	3.76 km	E
	Pordi	4.08 km	E
	Bagdahi	4.52 km	N
ii. School	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Govt Primary School Bulkera	1.1 km	N
	Govt High School Porda	4.55 km	SE
	Primary School Porda	4.55 km	SE
	Pratamik Shala Auramunda	<1 km	SW
	Govt Primary School Korrichapar	3.4 km	SW
	Genius Public school Kudumkela	4.33 km	W
iii. River/ Waterbody	<b>Water body</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Kurket River (HFL: 287.25m )	< 1.0 km	W
	Derighoghra Nalah	2.10 km	SW
	Kondridhar Nalah	1.70 km	W
	Joba Nalah	1.50 km	N
	Jobanar Nalah	4.60 km	E

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
iv. Forest	Particulars	Distance (km)	Direction
	Rai RF	<1 km	N
	Rabodongri RF	3.2 km	SW
	Hemnar RF	5 km	N
v. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protected site	No		
vi. Any other	No		

No river/ nallah diversions are proposed for the instant project and no diversion has been done previously.

### 30.2.6: Method of Mining and Mining Plan:

The Mining Plan (including Mine Closure Plan) was approved by SECL Board on 20.05.2022 in its 120<sup>th</sup> meeting.

1. Method of mining proposed to be carried out is opencast mining using combined mining system deploying shovel dumper combination and Surface Miner.
2. Total mineable reserve as per the mine plan as on 01.04.2022 was 108.02MT and the balance mineable reserve as on 01.04.2025 is 96.12 MT. Out of the mineable reserve of 96.12 MT, 96.12 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 100%.
3. There are 09 nos. seams with thickness ranging from 0.36 m – 9.88 m are workable.
4. The average grade of coal is G-12 and stripping ratio is 3.93 cum/t.
5. Life of mine is 19 years (As on 01.04.2025).
6. The project has external dump in an area of 38.7 ha with 60m height and 9.50Mm<sup>3</sup> OB and internal dump in an area of 770 ha with 60m height and 544.16 Mm<sup>3</sup> OB.
7. Total quarry area is 881.7 ha out of which backfilling will be done in 770 ha while final mine void will be created in an area of 111.7 ha with a depth of 60 m. Backfilled quarry area of 770.00 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation. Final mine void will be converted to water body.
8. Land-use details

#### a. Pre-Mining Land Use (within mine lease)

S. No.	Pre mining Land Use	Within ML area (Ha.)
1	Forest Land	381.273
2	Waste Land	0
3	Grazing Land	2.289
4	Surface Water Bodies	3.626
5	Agriculture Land	567.553
6	Settlements	32.412
7	Others	124.247
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1111.4</b>

#### b. Post Mining land use

S. No.	Particulars	Area (Ha)	Reclaimed Area (Ha)	Un-Reclaimed Area (Ha)
1	Quarry Area			
	a) Backfilled areas	770	770	-
	b) Excavated Void	111.65	0	111.65*
2	External Dump	38.7	38.7	-
3	Safety Zone	151.99	151.99	
4	Top Soil storage	1.25	1.25	

S. No.	Particulars	Area (Ha)	Reclaimed Area (Ha)	Un-Reclaimed Area (Ha)
5	Road	11.61	-	11.61
6	Green belt	10	10	
7	Mine infrastructure	15.31	12.81	2.5
8	Colony	0.89	-	0.89
9	Undisturbed Land	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1111.4</b>	<b>984.75</b>	<b>126.65</b>

\*- Void will be converted as water body at end of mine life.

9. Details of transportation:

- In-pit to surface: By dumpers and tippers
- Surface to siding: By Silo
- Siding to loading: By mechanized loading
- Quantity being transported by road/ rail/ conveyor/ ropeway: By Road & Rail: 4.2MTPA

Year	Silo/ Rail (MT)	Road (MT)	% Rail
2023-24	0.872	3.328	21%
2024-25	1.83	2.37	44%

10. Details of reclamations: Total afforestation for the instant project shall be done in 984.75 ha. Reclamation on external OB dump of 38.7 ha, reclaimed backfilled area in the form of internal OB dumps of 770 ha, greenbelt & safety zone of 161.99 ha, density of plantations shall be 2500 nos of plants per ha. A void of 111.7 ha with the depth of 60 m will be converted into water body. Area under infrastructure will be reclaimed at the end of mining.

**30.2.7: Baseline data:**

Period	Baseline data collected for the period Oct 2022 to Dec 2022
<b>AAQ parameters at 09 Locations (min and max)</b>	<p><b>Core Zone</b>  <math>PM_{10}</math> = 122.6 to 157 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>PM_{2.5}</math> = 65.9 to 85.3 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>SO_2</math> = 28.1 to 37.9 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>NO_x</math> = 23.5 to 34.6 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math></p> <p><b>Buffer Zone</b>  <math>PM_{10}</math> = 50.4 to 83.6 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>PM_{2.5}</math> = 27.3 to 49.01 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>SO_2</math> = 6.7 to 30.5 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>NO_x</math> = 6.3 to 29.7 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math></p>
<b>Incremental GLC Level</b>	<p><b><u>Cumulative:</u></b>  <b>Core zone:</b>  <math>PM_{10}</math> = 182.79 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at core zone).  <math>PM_{2.5}</math> = 91.33 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at core zone).  <math>SO_2</math> = 38.78 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at core zone).  <math>NO_x</math> = 36.18 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at core zone).</p> <p><b>Buffer Zone:</b>  <math>PM_{10}</math> = 95.8 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind)  <math>PM_{2.5}</math> = 52.75 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind)  <math>SO_2</math> = 34.71 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind)  <math>NO_x</math> = 43.22 <math>\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind)</p>

Period	Baseline data collected for the period Oct 2022 to Dec 2022																			
	<b>Incremental:</b> <b>Core zone:</b> PM <sub>10</sub> = 25.79 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at core zone). PM <sub>2.5</sub> = 6.03 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at core zone). SO <sub>2</sub> = 0.88 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at core zone). No <sub>x</sub> = 1.58 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at core zone).  <b>Buffer Zone:</b> PM <sub>10</sub> = 12.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind) PM <sub>2.5</sub> = 3.65 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind) SO <sub>2</sub> = 4.21 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind) NO <sub>x</sub> = 13.52 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (Level at 2.86 km in WSW downwind)																			
Ground water quality at 4 Locations	<b>Core Zone</b> pH: 7.38 to 7.76, TDS: 413 to 460 mg/l, Chlorides: 61.98 to 70.98 mg/l, Fluoride: 0.19 to 0.27 mg/l. Heavy metals(Cd): BDL(QL=0.002) Heavy metals (As): BDL(QL=0.005)  <b>Buffer Zone</b> pH: 6.69 to 7.48, TDS: 185 to 446 mg/l, Chlorides: 32.99 to 96.97 mg/l, Fluoride: 0.1to 0.19mg/l. Heavy metals(Cd): BDL(QL=0.002) Heavy metals (As): BDL(QL=0.005)																			
Surface water quality at 4 Locations	The results ranges from <b>Core Zone</b> pH: 7.29 to 7.46, TDS: 138 to 163 mg/l, DO: 7.2 to 7.2 mg/l,  <b>Buffer Zone</b> pH: 7.12 to 7.58, TDS: 112 to 401 mg/l, DO: 6.5 to 6.7 mg/l,																			
Noise levels Leq (Day and Night)	<b>Core Zone</b> 66.5 to 70.5 dB(A) for the day time and 53.7 to 57.6 dB(A) for the Night time.  <b>Buffer Zone</b> 45.7 to 52.1 dB(A) for the day time and 32.1 to 43.6 dB(A) for the Night time.																			
Traffic assessment study findings	Traffic study has been conducted at coal transportation road connected to mine site. Transportation of mineral is being done by Baroud SILO loading system. However, local demand is being meet through road transport.  Existing PCU is 929.7 PCU/hr on coal transport road and existing level of service (LOS) is: <b>Existing:</b> <table><tr><td>Road</td><td>V (Volume in PCU/ hr.)</td><td>C (Capacity in PCU/ hr.)</td><td>Existing V/C Ratio</td><td>LOS</td></tr><tr><td>4 Lane of undivided 20m</td><td>929.7</td><td>1800</td><td>0.52</td><td>C</td></tr></table> PCU load after proposed project will be 929.7 (Existing) + (-203.2 (reduction due to increased rail mode transport) PCU/hr and level of service (LOS) will be: <b>Proposed:</b> <table><tr><td>Road</td><td>V (Volume in</td><td>C (Capacity in</td><td>Proposed</td><td>LOS</td></tr></table>					Road	V (Volume in PCU/ hr.)	C (Capacity in PCU/ hr.)	Existing V/C Ratio	LOS	4 Lane of undivided 20m	929.7	1800	0.52	C	Road	V (Volume in	C (Capacity in	Proposed	LOS
Road	V (Volume in PCU/ hr.)	C (Capacity in PCU/ hr.)	Existing V/C Ratio	LOS																
4 Lane of undivided 20m	929.7	1800	0.52	C																
Road	V (Volume in	C (Capacity in	Proposed	LOS																

Period	Baseline data collected for the period Oct 2022 to Dec 2022				
		PCU/hr.)	PCU/hr.)	V/C Ratio	
	4 Lane of undivided 20 m (Modification not Required)	726.5	1800	0.40	B
	<p><i>It is pertinent to mention that, the total number of trucks considered for coal transportation by road for existing coal dispatch arrangement was for approx. 3.34 MTPA. However, in the instant proposal the coal transportation by road is being reduced from 3.34 MTPA to approx. 1.47 MTPA. Accordingly, the number of PCU is reduced in the instant proposal.</i></p> <p>Note: Capacity as per IRC 106-1990 Guideline for capacity for roads. Conclusion: The level of service will improve due to existing/ proposed coal will be transported through rail mode.</p>				
<b>Flora and fauna</b>	<p>There is presence of Schedule – I species such as: Monitor lizard, Elephant, Mongoose, Cobra, Rat snake, Russel's viper. Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) was prepared by State Forest Research &amp; Training Institute Raipur is approved by APCCF/CWLW vide letter no. 194 dt 12.07.2023. The Wildlife Management Plan is being implemented through State Forest department. An amount of Rs. 26.82 Cr/- has been deposited for implementation of the plan.</p>				
<b>Water Requirement</b>	<p>Source of Water: Mine seepage water and tube well (Ground water) Ground Water Intersection: Yes Water Requirement: 1248 KLD GW (Mine seepage), Ground water clearance obtained from CGWA vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2024/19791 dated 23/01/2024. NOC GW was valid till 15.11.2024. For validity extension request has been made along with advance abstraction charges for an amount Rs 84.89 lakhs on 12.06.2025. NOC extension awaited. NOC (For surface water): No surface water is being utilised in the mining operation.</p>				

**30.2.8: Water Requirement:** PP submitted that the total water required for the project is 1248 KLD. Source of water is Mine Seepage Water, tube wells & accumulated rain water. Water usage quantity: Industrial use: 1116 KLD; Domestic use: 132 KLD. NOC from CGWA obtained vide NOC no CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2024/19791 dated 23/01/2024 which was valid till 15.11.2024. The renewal application was submitted online on 14.11.2024. NOC renewal is awaited. Further, PP submitted that no water body is proposed to be diverted.

**30.2.9: Power Requirement and details of diversion of Hi-Tension/ Transmission Line:** The power required for the said project is 2.19 kWh. which is being sourced from M/s. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited. Further, no Hi-Tension/ Transmission Line is required to be diverted.

**30.2.10: Solid and Hazardous Waste:** The details of solid and hazardous waste generation along with its mode of treatment/disposal is furnished as below:

Type of Waste	Source	Quantity	Mode of Treatment/ Disposal
Used or Spent oil (Schedule - I, Cat. No. 5.1)	HEMM	6.0 KL/year	Used oil/spent oil are auctioned to authorised recyclers
Municipal solid waste	Colony, Canteen & Office	56.21 TPA	Segregation & disposal through SLRM centres.
Plastic waste	Colony, Canteen & Office	1 TPA	Disposal through gram panchayat facilities
Battery waste	Office, mine operation	0.2TPA	Collection and disposal through authorised vendors

**30.2.11: Status of implementation of action plan as per the Public Consultation held on 11.04.2008 for the EC dated 20.05.2009:**

Title	Raigarh District
Details of advertisement given	advertisement given on 08.03.2008 & 10.03.2008 National/English: The Indian express Local/Hindi: Raigarh Sandes & Haribhumi
Date of public consultation	11.04.2008
Venue	Gram Panchayat Bhawan Baroud Village, Tehsil: Gharghoda, District Raigarh(C.G.)
Presiding Officer	Additional Collector, Raigarh (C.G.)
Number of Person Attended Hearing	280
Number of representations received in writing from the district and outside of district, please give details:	Nil
Major issues raised	Roads, Pollution, Ground water depletion, Land compensation, employment, basic amenities.

**Action plan as per MoEF&CC O.M. dated 30/09/2020**

S. No	Physical activity and action plan	Expenditure incurred in last 5 years (in Lakhs)	Year of Implementation									Total Expenditure (In Lakhs)
			25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31	31-32	32-33	33-34	
1	Infrastructure creation for Drinking Water supply	28.91	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	10
2	Sanitation	4.81	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	0	10
3	Education	946.74	0	4	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	9
4	Skill Development	6.98	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
5	Roads	484.0	0	0	10	0	0	0	10	0	0	20
6	Infrastructure	767.903	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	90
7	Health	96.45	5	0	0	5	0	0	5	0	0	15
8	Art, Culture & Sports	24.83	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
9	Livelihood	63	0	0	4.5	0	0	0	5	0	0	9.5
10	Agricultural programme	19.12	10	10	15	10	0	0	0	0	0	45
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2442.7</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>268.5</b>

**30.2.12: EMP Budget:** The capital cost of project was Rs. 258.56 Cr and the capital cost for environmental protection measures for the proposed expansion is Rs. 450 Lakhs and the annual recurring cost towards the environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 599.94 Lakhs/year. The employment generation from the proposed project / expansion is: 635. The details of cost for environmental protection measures is as follows:

S. No.	Description of item	Existing (In Lakhs)		Proposed (In Lakhs)	
		Capital Cost	Recurring Cost	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost
(i)	Air Pollution Control/ Noise Management	206.45	20.00	35.00	50.00
(ii)	Water Pollution Control	446.53	15.00	20.00	80.00
(iii)	Environmental Monitoring and Management	110.00	0.00	50.00	267.00

S. No.	Description of item	Existing (In Lakhs)		Proposed (In Lakhs)	
		Capital Cost	Recurring Cost	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost
(iv)	Green Belt & Plantation Development	200.00	3.20	100.00	4.00
(v)	Other heads as proposed in EIA/ committed during the EAC	3758.53	0.00	245.00	198.94
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4721.51</b>	<b>38.20</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>599.94</b>

**30.2.13: Plantation:** Existing green cover has been developed in 30.9 ha area which is about 2.78% of the total ML area of 1111.4 ha with total sapling of 77250 Trees. Proposed greenbelt will be developed in 10 Ha out of which 6.56 Ha has been done. A 7.5 m wide greenbelt, consisting of at least 3 tiers around mine boundary will be developed as greenbelt and green cover as per CPCB/ MoEF&CC, New Delhi guidelines. Local and native species will be planted with a density of 2500 trees per hectare. Total no. of 2461875 saplings will be planted and nurtured in 984.75 Ha, which will be 88.60% of total ML area after mine closure.

**30.2.14: Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R):** A total of 401 PAFs were involved for R&R during the initial R&R of the project. Total 33 PAFs has been rehabilitated. 393 employment given out of 635 entitled employments. Compensation paid 488 PAPs out of 582 PAPs.

Pending R&R issues are as follows:

1. No. of PAFs to be resettled are 368
2. No. of land oustees to be compensated are 94
3. No. of PAPs to be given employment are 242

**30.2.15: Project Cost:** The capital cost of project was Rs. 258.56 Cr and the capital cost for environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 360 Lakhs as per the existing EIA/EMP report. The annual recurring cost towards the environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 689.94 Lakhs/ year.

**30.2.16: Details of pending litigation:** PP reported that there is no legal issue/violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife Protection Act, CRZ Notification, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.

**30.2.17: Undertaking/Affidavit:** PP vide an Undertaking submitted that there is no construction done at the site without any deviation as per previous Environmental Clearance obtained.

There are no court cases pending in any court of law.

The land has been acquired by Govt. of India under Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development Act. 1957), LA Act 1894, CGLRC act and vested in South Eastern Coalfields Limited. The land is in possession of the Baroud Opencast expansion Project of South Eastern Coalfields Limited. There is no difference in the documents submitted i.e. Form-1. EIA-EMP, Mining Plan, and Presentation being made to the EAC.

Further, vide an Undertaking, PP submitted that the information provided in Form-1 in pdf format in PARIVESH, to the Ministry/EAC members and PPT presentation during the EAC meeting to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2025 have no deviation in respect of the proposal no. IA/CG/CMIN/544597/2025 dated 12.07.2025 for Environment Clearance for Baroud OC

Expansion project having 1111.40 ha of ML area/Project area and capacity of 4.2 MTPA located at Villages: Baroud, Bijari, Phaguram, and Kurmibhaona; District: Raigarh; State: Chhattisgarh by South Eastern Coalfields Limited.

Further certified that there are no data entry errors in the information uploaded in PARIVESH system including names/ email-id/ mobile numbers/ address of the project proponent, authorized person, etc. It is also certified that the supporting documents uploaded on PARIVESH portal are correct and duly authenticated by the Authorized Signatory. In case of any deviation in data found in any of the documents, the Authorized Signatory shall be held responsible and furthermore, the above said project shall be rejected for grant of EC.

**30.2.18: Written Submissions:** During the meeting PP submitted the following:

1. Commitment of Rail transport will be increased to 70% of 4.2MTPA by the end of this FY 2025-26.
2. Land use details as per the given format has been submitted by the PP.
3. Clarification for installation of Inpit belt conveyor system. PP submitted that the in-pit conveyor belt system is not included in the approved mine plan for the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project. However, the in-pit conveyor belt forms part of the approved Project Report for the Baroud Opencast Expansion Project (10 MTPA).
4. Clarification of construction of Embankment along Kurket river. PP submitted that, from a safety perspective, an embankment of 2.5 m height has been constructed adjacent to the working pit. Furthermore, gap plantation is proposed within the 300 m zone from the riverbank to enhance the green belt and provide additional protection.
5. Revised EMP cost details proposed for 4.9MTPA:

S. No.	Description of item	Existing (In Lakhs)		Proposed (In Lakhs)	
		Capital Cost	Recurring Cost	Capital Cost	Recurring Cost
(i)	Air Pollution Control/ Noise Management	206.45	20.00	35.00	50.00
(ii)	Water Pollution Control	446.53	15.00	20.00	80.00
(iii)	Environmental Monitoring and Management	110.00	0.00	50.00	267.00
(iv)	Green Belt & Plantation Development	200.00	3.20	100.00	4.00
(v)	Other heads as proposed in EIA/ committed during the EAC	3758.53	0.00	245.00	198.94
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4721.51</b>	<b>38.20</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>599.94</b>

6. Comparison of Baseline data and regular environmental monitoring data:

AQ parameter (in µg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Range of Baseline data Values (Period Oct to Dec 2022)				Range of Regular Environmental Monitoring (Period April 2024 to March 2025)			
	Core Zone		Buffer Zone		Core Zone		Buffer Zone	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	122.6	157	50.4	83.6	100	277	26	109
<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>	65.9	85.3	27.3	49.01	19	99	17	60
<b>SO<sub>2</sub></b>	28.1	37.9	6.7	30.5	18	38	15	32
<b>No<sub>x</sub></b>	23.5	34.6	6.3	29.7	18	41	13	33

7. Action plan for Faguram, Korichar and Urnavpara villages:

The proposed control measures (air pollution mitigation measures) are as follows:



- a) No coal is being transported to Korrichhapar siding since Feb 2024 on operational of SILO.
- b) Around the mine boundary in the southern side wind breaker of height 15ft will be constructed by December 2026 to restrict the downwind flow. Proposed Budget: 2.0 cr.
- c) The proposed Three tier plantation in the safety zone of southern side will be completed in first phase and is proposed to be completed by Sept.2026: Proposed budget: 10 lakhs
- d) 3 no. of trolley mounted fogging machines are procured and two of them will dedicatedly deployed in the southern side of the project for the betterment of air quality in those three villages.
8. Vide an undertaking PP submitted that, the tentative budget for implementation of recommendations of Surface drainage plan for study area of Baroud OC and riparian /riparian ecosytem conservation and management plan for the Kurket River is proposed as Rs. 48 lakhs and it will be updated after finalization of recommendations of those two study reports.

**Observation and deliberation of the EAC:**

**30.2.19: Committee after deliberations noted the following:**

1. The instant proposal is for grant of environment clearance to M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited for Baroud Opencast Expansion Project (ML area: 1111.40 Ha with increase in production capacity from 4.2 MTPA to 4.9 MTPA), located at village: Baroud; Tehsil: Gharghora; District: Raigarh; State: Chhattisgarh. The proposal is for expansion in production capacity by 20% (2nd Phase) as per Ministry's OM dated 11.04.2022.
2. Ministry has previously granted EC for the said project vide letter dated 20.05.2005, in the ML area of 97.021 Ha for the production capacity of 0.3 MTPA. Thereafter another EC was granted vide letter dated 27.03.2006 within the ML area of 311.28 Ha for the production capacity of 1 MTPA, another EC was granted vide letter dated 20.05.2009 within the ML area of 1111.40 Ha for the production capacity of 3.5 MTPA. Another EC was granted under the provisions of Ministry's OM dated 11.04.2022 for the expansion in production capacity by 20%, i.e., for 4.2 MTPA within the same ML area of 1111.40 Ha.
3. The above EC is under implementation and the proponent has achieved the production capacity of 4.2 MTPA in the FY 2024-25.
4. MoEF&CC has issued an OM on 11.04.2022 to facilitate all applications seeking prior EC for modernization/ expansion with increase in production capacity up to 50% within the existing premises/ mine lease area, without any additional land acquisition. Through this OM, Ministry has provided guidelines for availing expansion up to 50% of the original EC capacity without Public Hearing in two stages (0-20% & 20-40%). Public Consultation (written comments) shall be required for third stage i.e., 40-50% expansion.
5. The instant proposal under consideration is for expansion of production capacity of Baroud Opencast Expansion Project from 4.2 MTPA to 4.9 MTPA (Phase – II; i.e., 40%), within the same lease area of 1111.40 Ha under para 7(ii) of EIA, 2006 as per MoEF&CC OM dated 11/04/2022 for 20% expansion. Committee observed that the proponent has submitted the compliance of Ministry's OM dated 11.04.2022.

6. The EAC took into consideration the project site through KML file on the Google Earth presented by the project proponent along with DSS of the project site on PARIVESH.
7. Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment, 2018.
8. The project is not located within 10 KM of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/tiger corridor/elephant corridor etc. There is presence of Schedule – I species, namely Elephant, Monitor lizard. PP further submitted that Wildlife Conservation Plan (WLCP) was prepared by State Forest Research & Training Institute Raipur and approved by APCCF/CWLW vide letter no. 194 dt 12.07.2023. The Wildlife Management Plan is being implemented through State Forest department. An amount of Rs. 26.82 Cr/- has been deposited for implementation of the plan. Committee opined that, the PP shall follow up for the same with the forest department and get the plan implemented in a time bound manner.
9. The mining plan and the mine closure plan for the said project has been approved by SECL Board on 20.05.2022 in its 120th meeting.
10. Method of mining proposed to be carried out is opencast mining using combined mining system deploying shovel dumper combination and Surface Miner.
11. Total mineable reserve as per the mine plan as on 01.04.2022 was 108.02MT and the balance mineable reserve as on 01.04.2025 is 96.12 MT. Out of the mineable reserve of 96.12 MT, 96.12 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 100%.
12. There are 09 nos. seams with thickness ranging from 0.36 m – 9.88 m are workable. The average grade of coal is G-12 and stripping ratio is 3.93 cum/t. Life of mine is 19 years (As on 01.04.2025).
13. Committee deliberated on the method of transportation proposed for the said project and observed that coal from in-pit to surface is proposed to be transported through dumpers and tippers, from surface to siding the same is being transported through silo and further to consumer by rail and road. Committee deliberated on the condition of the previous EC conditions and the certified compliance report of the RO and observed that the in-pit belt conveyor is yet to be installed. PP submitted that in-pit belt conveyor is the part of the mine plan for the expansion and not for the instant project. However, PP further submitted an undertaking that current year onwards the coal will be transported 70% by rail only.
14. Committee deliberated on the baseline data submitted by the PP and observed that, the baseline data has been collected during October 2022 to December 2022 and observed that all the parameters are within the permissible limits. Further Committee sought the comparative statement of the regular environmental monitoring data and the baseline data submitted and observed the same to be satisfactory.
15. Committee deliberated on the water requirement of the said project and observed that, the water required for the said project is 1248 KLD. Source of water is Mine Seepage Water, tube wells & accumulated rain water. Water usage quantity: Industrial use: 116 KLD; Domestic use: 131 KLD. NOC from CGWA obtained vide NOC no CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2024/19791 dated 23.01.2024 which was valid till 15.11.2024. Application for renewal has been submitted and the same is yet to be obtained. Committee further also observed that no water body is proposed to be diverted for the said project.

16. The power required for the said project is 2.19 kWh. which is being sourced from M/s. Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited. Further, no Hi-Tension/ Transmission Line is required to be diverted.
17. Committee deliberated on the action plan submitted by the PP for the public hearing held on 11.04.2008. The major issues raised in the said public hearing were related to Roads, Pollution, Ground water depletion, Land compensation, employment, basic amenities. PP submitted an action plan for the same to be completed in 9 years, with a budget of Rs. 268.5 Lakhs. Committee opined that the same shall be implemented in a time bound manner.
18. The budget submitted by the proponent for Environment Management Plan for the proposed expansion is Rs. 450 lakhs (capital cost) and Rs. 599.94 Lakhs (recurring cost). Committee opined that the same shall be implemented in a time bound manner.
19. Committee deliberated on the plantation activities done by the PP and observed that the total green cover developed till date is in 30.9 Ha, which is about 2.78% of the total ML area of 1111.4 ha with total sapling of 77250 Trees. Proposed greenbelt will be developed in 10 Ha out of which 6.56 Ha has been done. A 7.5 m wide greenbelt, consisting of at least 3 tiers around mine boundary will be developed as greenbelt and green cover as per CPCB/ MoEF&CC, New Delhi guidelines. Local and native species will be planted with a density of 2500 trees per hectare. Total no. of 2461875 saplings will be planted and nurtured in 984.75 Ha, which will be 88.60% of total ML area after mine closure. Committee opined that the same shall be developed in a time bound manner. Apart from this, PP was suggested to distribute 50000 saplings per year, mainly of fruit bearing and native plants till the end of the life of mine to the nearby villagers and should incentivise them for its survival. Committee also opined that 3-tier plantation with native species shall be developed on both the sides of the coal transportation road.
20. Committee further deliberated on the rehabilitation and resettlement issues of the said mine and observed that, the project involved total 401 PAFs out of which 33 PAFs have been rehabilitated. Out of 635 entitled employments, 393 employments have been already provided and out of 582 PAPs, 488 PAPs have been paid the compensation. Committee opined that the remaining 368 PAFs, 94 land oustees and 242 PAPs shall be rehabilitated and resettled at the earliest possible.
21. Committee deliberated on the certified compliance report obtained by the PP from the Ministry's RO vide letter dated 18.02.2025. The Action taken report regarding the partially/ non-complied condition was submitted to Regional Officer MoEF&CC, vide letter dated 16.03.2025. Based on ATR submitted, Regional Officer inspected the project on 25.05.2025 and issued a report on 23.06.2025. Committee observed that there are various partial compliances observed in the closure report of the Ministry's RO. Based on the ATR submitted by the PP, Committee opined that the PP shall comply with all the partially complied and non-complied conditions in a time bound manner, as committed.
22. PP reported that there is no legal issue/violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Forest Conservation Act, Wildlife Protection Act, CRZ Notification, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.
23. Committee opined that PP shall align its activities with the sustainable development goals.
24. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given an undertaking that the data and

information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/EMP reports. If any part of data/information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.

**Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.2.20:** In view of the foregoing and after the detailed deliberation, the Committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of Environment Clearance **subject to uploading of written submission on PARIVESH Portal** under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 with stipulation of the following specific conditions and general conditions based on project specific requirements:

**A. Specific Conditions:**

1. Project Proponent shall not divert any water body without the prior approval of MoEF&CC.
2. As per the approved R&R plan, there are 368 PAFs, 94 land oustees and 242 PAPs yet to be rehabilitated. The same shall be completed in a time bound manner.
3. Plantation shall be carried out in 984.75 ha within the mine lease area, as per approved Mine Closure Plan. Project Proponent shall do concurrent plantation activities. PP shall also distribute 50000 saplings per year, mainly of fruit bearing and native plants till the end of the life of mine to the nearby villagers and should incentivise them for its survival. Along with this, 3-tier plantation with native species shall be developed on both the sides of the coal transportation road within one year.
4. Project Proponent shall strengthen the existing Primary Health Center (PHC) & Community Health Center (CHC) in the study area for better public health. PHCs & CHCs within the core and buffer zone shall be supported with adequate budget over 5 years, for improving facilities for enhancing quality of public health service. Compliance status in this regard shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
5. Project Proponent shall implement the protective measure proposed in Environment Management Plan (EMP) in a time-bound manner. The budget earmarked for the same is Rs. 450 Lakhs (capital cost) and Rs. 599.94 Lakhs (recurring cost), should be kept in separate accounts and audited annually. The implementation status along with the amount spent with documentary proof shall be submitted to the concerned Regional Office for the activities carried out during the previous year.
6. The budget proposed for PH (for next 9 years) is Rs 268.5 Lakhs. The budget proposed shall be kept in a separate account. Project proponent shall implement the action plan to address the issues raised during public hearing within the stipulated time frame. PP shall submit the progress report regarding the implementation of action plan to concerned RO along with the six monthly compliance report.
7. Proponent shall carryout regular maintenance of the potholes on roads, repair and maintenance of roads, scrapping of material fallen on roads, and removal of scraps from mining areas. Along with this, PP shall make sure that all the pollution control

equipments are in good working condition and maintenance of those equipments is regularly carried out.

8. The approved Wildlife Conservation Plan shall be implemented in a time bound manner in consultation with the State Forest department.
9. Project proponent shall strictly transport 3.43 MTPA of (70% of the total coal produced) by rail only as committed.
10. Following control measures shall be undertaken for mitigation of air pollution in the Faguram, Korichar and Urnavpara villages:
  - a. No coal shall be transported to Korrichhapar siding.
  - b. Around the mine boundary in the southern side wind breaker of height 15 ft shall be constructed by December 2026 to restrict the downwind flow. Budget proposed for the same is Rs. 2 crores.
  - c. The proposed three tier plantation by planting the saplings of not less the 2 meter height in the safety zone of southern side shall be completed by September 2026.
  - d. 2 nos of trolley mounted fogging machines shall be dedicatedly deployed in the project for the betterment of air quality in these three villages.
11. The CAAQM Stations installed in the ML area shall be connected to the CPCB server by September 2025, as committed by the PP.
12. Gap plantation by planting the saplings of not less the 2 meter height within the 300 m zone from the riverbank shall be done to enhance the greenbelt and provide additional protection. Plantation activities shall be carried out in the ongoing monsoon season of 2025 itself and the compliance of the same shall be submitted to Ministry's RO in its six-monthly compliance report.
13. Project Proponent shall submit final study reports regarding surface drainage plan by Chhattisgarh Council of Science & Technology (CCOST) and for study area of Baroud OC and rivarian/ riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan by NEERI for the Kurket river, within 3 months from the date of issuance of this EC along with the time bound action plan to comply with the recommendations of the said study report. The financial outlay for the implementation of the recommendations shall not be less than Rs. 48 Lakhs, as committed.
14. Project proponent shall obtain amendment in the condition pertaining to obtaining Public Liability Insurance under Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 stipulated in the previous ECs (if not applicable), within 3 months from the date of issuance of this EC.
15. Project proponent shall implement the inpit belt conveyor system by 31.03.2028, as committed.
16. 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 MoEF&CC.

17. PP shall ensure that all types of plastic waste generated from the plant shall be stored separately in isolated area and disposed of strictly adhering to the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 (as amended). In pursuant to the Ministry's OM dated 18/07/2022. PP shall also create awareness among the people working in the project area as well as in its surrounding area on the ban on Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure compliance of Ministry's Notification published by the Ministry on 12/08/2021. A report along with photograph on the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance report being submitted by PP.
18. Water shed/Natural drainage shall be carefully managed so that flow of water should go down side in the main streams/nallah.
19. PP shall carry out Occupational Health study by the Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) or any reputed and accredited institute/organization to aware the employees, preventing injury, and reducing the health issues in the workplace. All the recommendations of the study shall be complied by the proponent and project for next phase of expansion shall be submitted only after the compliance of the same.
20. Third-party audit (by NEERI/CIMFR/IITs/NITs) for air & water quality shall be carried out annually to keep a check on the same. PP shall implement the recommendations of the audit and submit the outcome of the audit to the concerned RO of MoEF&CC.
21. Project proponent is advised to implement the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign which was launched on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 on the occasion of the World Environment Day to increase the forest cover across the Country. This plantation drive is other than Greenbelt development. The action in this regard shall be submitted concerned RO in six monthly.

#### **A. Standard Conditions:**

##### **1. Statutory Conditions:**

- i. The Environmental clearance shall be subject to orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Courts, NGT and any other Court of Law, from time to time, and as applicable to the project.
- ii. The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- iii. Solid/hazardous waste generated in the mines needs to addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016.
- iv. The maximum production or peak production at any given time shall not exceed the limit as prescribed in the EC.
- v. Validity of EC is as per life of the mine mentioned in EC letter or 30 years as per EIA Notification, 2006 and its amendments therein.

##### **2. Air Quality Monitoring and Mitigation Measures**

- i. Project proponent shall obtain requisite consent from State Pollution Control Board for 4.9 MTPA coal mining.
- ii. Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring of pollutants, namely particulates, 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 receptors in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- iii. 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 25th 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.
- iv. Effective control measures such as regular water sprinkling/rain gun/ Fog cannon /mist sprinkling etc., shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution with higher level of particulate matter all through the coal transport roads, 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.
- v. Major approach roads shall be black topped and properly maintained.
- vi. 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.
- vii. PP should Install Wind breaker/shield arrangement along the railway siding for reducing the dust propagation in upwind direction.

### **3. Water Quality Monitoring and Mitigation Measures**

- i. PP shall take approval from the CGWA/ Competent Authority prior to commencement of mining operations.
- ii. 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 25th September 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board.
- iii. 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-20012/1/2006-1A.11 (M) dated 27th May 2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- iv. Garland drains (of suitable size, gradient and length) around the critical areas i.e. mine shaft and low lying areas, shall be designed keeping at least 50% safety margin over and above the peak sudden rainfall and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine sites. The sump capacity shall also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material of the surface runoff
- v. 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

- vi. Industrial wastewater from coal handling plant and mine water shall be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules made thereunder, and as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluent. Sewage treatment plant of adequate capacity shall be installed for treatment of domestic wastewater.
- vii. Industrial effluent and domestic wastewater shall be treated in the Effluent treatment Plant (ETP) and Sewage Treatment Plant (STP). After treatment, treated water shall be reused for plantation.

#### **4. 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. 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.

#### **5. Mining Plan**

- i. Project proponent shall obtain star rating as per the guidelines of Ministry of Coal.
- ii. Mining shall be carried out under strict adherence to provisions of the Mines Act 1952 and subordinate legislations made there-under as applicable.
- iii. No change in mining method, calendar programme and scope of work shall be made without obtaining prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
- iv. 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).
- v. Efforts should be made to reduce energy and fuel consumption by conservation, efficiency improvements and use of renewable energy.

#### **6. 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 (MoEF&CC) from time to time shall be submitted to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC.
- 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. 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 stabilized 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.
- v. 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.

## **7. Public Hearing and Human Health Issues:**

- i. Adequate illumination shall be ensured in all mine locations (as per DGMS standards) and monitored.
- 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. Skill training as per safety norms specified by DGMS shall be provided to all workmen including the outsourcing employees to ensure high safety standards in mines.
- v. Effective arrangement shall be made to provide and maintain at suitable points conveniently situated, a sufficient supply of drinking water for all the persons employed.
- vi. The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this

Ministry's OM No.Z11013/5712014-IA.II (M) dated 29th 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'.

#### **8. Corporate Environment Responsibility:**

- i. The company shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved 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 a 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 report to the head of the organization.

#### **9. 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 environmental clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.
- iv. 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.
- v. 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.
- vi. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC regarding commencement of mining operations.
- vii. The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
- viii. 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.
- ix. No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

- x. 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.
- xi. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.
- xii. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.
- xiii. 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
- xiv. 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 Transboundary 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.

**Agenda Item No. 30.3:**

**30.3:** Amalgamated Gauri Pauni Expansion OC Mine (increase in ML area from 2386.94 Ha to 3158.79 Ha with increase in production capacity from 6.75 MTPA to 9 MTPA), **by M/s Western Coalfields Limited**, located at villages: Gauri and Pauni; Tehsil: Rajura; **District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra – Prescribing of Terms of Reference (ToR) – reg.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/MH/CMIN/542860/2025; Consultant: CMPDI - NABET/EIA/25-28/RA 0412 valid up to 08.04.2028]**

**30.3.1:** M/s Western Coalfields Limited has made an application vide proposal no. IA/MH/CMIN/542860/2025; dated 09.07.2025 along with the application in prescribed format (Form-I), copy of pre-feasibility report, Mine Plan and Mine Closure Plan and proposed ToRs for undertaking detailed EIA study as per the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above. The proposed project activity is listed at Item No. 1(a) under Category “A” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006 project do not attract general condition of EIA Notification, 2006. Hence, the project is being considered at Central Level.

Amalgamated Gauri Pauni Expansion OC Mine is proposed for increase in ML area from 2386.94 Ha to 3158.79 Ha with increase in production capacity from 6.75 MTPA to 9 MTPA, is located at villages: Gauri and Pauni; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra.

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

**30.3.2: Previous approvals in chronological order:**

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/Validity extension/Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (Ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
1.	Gauri I&II Expansion OC: No. J-11015/242/2008 IA.II(M)	EC	2.50	676.53	17.07.2009	Implemented
2.	Pauni Expansion OC: No. J-11015/118/2013-IA.II (M)	Expansion EC	0.90	255.00	24.12.2014	Implemented
3.	Pauni-II Expansion OC No.: J-11015/80/2016-IA.II (M)	Expansion with revalidation of EC	3.25	1095.52	28.03.2019	Implemented
4.	Pauni-II Expansion OC No.: J-11015/80/2016-IA.II (M)	Validity Extension	3.25	1095.52	13.03.2020	Implemented
5.	Pauni-II Expansion OC No.: J-11015/80/2016-IA.II (M)	Amendment in EC	3.25	1095.52	01.12.2020	Implemented
6.	Pauni Expansion OC No.: J-11015/118/2013-IA-II (M)	Amendment in EC	0.9	239.58	27.12.2022	Implemented
7.	Amalgamation of Gauri-I & II OC & Pauni Expansion OC with expansion: No. J-11015/242/2008-IA.II (M)	Amalgamation & Expansion EC	3.50	1296.42	27.12.2022	Being implemented
8.	Gauri-Pauni Expansion OC: No. J-11015/242/2008-IA.II(M)	Amendment in EC	3.50	1296.42	23.07.2025	Being implemented

W.r.t. the previous approvals, PP submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine and submitted that the Pauni-II mine has become operational from 2016-17 and Gauri-Pauni expansion OC (amalgamation of Gauri-I & II OC and Pauni-OC) of has become operational from 2022-23 onwards. The production details are as follows:

**Production details:**

a) Combined EC Capacity vis-à-vis Production Details

Year	Actual Production (MTPA)	Planned Coal Production in MTPA as per Environment Clearance	Excess production
2009-10	2.201	3.82	NIL
2010-11	2.125	3.82	NIL
2011-12	1.920	3.82	NIL
2012-13	1.830	3.82	NIL
2013-14	1.860	3.82	NIL
2014-15	1.969	4.00	NIL
2015-16	1.945	4.00	NIL
2016-17	2.381	4.00	NIL
2017-18	2.455	4.00	NIL
2018-19	2.209	4.00	NIL
2019-20	3.592	6.65	NIL
2020-21	3.991	6.65	NIL
2021-22	4.194	6.65	NIL
2022-23	4.116	5.75	NIL
2023-24	5.824	6.75	NIL
2024-25	5.605	6.75	NIL

b) EC Capacity vis-à-vis Production Details – Gauri I & II Expansion OC

Year	EC capacity (MTPA)	Production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
2009-10	2.5	1.639	NIL
2010-11	2.5	1.415	NIL
2011-12	2.5	1.27	NIL
2012-13	2.5	1.12	NIL
2013-14	2.5	1.15	NIL
2014-15	2.5	1.115	NIL
2015-16	2.5	1.103	NIL
2016-17	2.5	1.42	NIL
2017-18	2.5	1.25	NIL
2018-19	2.5	0.71	NIL
2019-20	2.5	0.627	NIL
2020-21	2.5	0.76	NIL
2021-22	2.5	0.944	NIL
*2022-23	3.5	0.866	NIL
*2023-24	3.5	2.574	NIL
*2024-25	3.5	2.355	NIL

\* The production from FY 2022-23 till FY 2024-25 is shown as per the respective EC of Gauri-Pauni Expansion OC.

c) EC Capacity vis-à-vis Production Details – Pauni Expansion OC

Year	EC capacity (MTPA)	Production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
2009-10	0.72	0.562	NIL
2010-11	0.72	0.710	NIL
2011-12	0.72	0.650	NIL
2012-13	0.72	0.710	NIL
2013-14	0.72	0.710	NIL
2014-15	0.9	0.854	NIL
2015-16	0.9	0.842	NIL
2016-17	0.9	0.450	NIL
2017-18	0.9	0.899	NIL
2018-19	0.9	0.900	NIL
2019-20	0.9	0.860	NIL
2020-21	0.9	0.431	NIL
2021-22	0.9	0.000	NIL

Pauni Expansion OC exhausted its reserves in 2020-21 and is amalgamated with Gauri-I & II OC as per EC vide letter Dt.27.12.2022.

d) EC Capacity vis-à-vis Production Details – Pauni – II Expansion OC

- Pauni – II OC started its production in 2016-17.

Year	EC capacity (MTPA)	Production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
2016-17	0.6	0.511	NIL
2017-18	0.6	0.306	NIL
2018-19	0.6	0.599	NIL
2019-20	3.25	2.105	NIL
2020-21	3.25	2.800	NIL
2021-22	3.25	3.250	NIL

2022-23	3.25	3.250	NIL
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**30.3.3: Environmental Site Settings:** The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo-sheet No. 56 M/1 and 56 M/5 (IAC Series), E44B5 & E44B1 (OSM) (RF 1: 50,000) and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from 19°46'49.62"N to 19°50'2.67"N Latitudes and 79°13'23.98"E to 79°18'13.73"E longitudes.

Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018. A letter confirming the same has been obtained from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, vide letter dated 25.07.2025.

**Forest Area:** The project involves total 12.07 ha of forestland. Stage – I forest clearance has been obtained on the same vide letter no. FC-II/MH-165/2021-NGP, dated 20.03.2025. PP submitted that there is no forestland broken and there is no violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Forestland of 12.07 Ha is involved in the expansion area and the project did not involve forestland in the existing lease area.

**Nature of land involved:**

Nature of land involved	Existing area (Ha)	Additional area proposed (Ha)	Total area after expansion (Ha)
Non-Forest Land	2386.94	759.78	3146.72
Forest Land	0	12.07	12.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>2386.94</b>	<b>771.85</b>	<b>3158.79</b>

**Protected Area:** The project is not located within 10 KM of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/tiger corridor/elephant corridor etc. However as per telemetric data of WII telemetric tiger corridor joining TATR & Indravati tiger reserve passes through the project area. During FC application for 12.07 ha of the forest land PCCF Wildlife, Maharashtra, had made observation that as per telemetric data of WII the telemetric tiger corridor joining TATR & Indravati tiger reserve passes through the forest area and there is high probability that the non-forest area also overlaps with the tiger corridor.

Further PP submitted that there is Schedule – I species present within the study area namely: Seven species of Mammals viz. Bos gaurus, Panthera Tigris, Panthera Pardus, Canis aureus, Cuon alpinus, Felis chaus & Hystrix indica; Four species of Reptiles viz. Python molurus, Naja naja, Ptyas mucosa & Daboia russelii & two species of birds viz. Pavo cristatus & Aythya ferina.

Conservation plan is under preparation in consultation with state forest department and shall be sent for approval from APCCF.

**Mining Lease:** PP submitted the following details of the mining lease:

S. No.	Govt. Order/Notifications as the case may be	Land Acquired under the notification (ha)	Validity of lease in years
1.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated 18.01.1990 under LA Act, 1894	370.09	99
2.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated 03.12.1992 under LA Act, 1894	11.95	99
3.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated	382.49	99

S. No.	Govt. Order/Notifications as the case may be	Land Acquired under the notification (ha)	Validity of lease in years
	02.12.1993 under LA Act, 1894		
4.	CBA (A&D) Act, Section 9 vide S. O. 2372 dated 05.11.1998	106.45	99
5.	CBA (A&D) Act, Section 9 vide S. O. 3293 dated 16.12.2004	305.80	99
6.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated 07.01.2006 under LA Act, 1894	15.61	99
7.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated 13.01.2006 under LA Act, 1894	28.56	99
8.	Maharashtra State Gazette Notification dated 04.03.2006 under LA Act, 1894	22.56	99
9.	CBA (A&D) Act, Section 9 vide S. O. 2276 dated 18.08.2015	778.54	99
10.	CBA (A&D) Act, Section 9 vide S. O. 527 dated 01.02.2023	363.45	99
11.	CBA (A&D) Act, Section 9 vide S. O. 1245(E) dated 18.03.2025	773.2987	99
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3158.7987</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Other Sensitive Receptors:

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
i. Habitation	<b>Village</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Pauni	0	Inside ML
	Chincholi	0	Inside ML
	Gauri	0	Adjacent to Eastern boundary
	Sakhari	0.1	North
	Waroda	0.5	North West
	Antargaon	0.2	South
	Hirapur	0.6	South West
	Babapur	0.7	North
	Charli	2.0	North
	Pellora	2.3	North
ii. School	<b>Schools</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Vidhyalaya Chincholi Kh (Upper Primary & Secondary)	0	Inside ML area
	Maharshi Uttam Swami Maharaj Jr College Chincholi Kh. (Higher Secondary)	0	Inside ML area
	Z.P.Upper Primary School, Chincholi Kh	0	Inside ML area
	Z.P.Upper Primary School, Pauni	0	Inside ML area
	Z.P.Pry School Hirapur	0.5	South West
	Shivaji High School, Rajura	8.6	South East
	V J Polytechnic, Rajura	3.3	South
	Sai Baba Gyanpeeth Convent School, Ballarpur	6.0	North-East
	KGN Public School & Junior College, Ballarpur	7.0	North-East
	Aditya Birla Public School	9.3	South-West

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
	River /Nallah	Distance (km)	Direction
iii. River/ Waterbody	Lendi Nala, Sakhri Nala, Pauni Nala & Chincholi Nala	0	Passes through ML area
	Gauri Nalla	0	Passes along ML boundary
	Wardha River	3.5	North-East
iv. Forest	<b>Reserved/Protected Forests</b>	<b>Distance (km)</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Junana Reserve Forest	7	North East
	Ballarshah Protected Forest	8	Northeast
	Rajura Reserve Forest	4.5	South East
v. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protected site	Nil		
vi. Any other	Nil		

**Following diversions are proposed for the said project:**

- i) **Nallah Diversion-** The Sakhri Nallah (in both its southern and northern stretches), along with the Pauni and Chincholi Nallahs, are proposed to be diverted as part of the expansion. Lendi Nallah has already been diverted and merged with Sakhri Nallah with the approval of state irrigation department of Maharashtra. The length of proposed diversion is 8.5 km (The diversion length provided is indicative and subject to detailed technical assessment and statutory approvals).
- ii) **Road Diversion-** The road connecting Sakhri, Chincholi, and Gauri villages will also need to be diverted. The length of proposed diversion is 25.0 km (The diversion length provided is indicative and subject to detailed technical assessment and statutory approvals).
- iii) **Transmission Line-** Diversion of 66kV & 11kV OHT line is proposed of length 13.50 km (The diversion length provided is indicative and subject to detailed technical assessment and statutory approvals).

**30.3.4: Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan:** The mining plan & mine closure plan for the project was approved by board of Directors for (capacity 9 MTPA, Mine lease Area 3158.79 Ha) in 377<sup>th</sup> WCL Board vide resolution letter no. WCL/Office of CS/BM-377/2025-26/321 dated 27.06.2025.

- i. Method of Mining to be adopted shall be Opencast. Excavation of Coal is through Surface Miners. The waste/OB handling is with Shovel-dumper combination.
- ii. Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease/block area is 251.99 MT with balance mineable reserve as on 01.04.2025 is 127.94 MT. Out of balance mineable reserve of 170.95 MT, 127.94 MT are available for Extraction. Percent of extraction is 95 %.
- iii. One composite seam with multiple seams with thickness ranging from 2-18 m are workable. Grade of coal is G-9. Stripping ratio 9.02 cum/tonne. Life of mine is 18 years as on 01.04.2025.
- iv. The Project has 4 no. of external OB dumps in an area of 977.57 Ha with maximum height of 90 m and 551.97 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB. 1 no. of internal OB dumps in an area of 688.00 Ha with 906.34 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB. 1 no. of embankment in an area of 95.00 Ha with 7.15 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB are envisaged in the project.



- v. Details of topsoil dump: Out of the 4 external OB dump, one is a topsoil dump of an area of 35.27 Ha with 7.08 Mm<sup>3</sup> of topsoil.

- vi. Details of land use pattern:

- a. Pre-mining land use pattern:

S. no.	Type of Land	Within Mine lease area (Ha)	Outside Mine lease area (Ha)	Total (Ha)
1	Agriculture land	2941.45	0.00	2941.45
2	Forest land	12.07	0.00	12.07
3	Waste land	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Grazing land	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Surface water bodies	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Settlements	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Other (specify)	205.27	0.00	205.27
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3158.79</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3158.79</b>

- b. Post-mining land use pattern:

S.no	Type	Total Area	Reclaimed area	Un-reclaimed area
1	Excavation/Quarry Area:			
	(a) Backfilled areas	688.00	688.00	0.00
	(b) Excavated Void	740.00	0.00	740.00
2	External Dump	977.59	977.59	0.00
3	Safety Zone	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Road and infrastructure	65.00	9.00	56.00
5	Garland Drains/Diverted Drains	34.00	0.00	34.00
6	Embankment	95.00	0.00	95.00
7	Others (Undisturbed Area & Green Belt)	559.20	100.00	459.20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3158.79</b>	<b>1774.59</b>	<b>1384.20</b>

- vii. Details of transportation: The coal is proposed to transport within the outside mining lease in the following manner:

- In pit to surface: By internal road (5.0 km) via dumpers till receiving pit of CHP
- Surface to siding: By covered conveyor belt (of 2.6 km length) to RLS
- Siding to loading: RLS loading through Silo on railway rakes
- Quantity being transported by Road/Rail/Conveyor/Rope way:

Year	Rail cum road (MTPA)	Road (MTPA)
2024-25	1.76	3.67
2023-24	2.10	3.50

- Proposed change in transportation means if any, give details: The road transport from pit head to railway siding at Gauri Deep of length 16.0 km will be reduced to 5.0 km i.e. up to proposed Sasti Railway Siding.

- viii. Details of reclamation: Afforestation shall be done covering an area of 1774.59 Ha at the end of mining. This will include reclaimed external OB dump of 977.59 Ha, internal dumps of 688 Ha and greenbelt of 42.80 Ha. Density of plantation shall be 2500 nos of trees per Ha. Apart from this, a void of 740 Ha will be converted in to water body with a depth of 230 m. Others such as excavation area long ML boundary, along roads and infrastructure, embankment area etc of 66.2 Ha will also be reclaimed.

### 30.3.5: Baseline Data:

Period	March to June 2023
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Period	March to June 2023															
AAQ parameters at 14 Locations	<b>Core Zone:</b> <b>PM<sub>10</sub>:</b> 124 to 144 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>PM<sub>2.5</sub>:</b> 26 to 32 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>NO<sub>2</sub>:</b> 10 to 11 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>SO<sub>2</sub>:</b> BDL  <b>Buffer Zone:</b> <b>PM<sub>10</sub>:</b> 51 to 87 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>PM<sub>2.5</sub>:</b> 19 to 40 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>NO<sub>2</sub>:</b> 7 to 14 µg/m <sup>3</sup> <b>SO<sub>2</sub>:</b> BDL															
Incremental GLC Level	Air Quality prediction modelling shall be carried out during EIA Study.															
Ground water/ Drinking Water quality at 6 Locations	Color-2 to 4 Hz, Odor-3 to 5, Turbidity-3 to 7.7, pH-7.03 to 7.67, Total hardness-164 to 680 mg/l, Fe-BDL, Chlorides-54 to 192 mg/l, Residual Chlorine-0.02 to 0.03 mg/l, Fluoride-0.36 to 0.82 mg/l, TDS-440 to 1220 mg/l, Calcium-24 to 138 mg/l, Magnesium-22 to 83 mg/l, Copper-0.032 to 0.053 mg/l, Manganese-0.021 to 0.043 mg/l, Sulphate-52 to 208 mg/l, Nitrate-5.53 to 44 mg/l, Cadmium-<0.002 mg/l, Lead-<0.005 mg/l, Selenium-<0.01 mg/l, Arsenic-<.01 mg/l, Zinc-0.019 to 0.043 mg/l, Chromium-<.03 mg/l, Boron-BDL, Alkalinity-192 to 444 mg/l, Nickel-<0.005 to 0.031 mg/l, Aluminium-0.028 to 0.028 mg/l															
Surface water quality at 6 Locations	pH: 7.59 to 7.92, Color:1 to 4 Hz, TDS:330 to 890 mg/l, DO-4.6 to 5.4 mg/l, BOD-1.8 to 6.1 mg/l, Cu-0.03 to 0.033 mg/l, Fluoride-0.38 to 0.68 mg/l, Nitrate Nitrogen-0.52 to 2.7 mg/l, Sulphate-57 to 103 mg/l, Chlorides-40 to 76 mg/l, COD-32 to 44 mg/l.															
Noise levels Leq (Day and Night) at 9 locations	Core Zone: 43.6 dB(A) to 56.8 dB(A) for the day time and 42.7 dB(A) to 55.9 dB(A) for the Night time. Buffer Zone: 41.5 dB(A) to 45.7 dB(A) for the day time and 39.1 dB(A) to 44.6 dB(A) for the Night time.															
Traffic assessment study findings	Traffic study will be conducted and submitted during the submission of Final EIA/EMP.															
Flora and fauna	Flora & Fauna Study was conducted There are schedule-I species in the study area. Seven species of Mammals viz. Bos gaurus, Panthera Tigris, Panthera Pardus, Canis aureus, Cuon alpinus, Felis chaus & Hystrix indica; Four species of Reptiles viz. Python molurus, Naja naja, Ptyas mucosa & Daboia russelii & two species of birds viz. Pavo cristatus & Aythya ferina. Conservation plan is under preparation in consultation with state forest department and shall be sent for approval from APCCF.															
Water Requirement	Source of Water: Strata Seepage Mine Water & borewell. Ground Water Intersection: Yes Water Requirement:3449 KLD NOC (For surface water): Not applicable NOC (Ground Water): NOC has been granted. Renewal is under process. The details are as follows: <table><tr><th>S.no</th><th>Project</th><th>NOC status/ Application date</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Gauri- I &amp; II (A) OC</td><td>CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465, Valid up to 02.08.2023</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Pauni OC</td><td>CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555 Valid up to 12.08.2023</td></tr><tr><td colspan="3">EC has been granted for amalgamation of the above two projects with expansion vide letter Dt.27.12.2022.</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Gauri- Pauni Expansion OC</td><td>Application has been made on 02.08.2023 in NOCAP. The application has been approved by the Competent Authority of CGWA. Formal Issuance of the NOC awaited.</td></tr></table> CGWA NOC status of Pauni-II expansion OC:	S.no	Project	NOC status/ Application date	1	Gauri- I & II (A) OC	CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465, Valid up to 02.08.2023	2	Pauni OC	CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555 Valid up to 12.08.2023	EC has been granted for amalgamation of the above two projects with expansion vide letter Dt.27.12.2022.			3	Gauri- Pauni Expansion OC	Application has been made on 02.08.2023 in NOCAP. The application has been approved by the Competent Authority of CGWA. Formal Issuance of the NOC awaited.
S.no	Project	NOC status/ Application date														
1	Gauri- I & II (A) OC	CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465, Valid up to 02.08.2023														
2	Pauni OC	CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555 Valid up to 12.08.2023														
EC has been granted for amalgamation of the above two projects with expansion vide letter Dt.27.12.2022.																
3	Gauri- Pauni Expansion OC	Application has been made on 02.08.2023 in NOCAP. The application has been approved by the Competent Authority of CGWA. Formal Issuance of the NOC awaited.														

Period	March to June 2023
	<p>NOC for abstraction of groundwater has been secured vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2019/6229 was valid up to 29.09.2021 for Pauni II OC Mine. The CGWA NOC application for Pauni II OC Mine has been submitted vide application no. 21-4/728/MH/MIN/2017 dated 28.09.2021, is under process. The status of CGWA NOC is approved. However, formal issuance is awaited.</p> <p>Current status as on 28.07.2025: Pauni Expansion OC – site visit completed by CGWB, Nagpur officials for surrendering of NoC. Formal approval awaited from CGWA.</p> <p>CGWA NoC renewal application for Gauri-Pauni OC (9 MTPA) from 03.08.2025 to 02.08.2027 submitted through mail Dt.28.07.2025.</p>

**30.3.6: Details of Water Requirement:** PP submitted that the water requirement for the said project is 3449 KLD, out of which 2090 KLD will be used for industrial use, 190 KLD will be used for domestic water use and 1169 KLD will be used for greenbelt and plantation. Source of water shall be groundwater and NoC for the same has been obtained by the PP for Gauri I & II A OC vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465, valid up to 02.08.2023 and for Pauni OC vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555, valid up to 12.08.2023. For Gauri Pauni expansion OC, application has been made on 02.08.2023. The application has been approved by the Competent Authority of CGWA. Formal Issuance of the NOC awaited.

PP submitted that, there are 4 nos of seasonal nallahs (viz. Lendi, Sakhri, Pauni & Chincholi Nallahs) flowing through the proposed mine lease area from Southwest to Northeast direction and one nallah viz. Gauri Nallah flows along the eastern boundary of the project. Lendi Nallah has already been diverted and merged with Sakhri Nallah with the approval of state irrigation department of Maharashtra. The Sakhri Nallah (in both its southern and northern stretches), along with the Pauni and Chincholi Nallahs, are proposed to be diverted as part of the expansion. The expected length of diversion is proposed to be 8.5 km.

**30.3.7: Details of Power Requirement and diversion of High-Tension/Transmission Line:** The power requirement for the said project has been estimated to be 11.6 MW. The electricity requirement will be met from MSDEDCL, Maharashtra. Further, a transmission line is proposed to be diverted and the approximate length of diversion is 13.5 km.

**30.3.8: Details of Solid and Hazardous Waste Generation:** The details of solid and hazardous waste estimated to be generated along with its mode of treatment/disposal is furnished as below:

S. No.	Name of Waste	Source	Qty (TPA)	Mode of Treatment	Disposal	Remarks
1	Solid waste (domestic wastes)	Colony	330	In-situ & through Municipality	Door to door collection, segregation and further processing.	Road
2	Plastic waste	Colony	15	In-situ & through Municipality	Door to door collection, segregation and further processing.	Road
3	E-waste	Office	1.5	Through Surveying off to qualified parties as per e-Waste (Management Rules),	Through Surveying off to qualified parties as per e-Waste	Road

S. No.	Name of Waste	Source	Qty (TPA)	Mode of Treatment	Disposal	Remarks
				2022	(Management Rules), 2022	
4	Batteries waste	HEMM & Light Vehicle Workshop	11	The battery waste generated is auctioned to authorised recycler/re-processor as per Battery Waste (Management Rules), 2022 & its amendments.	The battery waste generated is auctioned to authorised recycler/re-processor as per Battery Waste (Management Rules), 2022 & its amendments.	Road
5	Bio-medical waste	Area Medical & Dispensary	2.5	Through Common Biomedical waste treatment facility.	Through Common Biomedical waste treatment facility.	Road
6	Hazardous wastes (as per Hazardous Waste Management Rules) a. Residue containing oil b. Sludge from Wastewater Treatment c. Used Oil or spent Oil	HEMM Workshop	a. 1 b. Nil c. 25	a. By CHWTSDF, Chandrapur b. By CHWTSDF, Chandrapur c. Through Authorised Recyclers	The Hazardous waste generated is auctioned to authorised recycler/ re-processor as per Hazardous Waste (Management Rules), 2016	Road

**30.3.9: Plantation:** In the instant project, 1774.59 ha of plantation is proposed along the mine boundary, along coal transportation route, embankment, within safety zone of the project etc. in stage wise manner throughout the mine life and post mine life.

**30.3.10: Rehabilitation & Resettlement Plan:** The rehabilitation and resettlement of the project affected families/ persons is being governed as per the Right to Fair compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and resettlement Act, 2013 has come into force, rehabilitation and resettlement of project affected families have to be carried out as per this Act.

It comprises of two components: i. Rehabilitation: For rehabilitation of eligible persons either job or cash compensation in lieu of employment is provided ii. Resettlement: For resettlement either plot or cash compensation in lieu of, plot is provided.

- Total no. of Project Affected Families: 1223 nos (as per PFR)
- Total no. of villages involved: 2 nos namely Chincholi village and Pauni village
- Total fund allocated for R&R: Rs. 77.50 Crs.

**30.3.11: Project Cost:** The total cost of the project is Rs. 1428.25 Cr.

**30.3.12: Legal Issues/ Violation:** There is no legal issue/violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air(P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.

**Deliberations and Observation of the Committee:**

**30.3.13: The Committee noted the following:**

1. The instant proposal is for grant of Terms of Reference to M/s Western Coalfields Limited for Amalgamated Gauri Pauni Expansion OC Mine (increase in ML area from 2386.94 Ha to 3158.79 Ha with increase in production capacity from 6.75 MTPA to 9 MTPA), located at villages: Gauri and Pauni; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra.
2. Committee observed that the instant proposal is for amalgamation of the two existing mines, along with the increase in the ML area as well as increase in the production capacity. Ministry accorded EC for Gauri Pauni Expansion OC vide letter dated 27.12.2022 for the production capacity of 3.50 MTPA within the ML area of 1296.42 Ha. Ministry has also accorded EC for the Pauni – II Expansion OC vide EC letter dated 28.03.2019 for the production capacity of 3.25 MTPA within the ML area of 1095.52 Ha. Further granted validity extension for the same vide letter dated 13.03.2020. Later an amendment EC for the same was granted vide letter dated 01.12.2020.
3. Committee deliberated on the production details of the previous approvals and observed that the production has been within the production capacity as per the EC.
4. The EAC took into consideration the project site through KML file on the Google Earth presented by the project proponent along with DSS of the project site on PARIVESH.
5. Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018. A letter confirming the same has been obtained from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, vide letter dated 25.07.2025.
6. Committee observed that there are various schools within the ML area and in close vicinity of the ML area. Committee opined that relocation plan for the schools which are within the ML area shall be submitted and mitigation measures shall be submitted for the schools which are within the close vicinity of the ML area, along with the application for Environment Clearance.
7. The project involves 12.07 Ha of forestland and Stage – I forest clearance has been obtained on the same vide letter no. FC-II/MH-165/2021-NGP, dated 20.03.2025. PP submitted that there is no forestland broken and there is no violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. Committee observed that there is no forestland involved in the existing ML area and the 12.07 Ha of area involved in the expansion area.
8. The project is not located within 10 KM of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/ tiger corridor/ elephant corridor etc. However as per telemetric data of WII telemetric tiger corridor joining TATR & Indravati tiger reserve passes through the project area. During FC application for 12.07 ha of the forest land PCCF Wildlife, Maharashtra, had made observation that as per telemetric data of WII the telemetric tiger corridor joining TATR & Indravati tiger reserve passes through the forest area and there is high probability that the non-forest area also overlaps with the tiger corridor. Committee opined that the PP shall obtain the comments of NTCA for the same.
9. Committee also observed that there are various Schedule – I species present within the ML area. Conservation plan is under preparation in consultation with state forest department. EAC opined that the same shall be approved and submitted along with the application for EC.

10. The mining plan & mine closure plan for the project was approved by board of Directors for (capacity 9 MTPA, Mine lease Area 3158.79 Ha) in 377<sup>th</sup> WCL Board vide resolution letter no. WCL/Office of CS/BM-377/2025-26/321 dated 27.06.2025.
11. Method of Mining to be adopted shall be Opencast. Excavation of Coal is through Surface Miners. The waste/ OB handling is with Shovel-dumper combination.
12. Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease/block area is 251.99 MT with balance mineable reserve as on 01.04.2025 is 127.94 MT. Out of balance mineable reserve of 170.95 MT, 127.94 MT are available for Extraction. Percent of extraction is 95 %. Grade of coal is G-9. Stripping ratio 9.02 cum/ tonne. Life of mine is 18 years as on 01.04.2025.
13. Committee deliberated on the OB dumps within the ML area for the existing and the proposed project. Committee during the deliberation observed that, OB from the said expansion is proposed to be accommodated on the existing external OB dump since there is no non-coal bearing area available in the said coal block for OB dumping. Committee observed that the OB dump on which further OB is proposed to be dumped has already been biologically reclaimed and have dense plantation over it. In order to accommodate more OB on the same, approximately 5.5 lakh nos of trees has to be cut down. Committee suggested the proponent to explore other options for dumping of OB. Committee also observed, a void of 740 Ha with a depth of 230 m is proposed to be converted into water body. Committee opined that PP may explore the option to reduce the depth of mine void by dumping OB in the void instead of increasing the height of the existing OB dump. Further, PP may also explore options to dump OB on the existing OB dump in such a way that minimum number of trees are cut down. If required the mine plan shall be revised accordingly and the amendment in ToR shall be sought.
14. Committee deliberated on the mode of transportation proposed for the said project and observed that, from in-pit to surface the coal is will be transported by 5 km internal road using dumpers till the receiving pit of CHP, from surface to siding the coal will be transported using covered belt conveyor to the RLS. The same will be loaded in the railway rakes through silo. Committee also observed that the, coal in the FY 2024-25 and 2025-26 has been mostly transported through road. PP submitted that, on completion of the proposed Sasti railway siding, the distance of road transport from pit head to railway siding will be reduced from 16 km to 5 km.
15. Committee further observed that the baseline data for the said mines has been collected during March – June 2023 and the parameters have been found within the permissible limits.
16. Committee deliberated on the water requirement for the said project and observed that, the water required for the said project is 3449 KLD, out of which 2090 KLD will be used for industrial use, 190 KLD will be used for domestic water use and 1169 KLD will be used for greenbelt and plantation. Source of water shall be ground water and NoC for the same has been obtained by the PP for Gauri I & II A OC vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12465, valid up to 02.08.2023 and for Pauni OC vide letter no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2021/12555, valid up to 12.08.2023. For Gauri Pauni expansion OC, application has been made on 02.08.2023. The application has been approved by the Competent Authority of CGWA. Formal Issuance of the NOC awaited. During the deliberation Committee observed that there is just 1 nos of CAAQMS existing in the core zone of the said project and further 2 more CAAQMS shall be installed in the core zone of the said project.
17. Committee further observed that, there are 4 nos of seasonal nallahs (viz. Lendi, Sakhri,

Pauni & Chincholi Nallahs) flowing through the proposed mine lease area from Southwest to Northeast direction and one nallah viz. Gauri Nallah flows along the eastern boundary of the project. Lendi Nallah has already been diverted and merged with Sakhri Nallah with the approval of state irrigation department of Maharashtra. The Sakhri Nallah (in both its southern and northern stretches), along with the Pauni and Chincholi Nallahs, are proposed to be diverted as part of the expansion. The expected length of diversion is proposed to be 8.5 km. Committee opined that aquatic ecosystem study shall be carried out for the Sakhri nallah, Pauni nallah and the Chincholi nallah to assess the biodiversity of the same. Study reports of the same along with the conservation plan based on the recommendations of the study report shall be submitted along with the EC application.

18. The power requirement for the said project has been estimated to be 11.6 MW. The electricity requirement will be met from MSDEDCL, Maharashtra. Further, a transmission line is proposed to be diverted and the approximate length of diversion is 13.5 km. Committee opined that permission for the same shall be obtained from the concerned authority.
19. Committee deliberated on the plantation activities of the said mine and observed that, plantation is proposed in 1774.59 ha along the mine boundary, along coal transportation route, embankment, within safety zone of the project etc. in stage wise manner throughout the mine life and post mine life. Committee further opined that PP shall also focus on agro-forestry and fruit bearing species shall be distributed and planted on the periphery of the agricultural farms of the villagers, by developing a plan to compensate the farmers/ villagers for survival of these fruit bearing trees. This plan shall be submitted along with the EC application.
20. Committee deliberated on the rehabilitation and resettlement plan for the said expansion and observed that, in the proposed expansion two villages are involved, namely Chincholi village and Pauni village with 1223 nos of project affected families and the fund allocated for the said R&R is Rs. 77.50 Crores.
21. The total cost of the project is Rs. 1428.25 Cr.
22. The project does not have any legal issue/violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.
23. Committee opined that PP shall align its activities with the sustainable development goals.
24. EAC opined that a site – visit shall be conducted for the said expansion project and recommendations of the sub-committee site visit report shall be complied with before the application for EC is submitted.

**Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.3.14:** In view of the foregoing and after detailed deliberation, the Committee ***recommended the above-mentioned project*** for grant of Terms of Reference by prescribing following specific ToRs for undertaking detailed EIA and EMP study and conduct Public Consultation (along with the public hearing) in addition to generic ToR given at Annexure-I:

**Specific ToRs:**

1. Project proponent shall prepare the EIA-EMP report and thereafter conduct the Public Consultation, including public hearing, through concerned SPCB in the Chandrapur District as per the provisions/procedure contained in the EIA Notification, 2006.
2. Project Proponent shall submit the detailed activities proposed with year-wise budgetary provisions (Capital and recurring) as per the Ministry's OM dated 30.09.2020, to address the concerns raised during the Public consultation including the public hearing. Activities proposed shall be part of the EMP. PP shall also carry out Occupational health survey in the study area and the same shall be included in the EIA/EMP report.
3. Certified compliance report containing compliance to the prescribed EC conditions for the existing EC as per the MoEF&CC O.M. dated 08/06/2022 shall be submitted.
4. Project proponent shall obtain comments of NTCA for the telemetric tiger corridor and the Indravati tiger reserve passing through the ML area.
5. Project proponent shall submit the EIA/EMP report after the plagiarism check using authenticated plagiarism software.
6. Project Proponent shall submit the drone video & photographs of the ML area and transportation route proposed for this project with special focus on the sensitive receptors in the ML area and in the transportation route.
7. Project proponent shall submit an action plan for relocation of four schools located within the ML area and schools in close vicinity to the lease area in consultation with the State Government of Maharashtra.
8. Project Proponent shall also submit an action plan for strengthening the Government PHCs and CHCs in the study area
9. A Cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment study of all the coal mines situated adjacent to the mine lease area shall be conducted and the same shall be included in the EIA/EMP report. Details of industrial units present in 10 Km radius of the ML area shall be earmarked in map and submitted.
10. PP shall submit a letter from the State Forest Department for the impact on the baseline data of the forest area due to the mining activities of the instant project.
11. Biodiversity analysis of the core zone and buffer zone of the ML area shall be done through any reputed institutions having NABET accreditation. The study report shall inter-alia include impact of mining on flora and fauna and action plan for complying with the mitigation measures shall be submitted. The Ecology and biodiversity study should include likely impact of land use change in terms of use of forest area for surface infrastructural development in relation to the climate change of that area and what will be the affect after adopting the mitigation measures.
12. PP shall explore the possibilities of utilization of OB material for different purposes (in construction of roads/ manufacture of artificial sand, aggregates/ use for farmers etc.) and accordingly Plan shall be included in EIA/EMP Report.
13. Project proponent to prepare Environmental Cost Benefit Analysis for the project in EIA/EMP Report.



14. Impact of proposed project/activity on hydrological regime of the area shall be assessed and report be submitted. Hydrological studies as per GEC 2015 guidelines to be prepared and submitted.
15. The socio-economic study shall be conducted with actual survey report and a comparative assessment to be provided from the census data of 2011-part B to be provided in EIA/ EMP report also economic status of the study area and what economically project will contribute should be clearly mention. The study should also include the status of infrastructural facilities and amenities present in the study area and a comparative assessment with census data of 2011 part A to be provided and to link it with the initialization and quantification of need based survey for CER activities to be followed.
16. A detailed traffic study along with presence of habitation in 100 mts distance from both side of road, the impact on the air quality and noise quality with its proper measures and plan of action with timeline for widening of road. The project will increase the no. of vehicle along the road which will indirectly contribute to carbon emission so what will be the compensatory action plan should be clearly spell out in EIA/ EMP report.
17. The PP should submit the number of saplings to be planted in area to be covered under afforestation & green belt, location of plantation, target for survival rate and budget earmarked for the afforestation & green belt development. In addition to this PP should show on a surface plan (5-year interval for life of mine) of suitable scale the area to be covered under afforestation & green belt clearly mentioning the latitude and longitude of the area to be covered during each 5 years. The capital and recurring expenditure to be incurred needs to be submitted. Plantation plan should be prepared in such a way that 80% of the plantation to be carried out in first 5 years and for the remaining years the proposal for gap filling. The seedling of height not less than 2 meters to be selected and accordingly cost of plantation needs to be decided. In addition to this plantation in the safety zone at lease boundary the plantation should be completed within 2 years only. PP should submit a concurrent plantation plan.
18. Project Proponent should submit the quantity of surface or ground water to be used for this project. The complete water balance cycle need to be submitted. In addition to this PP should submit a detailed plan for rain water harvesting measures to be taken. The PP should submit the year wise target for reduction in consumption of the ground/surface water by developing alternative source of water through rain water harvesting measures. The capital and recurring expenditure to be incurred needs to be submitted.
19. Project Proponent shall obtain water withdrawal permission from CGWA for 3449 KLD.
20. Project Proponent shall obtain permission from the competent authority for diversion of the Transmission Line and copy of the same shall be submitted.
21. Aquatic ecosystem services study shall be carried out through NABET accredited institute for the Sakhri nallah, Pauni nallah and the Chincholi nallah to assess the biodiversity of the same and a conservation plan for the same based on the study reports shall be submitted.
22. Project Proponent shall obtain permission from the Water Resource Department for diversion of Sakhri nallah, Pauni nallah and the Chincholi nallah and copy of the same shall be submitted.

23. Project proponent shall obtain the permission from the competent authority for diversion of the road connecting Sakhri, Chincholi, and Gauri villages.
24. Project proponent shall explore options to either completely avoid cutting the trees on the external dump which is biologically reclaimed, or shall minimize the nos of trees to be cut down on the OB dump. If required, the PP shall accordingly revise the mine plan and seek amendment in the ToR.
25. Project proponent shall submit the exact nos of trees to be cut down for the proposed expansion project and prepare are plan to plant double the number of trees supposed to be cut down. A time bound action plan along with the budgetary provisions shall be submitted.
26. Project proponent shall explore the methods to reduce the mine void of 740 Ha and depth of 230 m, which is proposed to be converted in to water body. An action plan in this regard shall be submitted.
27. Project Proponent should clearly bring out that what is the specific diesel consumption ~ (Liters/Tonne of total material handled) and steps to be taken for reduction of the same. The year-wise target for reduction in the specific diesel consumption needs to be submitted. PP shall also explore the possibility of using e-vehicles/LPG/CNG-based machinery and trucks for the operation and transportation of coal.
28. All the certificates viz. Involvement of Forest land, distance from protected area, and list of flora & fauna should be duly authenticated by the Forest Department. The Certificate should bear the name, designation, official seal of the person signing the certificate and dispatch number.
29. Details on waste water generation (Industrial and domestic), their treatment (technology, methodology and capacity) and disposal to be submitted.
30. Details on renewable energy proposed to be installed as energy conservation measures shall be submitted.
31. PP shall submit the action plan to adhere to the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 and to adhere Ministry's OM dated 18/07/2022.
32. PP shall submit design details of all Air Pollution control equipment (APCEs) to be implemented as part of the Environment Management Plan vis-à-vis reduction in the concentration of emission for each APCE.
33. The PP should ensure that only NABET accredited consultant shall be engaged for the preparation of EIA/EMP Reports. PP shall ensure that accreditation of consultant shall be valid during the collection of baseline data, preparation of EIA/EMP report and during the appraisal process. The PP and consultant should submit an undertaking the information and data provided in the EIA Report and submitted to the Ministry are factually correct and PP and consultant are fully accountable for the same.
34. The PP should submit the photographs of monitoring stations & sampling locations. The photograph should bear the date, time, latitude & longitude of the monitoring station/sampling location. In addition to this PP should submit the original test reports and certificates of the labs which will analyse the samples.
35. Project proponent is advised to implement the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' Campaign which was launched on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 on the occasion of the World Environment Day

to increase the forest cover across the Country. This plantation drive is other than greenbelt development.

36. Necessary coordination shall be made with concerned SPCB (who is responsible for Compliance of OM dated 14.01.2025) regarding streamlining the implementation of GSR 702 and GSR 703 dated 12.11.2024 through which projects requiring prior EC were exempted from requirement of CTE.
37. An EAC sub-committee site visit shall be conducted for the said expansion project and PP shall submit the compliance of the recommendations of the sub-committee site visit report.

#### **Agenda Item No. 30.4:**

**30.4:** Rajbar E&D opencast coal mine (ML area: 1351 Ha, having production capacity of 10 MTPA) by **M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited**, located at villages: Jerang, Rajbar, Renchi, Lejang, Darea & Serak; Tehsil: Chandwa; **District: Latehar; State: Jharkhand – Environment Clearance – reg.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/JH/CMIN/540550/2025; Consultant: Institute for Environmental Management (IEM) - QCI/NABET/ENV/ACO/24/3193, valid up to 07.02.2027]**

**30.4.1:** M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited has made an online application vide proposal no. IA/JH/CMIN/540550/2025, dated 12.06.2025 along with copy of Form-1, EIA/ EMP report, seeking Environment Clearance (EC) under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above. The proposed project activity is listed at Item No. 1 (a) 'Mining of Minerals' under Category "A" of the EIA Notification, 2006 and does not attract general condition and appraised at Central Level.

The project of M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited is a Greenfield project for the production capacity of 10 MTPA within the ML area of 1351 Ha, located at villages: Jerang, Rajbar, Renchi, Lejang, Darea & Serak; Tehsil: Chandwa; District: Latehar; State: Jharkhand.

An EDS was raised on 15.06.2025 and the EDS reply was submitted by the PP on 16.07.2025. Now the proposal has been placed in 30<sup>th</sup> EAC Meeting held on 11.08.2025 for the appraisal.

The proposal accorded ToR vide letter dated 28.03.2022 and the same is valid till 27.03.2026.

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

#### **30.4.2: The Committee noted the following during the meeting:**

1. The instant proposal is for grant of Environment Clearance to M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited for Rajbar E&D opencast coal mine (ML area: 1351 Ha, having production capacity of 10 MTPA), located at villages: Jerang, Rajbar, Renchi, Lejang, Darea & Serak; Tehsil: Chandwa; District: Latehar; State: Jharkhand.
2. Based on the discussion held and the documents submitted, Committee is of the view that there are many shortcomings in the project/ submission.
  - a. EAC observed that, information related to the environmentally sensitive receptors (Habitation/Educational institutions/water bodies/forest) within the core and

buffer zone and mitigation measures to be adopted has not been submitted by the PP in the presentation made.

- b. EAC observed that the baseline data has been once collected during March – May 2022 (pre-monsoon) and then a fresh baseline data was collected during April – June 2025. However, while presenting the baseline data during presentation, PP failed submit the comparative analysis of the baseline data collected during 2022 and 2025. Moreover, with respect to baseline data collection, period of baseline data collection, name & location of the AAQ stations, AAQ wind directions, land use pattern of the project site, traffic assessment survey details have not been made available to the Committee neither the same has been included in the presentation presented.
- c. EAC observed that the final mine void proposed by the PP, which shall be converted into water body is 284 Ha. and depth is 364 meters . EAC opined that the same shall be reworked and the area vis a vis depth of mine void shall be reduced. Accordingly, the changes shall be made in the Mine Plan and Mine Closure Plan and the same shall be approved by the Board of Directors of M/s Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Limited as per the provisions of the OM dated 14.01.2025 of Ministry of Coal.
- d. Further, EAC observed in Annexure – II, regarding greenbelt, PP had submitted that, greenbelt has been developed in 537.12 Ha. EAC opined that being a Greenfield project, how greenbelt can be already developed. Committee opined that necessary changes shall be made and such discrepancies shall not arise.
- e. EAC also observed that, PP did not share the complete Agenda documents. Such as, Annexure – III was not circulated to the EAC. Further, the documents circulated were not filled as per the prescribed format.
- f. Presentation was silent on the generation, treatment and utilization of solid & hazardous waste, neither the details of the same has been included in the application form on Parivesh portal and the EIA Report.
- g. Presentation was silent on the generation and handling of top-soil and overburden and PP as well as the EIA Consultant failed to respond to the queries of the Committee members.
- h. Both pre-mining and post-mining land use pattern have not been included in the presentation presented as well as the EIA Report.
- i. The water and power requirement details have been completely missed out in the presentation presented during the meeting.
- j. Finding of the Hydrogeological Study Report and the Biodiversity Assessment Study report has completely been missed out from the presentation and no discussion on the same has been made.
- k. Presentation did not include the details regarding the mode of transportation of coal. The method of evacuation of coal from mine and dispatch to the final consumer has totally been missed out.
- l. Presentation was silent on the aspect of afforestation and plantation. No information in this regard has been submitted by the proponent.
- m. No details have been provided regarding the right of way and timeline for implementation of the conveyor belt.
- n. EAC observed that as per the EIA report submitted by the PP, the said coal block has been interlinked with the Tenughat Vidyut Nigam Power Plant. However, as per the vesting order allotted by the Ministry of Coal, the said project is not an interlinked project. Corrections in this regard shall be made in the EIA report.

- o. Action plan to address the public hearing concerns/issues are provided without any physical targets.
- p. Further, Committee also observed that the EIA Report submitted by the PP is incomplete in various aspects and found to be not in line with the Appendix III of the EIA Notification, 2006.
3. The presentation did not include the compliance of Terms of Reference granted vide letter dated 28.03.2022.
4. The presentation made to the Committee was poorly drafted and there is no clarity on the salient features of the proposed project.
5. Based on the discussion held and the documents submitted by the PP, Committee expressed its displeasure with the PP and Consultant with having a very casual approach in submitting the information to the Ministry and wasting the time of the Expert Appraisal Committee, as the PP and the Consultant failed to answer the basic queries of the EAC during the deliberation. Further, the EAC opined that the entire proposal including, the application form on Parivesh Portal, EIA Report, Presentation, EMP budget etc shall be revisited in totality and accordingly a fresh proposal shall be submitted after addressing all shortcomings including the above.

#### **Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.4.3:** In view of the foregoing and after detailed deliberations, the Committee ***returned the proposal in its present form*** and asked the proponent to revisit the EIA Report, application form on Parivesh portal, presentation and EMP budget in totality and submit a fresh proposal after addressing all the shortcomings.

#### **Agenda Item No. 30.5:**

**30.5:** Krishnashila Opencast Project (ML area: 851.78 Ha having production capacity of 7.5 MTPA), by **M/s Northern Coalfields Limited**, located at villages: Paraswara Raja, Mishra, Yogichaura, Marrak, Koharauliya, Koharaul & Bhairwa; Tehsil: Dudhi; District: Sonbhadra; State: Uttar Pradesh – **Amendment in Environment Clearance – reg.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/UP/CMIN/543919/2025; Consultant: CMPDI - NABET/EIA/25-28/RA 0412 valid up to 08.04.2028]**

**30.5.1:** The instant proposal is for amendment in Environment Clearance granted to M/s Northern Coalfields Limited accorded vide letter no. J-11015/243/2011-IAII(M) dated 24.04.2025 for Krishnashila Opencast Project (ML area: 851.78 Ha having production capacity of 7.5 MTPA), located at villages: Paraswara Raja, Mishra, Yogichaura, Marrak, Koharauliya, Koharaul & Bhairwa; Tehsil: Dudhi; District: Sonbhadra; State: Uttar Pradesh.

#### **30.5.2: Details of all the prior ECs including the EC for which amendment is sought:**

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/Expansion EC/Amendment in EC/Validity extension/Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	ML Area (Ha)	Date of Issuance	Status of Implementation
1	J-11015/52/2005-IA.II(M)	EC	4.00	851.78	02.02.2006	Implemented
2	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	5.00	851.78	22.08.2014	Implemented
3	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	6.25	851.78	13.02.2017	Implemented
4	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	7.00	851.78	12.03.2018	Implemented

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/Expansion EC/Amendment in EC/Validity extension/Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	ML Area (Ha)	Date of Issuance	Status of Implementation
5	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Validity extension	7.00	851.78	05.04.2019	Implemented
6	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Validity extension	7.00	851.78	19.05.2020	Implemented
7	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	7.50	851.78	25.07.2022	Being implemented
8	J-11015/243/2011-IA.II(M)	Regularisation	7.50	851.78	24.04.2025	Being implemented

With respect to the previous approvals, PP submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine and submitted that the mine became operational from 2007-08 onwards. Consent to Operate (CTO) renewal has been obtained from the UPPCB vide consent no. 166996/UPPCB/Sonebhadra(UPPCBRO)C-2/Sonebhadra(UPPCBRO)/CTO/both/SONBHADRA/2022 dated 21.11.2022 and is valid up to 31.12.2025. Details of the same are as follows:-

Year	Actual Coal Production (MTPA)	Planned Coal production in MTPA as per Environment Clearance	Excess production
2007-08	0.00	4.0	NIL
2008-09	1.08	4.0	NIL
2009-10	3.52	4.0	NIL
2010-11	4.0	4.0	NIL
2011-12	4.0	4.0	NIL
2012-13	5.0	4.0	1.0
2013-14	4.0	4.0	NIL
2014-15	4.95	5.0	NIL
2015-16	5.0	5.0	NIL
2016-17	5.30	6.25	NIL
2017-18	6.249	6.25	NIL
2018-19	6.89	7.0	NIL
2019-20	7.0	7.0	NIL
2020-21	7.0	7.0	NIL
2021-22	7.0	7.0	NIL
2022-23	7.50	7.50	NIL
2023-24	7.50	7.50	NIL
2024-25	7.50	7.50	NIL

**30.5.3: The details of the condition/ para for which amendment is sought and justification for the same is as follows:**

Specific/ General Condition No.	Details of Conditions as per EC	Amendment Sought	Justification
Specific Condition 1.1 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Installation of 01 no. wheel washing system by December 2025.	Waiving off the condition as it is already complied.	Wheel washing system is operational at common exit point of Krishnashila OCP and adjacent Bina OCP of M/s NCL.

Specific/ General Condition No.	Details of Conditions as per EC	Amendment Sought	Justification																																																	
Specific Condition 1.3 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Only 0.50 MTPA of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 7 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed.	2.00 MT of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 5.50 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Krishnashila OCP is a basket mine having no direct linkages with any thermal power plant and is catering to different thermal power plants and industries.</li><li>• It is major coal mine located in Uttar Pradesh and many industries of region dependent on coal supplied by it.</li><li>• The details of mode wise dispatch for the last 02 financial years is as below:</li></ul> <table><tr><th rowspan="2">F.Y.</th><th colspan="4">Mode wise dispatch (MT)</th></tr><tr><th>Rail</th><th>Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)</th><th>Road</th><th>Total</th></tr><tr><td>2023-24</td><td>3.14</td><td>2.68</td><td>1.67</td><td>7.49</td></tr><tr><td>2024-25</td><td>3.77</td><td>1.05</td><td>2.69</td><td>7.51*</td></tr></table> <p>Note: Coal dispatched during FY 2024-25 includes backlog quantity from previous years.</p> <p><b>The annual existing commitments for FY 2025-26 are:</b> As detailed in EC letter granted dated 24.04.2025, following mode wise quantity of coal dispatch was proposed :</p> <table><tr><th>SN</th><th>Mode</th><th>Quantity (MT)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Rail</td><td>4.00</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Belt Pipe Conveyor</td><td>3.00</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Road</td><td>0.50</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Total</td><td>7.50 MT</td></tr></table> <p>However, as per Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) existing with Renusagar Power Division (RPD) of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited, only 1.20 MT coal from Krishnashila OCP can be dispatched through Belt Pipe Conveyor Mode. Therefore, in order dispatch targeted 7.5 MT of coal production, the following arrangement has been proposed:-</p> <table><tr><th>S. No.</th><th>Mode</th><th>Quantity (MT)</th></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>Rail</td><td>4.30 MT</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)</td><td>1.20 MT</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Road</td><td>2.00 MT</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Total</td><td>7.50 MT</td></tr></table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The maximum dispatch possible through Rail will be approx. 4.30 MT (at 107.5% Capacity utilisation of existing 4.00 MTPA CHP)</li><li>• Therefore, apart from 5.50 MT which will be dispatched through eco-friendly mode (i.e. rail + BPC) the remaining 2.00 MT of coal can be dispatched through road mode only (however as per existing EC dtd: 24.04.2025, it has been restricted to 0.50 MTPA)</li><li>• Since there was no restriction on road mode dispatch as per previous EC letters, therefore, to liquidate the excess coal production (other than BPC and FSA consumers), 0.262 MT of coal was already offered through e-auction and during the 1<sup>st</sup> two months of FY 2025-26, i.e., April 2025 and May 2025, the coal was dispatched by road mode – 5,869 Tonne/day (FSA – 2,082 Tonne/day + E-Auction - 3,787 Tonne/day) which comes out to 0.358 MT till 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025.</li></ul> <p><b>FSA Consumers whom coal dispatch through road :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Krishnashila OCP is having FSA with 18 nos. of different coal consumers for dispatch of coal through road mode. The</li></ul>	F.Y.	Mode wise dispatch (MT)				Rail	Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)	Road	Total	2023-24	3.14	2.68	1.67	7.49	2024-25	3.77	1.05	2.69	7.51*	SN	Mode	Quantity (MT)	1	Rail	4.00	2	Belt Pipe Conveyor	3.00	3	Road	0.50	Total		7.50 MT	S. No.	Mode	Quantity (MT)	1	Rail	4.30 MT	2	Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)	1.20 MT	3	Road	2.00 MT	Total		7.50 MT
F.Y.	Mode wise dispatch (MT)																																																			
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Specific/ General Condition No.	Details of Conditions as per EC	Amendment Sought	Justification			
			average monthly quantity per consumer is about 4,100 Tonne, which is almost same as the coal loaded in a single rake of Indian Railways. These consumers are small consumers with this, their requirement of coal spread over a month period. Also, there is no direct rail connectivity available and these consumers are fully dependent on Krishnashila OCP through road mode. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>These are NRS sector including Cement, Paper, Chemical, Iron Bars, Zinc etc. The list of the consumers is as follows:-</li></ul>			
F.Y. 2025-26						
SN	Consumer	ACQ Qty. (Tonnes )	Address	Mode	Industry type	
1	Century Pulp and Paper	22,200	Nainital, Uttarakhand	Road/Rail	Paper	
2	Chanderia Lead Zinc Smelter Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	27,800	Chittorgarh, Rajasthan	Road	Zinc	
3	Dalla Cement Work, Ultratech	36,200	Dalla, Sonbhadra, UP	Road	Cement	
4	Gallantt Ispat Ltd., Gorakhpur	82,200	Gorakhpur, UP	Road	Ispat	
5	GBTL Limited, Bhiwani	16,500	Bhiwani, Haryana	Road	textile	
6	Hindalco Industries Limited, Mahan	2,63,300	Mahan, MP	Road	CPP	
7	Kymore Cement Works ACC Ltd., Katni	42,600	Katni, MP	Road	Cement	
8	Maihar Cement Wokrs Ultratech Cement Limited	50,000	Satna, MP	Road	Cement	
9	Mangalam Cement Limited, Rajasthan	50,000	Kota Rajasthan	Road	Cement	
10	Maruti Papers Ltd	17,600	Saharanpur, UP	Road	Paper	
11	Nutan Ispat & Power Private Limited	3,300	Raipur, CG	Road	Ispat	
12	Star Paper Mills Ltd.	17,600	Saharanpur, UP	Road	Paper	
13	Tikaria Cement Works ACC Ltd	59,000	Amethi, UP	Road	Cement	
14	Bela Cement Works – Ultratech Cement	70,500	Rewa, MP	Road	Cement	
15	Maa Chhinnamastika Cement & Ispat Pvt Ltd	13,000	Ramgarh, Jharkhand	Road	Cement & Ispat	
16	Primo Chemicals Limited	13,000	Punjab	Road	Chemical	
17	Sidhi Cement Works Ultratech Cement Ltd	48,800	Sidhi, MP	Road	Cement	
18	Trident Limited	53,600	Punjab	Road	Textile/ Cotton	
	Total Road FSA		8,87,200 tonnes per annum			
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As seen from the above table, most of the coal consumer requires small quantity of coal. Quantities smaller than one rake would require loading/unloading of coal from the nearest rail siding available and then employing road transport for end point delivery of coal. This would increase coal handling activities. Therefore road being the only option available to them.</li><li>M/s Hindalco Mahan is the FSA road consumer having highest MSQ Qty. The dispatch option through rail mode is available to it but the length of railway route (covering congested Anpara, Karaila, Singrauli, Maldahiya, Bargawan is more than 90 Kms) is much higher than length of road route (43 Km).</li><li>As most of the rail dispatch is being done towards up country power plants in Haryana, Punjab, Western UP etc. while for</li></ul>			



Specific/ General Condition No.	Details of Conditions as per EC	Amendment Sought	Justification
			<p>rail dispatch to M/s Hindalco Mahan will be required to done in opposite direction creating congestion and bottleneck situation at Karaila Junction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considering the existing industrial setup of different Coal mines as well as numerous thermal power plants in the close vicinity, the availability of rake on section between Karaila Junction and Bargawan has been limited. Also the rail section at current capacity is over exploited having congestion at Karaila Junction, Singrauli, Maldahiya, Bargawan etc.</li> <li>Considering the above, coal evacuation by rail mode has already been over utilised and causes frequent congestion over existing rail network.</li> <li>Construction of elevated NH-39 road corridor over a length of about 1 Km near Block-B will facilitate direct link for coal transportation to new alignment of NH-39, bypassing the nearby habitation area. Therefore, coal evacuation by road is the only feasible option available.</li> </ul> <p><b>Non FSA Road Consumers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Around 78% non FSA road consumers are industries with length of road transportation less than 8 Km. The remaining 22% are having road transport length between 50-200 Km.</li> <li>Nearly 2,000 people residing nearby Krishnashila OCP are directly dependent on road transportation for livelihood.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pollution Control Measures being taken on coal transportation road:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>01 no. of Road Sweeping Machine as well as manual cleaning of road.</li> <li>01 no. of Truck Mounted Fog Cannon</li> </ul> <p><b>Pollution Control Measures proposed to be taken on coal transportation road (under process):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional 1 no. Road Sweeping Machine</li> <li>Additional 1 no. Truck Mounted Fog Cannon</li> <li>Construction of side shoulders on road for 3 Km length</li> <li>Plantation on divider of road for 2 Km length</li> </ul>
Specific Condition 1.4 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Project Proponent shall install 2 additional CAAQMS, one each in North West and South East of the ML area by December 2025 as committed. Compliance of the same shall be submitted to Regional	Project Proponent shall install 01 additional CAAQMS, by December 2025 as committed. Compliance of the same shall be submitted to Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Lucknow along with the six-monthly	<p>NCL has established a network of 11 nos. of CAAQMS in this area, where there are multiple adjacent mines of NCL.</p> <p>Further one no. of CAAQMS will be installed by December 2025 as per the undertaking submitted by the Krishnashila OCP. (Also mentioned in EC letter dated 24.04.2025 at Sr. 18.(i)).</p> <p>It is pertinent to mention here that South East of the project is covered by Govind Ballabh Pant reservoir, therefore installation in south east direction is not feasible.</p> <p>Moreover as per recommendation of Carrying Capacity study, 01 no. CAAQMS for every 1000 Ha of land is required.</p>

Specific/ General Condition No.	Details of Conditions as per EC	Amendment Sought	Justification				
	Office, MoEF&CC, Lucknow along with the six- monthly compliance report.	compliance report.					
Standard Condition 5.4 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	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).	Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan including Mine Closure Plan (Nov. 2023) abiding by mining laws related to coal mining and the relevant circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS).	Mining is being carried out as per approved mining plan. The existing EC has been granted based on the approved Mining Plan (May 2022). The Mining Plan has been modified and approved by NCL Board vide No. 293/C-1 dated 14.02.2024. Pointwise comparison of salient features is as given below:				
			Sl. No.	Particulars	As per existing EC	As per approved modified Mining Plan	Remarks
			1	Project capacity	7.50 MTPA	7.50 MTPA	No change
			2	ML Area	851.78 ha	851.78 ha	No Change
			3	Mine Life (As on 01.04.2025)	03 years (upto 2027- 28)	05 years (upto 2029- 30)	Increase in life by 02 years
			4	Land Use Pattern Excavation area (Ha)	469.802	485.50	15.7 Ha Increased
			5	External Dump (Ha)	164.80	164.80	No Change
			6	Safety Zone	140.00	102.30	deceased by 37.70
			7	Infrastructure Area(Ha)	19.75	29.75	Increased by 10Ha
			8	Max OB generation/ annum	30.40	30.40	No Change
			9	Stripping ratio (m <sup>3</sup> / Tonne)	3.00	3.57	Increased by 0.57
			10	Balance Extractable Reserves as on 01.04.2025	9.00	17.85	8.85 MT increase in Reserve
			11	Mining Technology	Shovel – Dumper Combination	Shovel – Dumper Combination	No Change

#### 30.5.4: Traffic Assessment Study Report:

##### 1. Coal Production and Dispatch of Coal in previous years and the reason for proposed changes in the said coal evacuation quantity by road:

Current Coal transportation arrangement:

F.Y.	Mode wise dispatch (MT)			
	Rail	Belt Pipe Conveyor	Road	Total

		(BPC)		
2023-24	3.14	2.68	1.67	7.49
2024-25	3.77	1.05	2.69	7.51*

\*Total dispatch has been 7.51 MTPA in the FY 2024-25. 0.01 MTPA has been part of previous year's production.

The proposed coal transportation is as follows:

S. No.	Mode	Quantity (MT)
1	Rail	4.30 MT
2	Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)	1.20 MT
3	Road	2.00 MT
<b>Total</b>		<b>7.50 MT</b>

The coal transportation route shall remain unchanged as earlier. However, amendment is proposed only for quantities to be dispatched through road from 0.50 MTPA to 2.00 MTPA.

**Traffic Assessment Study:** Krishnashila Opencast project is a working mine of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL). The project was granted EC vide J-11015/243/2011-IA.II (M) dated 24.04.2025. As per EC specific condition 1.3,

“Only 0.50 MTPA of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 7 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed.”

However, present dispatch arrangement is limited as follows:

Mode	Quantity (MT)
Coal Handling Plant(CHP)	<b>4.3 (at 107 %)</b>
Belt Pipe Conveyor (BPC)	<b>1.20</b> (as per FSA)
Road	<b>0.50</b> (as specified in the EC dated 24.04.2025).
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.00</b>

Maximum **6.00 MT** of coal can be dispatched out of 7.5 MTPA coal production.

Therefore, the only option left to liquidate the remaining 1.50 MT coal at Krishnashila Project is to dispatch through road mode.

Coal dispatch arrangement for Krishnashila OC w.r.t. road mode is through NH 39/SH 05A. The road segment overlaps with road transportation segment for Khadia OC after exit at Bina/ Krishnashila common exit.

The objective of the traffic impact assessment is to evaluate the impacts due to transportation of coal by road to the nearby consumers. One-month baseline data at NH 39/SH 05A on two locations has been recorded.

The vehicles passing through the road (in both ways) were counted at the selected locations for 24 hrs duration from 01.12.2024 to 31.12.2024 (one month). Category-wise vehicle counting has been done continuously and recorded in the traffic volume count on hourly basis under respective categories. The vehicle count was recorded in weekdays and weekends for stimulating the real scenarios. The vehicle count was conducted at two locations considering the local traffic movement.

The vehicles passing through the road (in both ways) were counted at two locations for 24 hrs duration from 01.12.2024 to 31.12.2024 (one month). The traffic volume was divided into 2 wheelers, 3 wheelers, Passenger Vehicle and Heavy Commercial vehicles. The number of vehicles per hour were counted and converted into Passenger Car Units (PCU's) using factor given in IRC: 106-1990.

Traffic studies were carried out at two locations on the existing road to estimate the existing traffic load on either side of the intersections. The sections considered for this study is presented in table below:

S. No.	Section	Location of Section
1.	Section 1	SH 05A From Krishnashila/Bina Exit to Kakri Siding
2.	Section 2	SH 05A Kakri siding to Auri Mod

During study period the traffic it was found that traffic density on the section 01 is less than the traffic density on the section 02. The most frequent peak hour in the section 01 is 10:00 – 11:00 and average PCU/hr is 1126.68. The most frequent peak hour in the section 02 is 17:00 – 18:00 and average PCU/hr is 1309.02. The current coal dispatch by road is reflected in section 01 and section 02 with 73% of the dispatch terminating on section 1 remaining 27% moving on to section 02.

#### Air Quality Monitoring Data:

Parameters	Core Zone	Buffer Zone
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	30 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 64 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 93 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
PM <sub>10</sub>	85 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 287 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	18 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 291 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
SO <sub>2</sub>	20 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 43 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	25 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 52 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
NO <sub>x</sub>	36 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 64 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	27 µg/m <sup>3</sup> to 43 µg/m <sup>3</sup>

#### Ambient Noise Quality:

Time	Industrial Zone	Residential Zone
Day Time	43.2 to 48.6 dB(A)	36.2 to 53.1 dB(A)
Night Time	47.8 to 57.5 dB(A)	36.2 to 46.1 dB(A)

#### Details of existing control measures:

- 01 no. of Road Sweeping Machine as well as manual cleaning of road.
- 01 no. of Truck Mounted Fog Cannon

#### Details of proposed control measures:

- Additional 1 no. Road Sweeping Machine
- Additional 1 no. Truck Mounted Fog Cannon
- Construction of side shoulders on road for 3 Km length
- Plantation on divider of road for 2 Km length.

### 30.5.5: Details of the Mine Plan and Mine Closure Plan approved as on 14.02.2024:

#### 1. Comparison of the existing mine plan and the new mine plan:

S. No.	Particulars	As per existing EC	As per approved modified Mining Plan	Remarks
1	Project capacity	7.50 MTPA	7.50 MTPA	No change
2	ML Area	851.78 ha	851.78 ha	No Change
3	Mine Life (As on 01.04.2025)	03 years (upto 2027-28)	05 years (upto 2029-30)	Increase in life by 02 years
4	Land Use Pattern Excavation area (Ha)	469.802	485.50	15.7 Ha Increased
5	External Dump (Ha)	164.80	164.80	No Change
6	Safety Zone	140.00	102.30	deceased by 37.70
7	Infrastructure Area (Ha)	19.75	29.75	Increased by 10Ha
8	Max OB generation/ annum	30.40	30.40	No Change
9	Stripping ratio (m <sup>3</sup> / Tonne)	3.00	3.57	Increased by 0.57

10	Balance Extractable Reserves as on 01.04.2025	9.00	17.85	8.85 MT increase in Reserve
11	Mining Technology	Shovel – Dumper Combination	Shovel – Dumper Combination	No Change

## 2. Changes proposed in the EC due to new mine plan:

Details of EC dated 24.04.2025	Details as per EC	Amendment Sought
Para No. 7	<b>7. Method of Mining and Mining Plan:</b> The Mining Plan (including Mine Closure Plan) was approved by Board of Directors, NCL 276th meeting held on 30.05.2022.	<b>7. Method of Mining and Mining Plan:</b> The Mining Plan (including Mine Closure Plan) was approved by Board of Directors, NCL 293 <sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 30.01.2024 and communicated vide letter dated 14.02.2024
Para no. 7 (ii)	ii. Net geological reserves at inception were 109.98 MT. As on 01.04.2024, extractable reserves are 13.5 MT.	ii. Net geological reserves at inception were 109.98 MT. As on 01.04.2025, extractable reserves are 17.85 MT.
Para no. 7 (iv)	iv. The average grade of coal is G-8 and stripping ratio is 5.67 m <sup>3</sup> /t (As on 01.04.2024).	iv. The average grade of coal is G-8 and stripping ratio is 4.23 m <sup>3</sup> /t (balance).
Para no. 7 (v)	v. Life of mine is 04 years (As on 01.04.2024) i.e. up to 2027-28.	v. Life of mine is 05 years (As on 01.04.2025) i.e. up to 2029-30.
Para no. 7 (vi)	vi. Top Soil Management: • Quantity of Top soil to be generated (Mm <sup>3</sup> ): Total Top soil generation is 4.24 Mm <sup>3</sup> • Storage of top soil: Total generated top soil will be stacked temporarily and utilized successively for concurrent biological reclamation of dumps. • Handling/ Utilization of Top Soil: Total utilization: 4.24 Mm <sup>3</sup>	Topsoil Management: • Quantity of Top soil to be generated (Mm <sup>3</sup> ): Total Top soil generation is 2.25 Mm <sup>3</sup> (as on 01.04.2025) • Storage of top soil: Total generated top soil will be stacked temporarily and utilized successively for concurrent biological reclamation of dumps. • Handling/ Utilization of Top Soil: Total utilization: 2.25 Mm <sup>3</sup> (as on 01.04.2025)

**30.5.6: Details of Court Cases:** PP submitted the following details of the court cases pending on the project:

S. No.	Name of the Court/ Tribunal	Name of the specific Court/ Bench	Case Category	Status of court case	Prayer Issue involved	Orders/Directions of the court, if any, and its relevance with the proposed project
1	District Court Sonbhadra	Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sonbhadra	Criminal Case (Reg. No. 1799/2014)	Pending	Coal Production in 2012-13 exceeding EC capacity. Case under section 15/16 of EPA Act 1986	The case is pending.  Next hearing scheduled on 10.11.2025.
2	National Green Tribunal	Principal Bench	Original Application no. 164/2018	Pending	Pollution in Singrauli Region due to various	Hon'ble NGT issued an order dated 18.01.2022 accepting recommendations of Joint Committee w.r.t. the industries

					industrial activities	located in Sonbhadra (UP) which included recommendation w.r.t. Krishnahila Project also. Status of compliance of the recommendation has been submitted to CPCB. Next hearing scheduled on 15.09.2025.
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**Observations and deliberation of the Committee:**

**30.5.7: The EAC noted the following:**

1. MoEF&CC has initially accorded EC to M/s Northern Coalfields Limited for Krishnashila Opencast Project for the production capacity of 4 MTPA in 851.78 ha of ML area vide letter dated 02.02.2006. Further the EC for expansion was obtained within the same leasehold area for the production capacity of 5 MTPA under clause 7(i) of EIA Notification 2006 vide letter dated 22.08.2014, 6.25 MTPA as per OM dated 13.02.2017 (25% expansion) vide letter dated 13.02.2017 and 7 MTPA as per OM dated 15.02.2017 (15% expansion) vide EC letter dated 12.03.2018. Later, EC for extension was obtained vide EC letter dated 05.04.2019 and 19.05.2020. Another EC vide letter dated 25.07.2022 was accorded for the same project for expansion, for 7.5 MTPA to avail 50% dispensation as per Ministry's OM dated 07.05.2022 and the same was regularized vide EC letter dated 24.04.2025.
2. The project is implemented and the mine is under operation.
3. The instant project has been submitted for seeking amendment in the certain conditions granted vide EC regularization letter dated 24.04.2025.
4. Committee observed that the first amendment sought by the PP is in the specific condition no. 1.1, wherein one of the additional proposed control measure for mitigation of air pollution was stipulated to install wheel washing system. Through the instant application submitted for amendment PP has submitted that the exit point of the Krishnashila OCP and the adjacent Bina OCP are common and there is already a wheel washing system in existence and the same is operational. PP sought exemption for the implementation of the said control measure and the EAC opined that the same can be allowed to be exempted.
5. Another amendment sought by the PP is in the specific condition no. 1.3 of the EC regularization dated 24.04.2025, wherein, it is mentioned that "Only 0.50 MTPA of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 7 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed."
6. However, now the PP has submitted that Krishnashila OCP being a basket mine does not have any direct linkages with any thermal power plant hence caters to different thermal power plants and industries. PP also submitted the coal dispatch arrangement of the previous 2 years, wherein an average of 2 MTPA of coal has been transported through road. PP further submitted that as per Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) existing with Renusagar Power Division (RPD) of M/s Hindalco Industries Limited, only 1.20 MT coal from Krishnashila OCP can be dispatched through Belt Pipe Conveyor Mode. For that reason, PP has proposed to transport 4.30 MTPA by rail, 1.20 MTPA by belt pipe conveyor and remaining 2 MTPA by road. Krishnashila OCP is having Fuel Supply Agreements with approximately 18 nos. of different coal consumers for dispatch of coal through road mode. The average monthly quantity per

consumer is about 4,100 Tonne, which is almost same as the coal loaded in a single rake of Indian Railways. These consumers are small consumers with this, their requirement of coal spread over a month period. Also, there is no direct rail connectivity available and these consumers are fully dependent on Krishnashila OCP through road mode.

PP also submitted the details of the 18 FSA coal consumers along with the quantity of coal proposed to be transported to the same. Along with that submitted the additional proposed pollution control measures. On the basis of the deliberation held, the Committee opined that transportation of coal by road can be allowed for the quantity up to 2 MTPA with taking all the necessary precautions and mitigation measures for control of pollution.

7. Another amendment sought by the PP is in specific condition no. 1.4, wherein it was stipulated, that *“Project Proponent shall install 2 additional CAAQMS, one each in North West and South East of the ML area by December 2025 as committed. Compliance of the same shall be submitted to Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Lucknow along with the six-monthly compliance report.”*

PP asked to exempt the said condition by allowing to install 1 nos. CAAQMS instead of 2. Committee during the deliberation observed that, despite the fact that there are 11 nos of CAAQMS in the area of NCL mines, no CAAQMS has been installed in the Krishnashila OCP. Hence, Committee opined that PP shall install 2 CAAQMS in the said mines and no amendment in this regard shall be granted.

8. Committee also deliberated on the traffic assessment study report and the coal dispatch arrangement submitted by the PP and observed that, the coal from the Krishnashila OC from road mode is being dispatched through NH 39/SH 05A. The road segment overlaps with road transportation segment for Khadia OC after exit at Bina/ Krishnashila common exit. Traffic studies were carried out at two locations on the existing road to estimate the existing traffic load on either side of the intersections viz, SH 05A from Krishnashila/ Bina exit to Kakri Siding and SH 05A Kakri siding to Auri Mod. The current coal dispatch by road is reflected in SH 05A from Krishnashila/ Bina exit to Kakri Siding and SH 05A Kakri siding to Auri Mod, with 73% of the dispatch terminating on SH 05A from Krishnashila/ Bina and remaining 27% moving on to SH 05A Kakri siding to Auri Mod.
9. Committee also deliberated on the AAQ parameters of the coal transportation road and observed that, the PM<sub>10</sub> parameters in both core zone and buffer zone are on the higher side. Committee opined that since the said project falls in Severely Polluted Area (SPA) as per CEPI Assessment 2018, the PP shall take all the possible measures to control the dust pollution in the said area. Also, as committed by the PP, in addition to the mitigation measures proposed the previous ECs, PP shall also construct side shoulders on the road for 3 km length and plantation on the divider of road shall be carried out. Committee further opined that, PP shall carryout regular maintenance of the potholes on roads, repair and maintenance of roads, scrapping of material fallen on roads, and removal of scraps from mining areas. Along with this, PP shall make sure that all the pollution control equipments are in good working condition and maintenance of those equipments is regularly carried out.
10. Another amendment sought by the PP is for Standard condition no. 5.4, wherein it is mentioned that, *“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).”*

PP has submitted that the regularization EC has been granted based on the approved Mining Plan (May 2022). A new Mining Plan has been modified and approved by NCL Board vide letter no. 293/C-1 dated 14.02.2024. Now the PP has submitted to grant amendment in Para 7 of the EC letter dated 24.04.2025, as per the attributes of the newly approved mine plan. Committee deliberated on the same and sought clarification from the PP as to why the modified mine plan was not submitted during the regularization process. PP submitted that, Mining Plan (including Mine Closure Plan) for 7.50 MTPA of Krishnashila OCP was approved by NCL Board in its meeting dated 30.05.2022. Subsequently EC for 7.5 MTPA was accorded vide letter dated 26.07.2022 under clause 7(ii) as per OM dated 07.05.2022. Application for revalidation of EC was submitted at Parivesh portal on 24.01.2023 along with aforementioned Mining Plan. Revalidation of EC (7.50 MTPA) was accorded vide EC letter dated 24.04.2025. The modified Mining Plan (including Mine Closure Plan) for 7.50 MTPA was prepared for judicious inclusion of the dip side coal reserve estimated on the basis of mine working as on 01.04.2023. This modified Mining Plan was approved by NCL Board in its meeting dated 30.01.2024. As the proposal for revalidation of EC was already in process, hence the modified Mining Plan was not submitted to avoid any discrepancy in the data with respect to the balance mineable reserves, mine life. Hence, amendment is now sought for the same.

Member Secretary informed the Committee that, as per EIA Notification, 2006, “the prior Environmental Clearance granted for mining projects shall be valid for the project life as laid down in the mining plan approved and renewed by competent authority, from time to time, subject to a maximum of thirty years, whichever is earlier.”

On the basis of the same, the Committee opined that the life of mine shall automatically increase on the basis of the above mentioned provision of the EIA Notification, 2006.

11. There are two court cases pending on the project. One is related to violation pertaining to over production. A case vide no. 1799/2014 under section 15/16 of EPA Act 1986 is currently under consideration at court of CJM Sonebhadra. Application to obtain relief was filed at Hon'ble High Court of Allahabad to quash the proceedings of court of CJM Sonebhadra and order was passed by Hon'ble High Court on 26.08.2014 to apply the objection/ discharge petition in the District Court, Sonebhadra. Accordingly, a discharge petition was filed on 20.09.2014 at court of CJM Sonebhadra and which is currently under consideration. The last hearing was on 07.08.2025 & the next hearing in the case scheduled on 10.11.2025. No penalty/Environmental Compensation have been imposed on Krishnashila OCP. Original Application no. 164 of 2018 (Ashwani Kumar Dubey vs. Union of India & Ors.) is pending at Principal Bench, Hon'ble National Green Tribunal. Case pertains to the issue of pollution in Singrauli Area (UP & MP) due to various industries located in the area. The last hearing in the case was held on 08.05.2025 and next hearing is scheduled on 15.09.2025. In the ongoing case, Hon'ble NGT has imposed Environmental Compensation on various industries. No Environmental Compensation has been imposed on Krishnashila OCP. Matter is being heard for objections submitted by respective industries w.r.t. the imposed Environmental Compensation.

### **Recommendations of the Committee:**



**30.5.8:** In view of the foregoing and after the detailed deliberations, the Committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/243/2011-IAII(M) dated 24.04.2025, as detailed below, subject to stipulation of the following additional specific conditions:

Conditions as per EC dated 24.04.2025	Description as per approved EC dated 24.04.2025	Recommendation of EAC
Specific Condition 1.1 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Installation of 01 no. wheel washing system by December 2025.	<b>Agreed.</b>  With regard to the changes in the said condition, Committee is of the agreed to delete the said condition.
Specific Condition 1.3 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Only 0.50 MTPA of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 7 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed.	<b>Agreed.</b>  With regard to the said condition, Committee is of the opinion to amend the same as follows:  <i>“Only 2.0 MTPA of coal is permitted to transport by road. Remaining 5.5 MTPA of coal shall be transported by the combination of rail and conveyor as committed.”</i>
Specific Condition 1.4 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	Project Proponent shall install 2 additional CAAQMS, one each in North West and South East of the ML area by December 2025 as committed. Compliance of the same shall be submitted to Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Lucknow along with the six-monthly compliance report.	<b>Not agreed.</b>  With regard to the said condition, Committee did not agree to alter the said condition.
Standard Condition 5.4 of EC letter dated 24.04.2025	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).	<b>Not agreed.</b>  With regard to the said condition, Committee did not agree to alter the said condition as the same will automatically implement in accordance to the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006.

#### **Additional Specific Conditions:**

1. Project proponent shall construct side shoulders on road for 3 km length, on the coal transportation road by December 2025, as committed. Project proponent shall carry out plantation activities on the divider of road for 2 km length, by December 2025, as committed. Apart from this, project proponent shall carry out three tier plantation along the coal transportation route, with the native species of 2 meter height saplings. Compliance in this regard shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office and also be kept on the web portal of the company.
2. Proponent shall carryout regular maintenance of the potholes on roads, repair and maintenance of roads, scrapping of material fallen on roads, and removal of scraps from mining areas. Along with this, PP shall make sure that all the pollution control

equipments are in good working condition and maintenance of those equipment is regularly carried out.

3. Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) and Noise quality data along the entire coal transportation route shall be monitored and the data shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office and also kept on the web portal of the company.
4. All the recommendations made in the Traffic Assessment Study Report regarding coal transportation by road shall be strictly adhered with. Compliance in this regard shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office and also kept on the web portal of the company.
5. Additional air pollution control measures should be taken along roads being used for transport of coal including e-/CNG/LNG vehicles.

**Agenda Item No. 30.6:**

**30.6:** Cluster No. 1 (Group of 7 Mines of ECL) (ML area: 3692 Ha having the production capacity of 3.30 MTPA) by **M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited**, located at District: Dhanbad; State: Jharkhand – **Amendment in Environment Clearance for restructuring of individual mines in the cluster – regarding.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/JH/CMIN/521225/2025; Consultant: CMPDI - NABET/EIA/25-28/RA 0412 valid up to 08.04.2028]**

**30.6.1:** The instant proposal is for amendment in Environment Clearance granted to M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited accorded vide letter no. J-11015/78/2011-IA-II(M) dated 16.01.2015 and its subsequent amendment dated 18.12.2017 & 31.03.2021 for Cluster No. 1 (Group of 7 Mines of ECL) (ML area: 3692 Ha having the production capacity of 3.30 MTPA), located at District: Dhanbad; State: Jharkhand.

**30.6.2: Details of all the prior ECs including the EC for which amendment is sought:**

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/ Validity extension/ Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (Ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
1	J – 11015/78/2011 – IA – II (M)	EC	3.30	3692.0	16.01.2015	Being implemented
2	J – 11015/78/2011 – IA – II (M)	Amendment EC	3.30	3692.0	18.12.2017	Being implemented
3	J – 11015/78/2011 – IA – II (M)	Amendment EC	3.30	3692.0	31.03.2021	Being implemented

W.r.t the previous approvals, PP submitted the actual production details of the concerned cluster and submitted that the cluster became operational since 2014-15 onwards. CTO renewal have been obtained from the SPCB and is valid up to:

1. Hariajam: Valid upto 31.12.2028
2. Badjna: Valid upto 31.12.2028
3. Chapapur: Valid upto 31.03.2026

4. NIRSA: Valid upto 31.03.2026
5. Khoodia + central pool railway siding: Valid upto 31.03.2026
6. Shampur A: Valid upto 31.03.2026
7. Amalgamated Lakhimata, Kapasara, Shyampur B and Mandman: Valid upto 30.09.2025
8. Gopinathpur: Valid upto 31.12.2025

Details of the production are as follows:

Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal Production in MTPA as per Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
2014-15	0.74	3.30	0
2015-16	0.72	3.30	0
2016-17	0.78	3.30	0
2017-18	0.92	3.30	0
2018-19	1.02	3.30	0
2019-20	1.13	3.30	0
2020-21	1.39	3.30	0
2021-22	0.99	3.30	0
2022-23	1.06	3.30	0
2023-24	0.87	3.30	0
2024-25	1.13	3.30	0

**30.6.3: Details regarding the amendment sought in the EC dated 16.01.2015 further amended vide letter dated 18.12.2017 and 31.03.2021:**

**I. Re-assessment/ restructuring of individual mines in the cluster:**

Existing EC vis-à-vis proposed amendment:

S. No.	Existing (As per EC amendment dated 31.03.2021)				Proposed (As per revised proposal)				
	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)	S. No.	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)
1	Hariajam UG	316.0	0.08	>25	1	Hariajam UG	443.90	0.08	>25
2	Badjna UG & OC	676.0	0.45	>25	2	Badjna UG & OC	676.0	0.45	>30
3	Chapapur – II UG & OC	480.0	0.68	>25	3	Chapapur – II UG & OC	480.0	1.50	>20
4	Khoodia UG & OC	186.0	0.035	10	4	Khoodia UG & OC	186.0	0.065	>25
5	Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	1239.0	2.30	>25	5	Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	1239.0	1.50	>25
6	Nirsa OC Patch	147.0	0.40	8	6	Nirsa OC Patch including Highwall	147.0	0.40	10
7	Shampur – A UG & OC	491.0	0.20	8	7	Gopinathpur-Shampur A UG & OC	520.10	0.40	>25
8	Gopinathpur UG	157.0	0.20	>25					

S. No.	Existing (As per EC amendment dated 31.03.2021)				Proposed (As per revised proposal)				
	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)	S. No.	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)
	& OC								
<b>Total</b>		<b>3692.0</b>	<b>3.30*</b>		<b>Total</b>		<b>3692.0</b>	<b>3.30*</b>	

• Production from the cluster in any year will not exceed 3.30 MTY (Production schedule is given in next slide).

\*Coal from all the mines in Cluster No. 1 is dispatched through Mugma Central Pool Railway Siding present within the cluster boundary.

**Production programme for the mines under Cluster No. 1 for next 10 years is as follows:**

Name of Mine	2024-25 (actual)	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34
Hariajam UG	0.05	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
Badjna UG & OC	0.25	0.4	0.40	0.40	0.20	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Chapapur-II UG & OC	0.68	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Khoodia UG & OC	0.035	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	0.11	0.30	0.40	0.85	1.10	1.20	1.40	1.40	1.50	1.50
Nirsa OC (including Highwall)	0	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.10	0.15	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05
Gopinathpur - Shampur A UG & OC	0	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>3.14</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>3.04</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>3.19</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>3.29</b>

**EC amendment is required for following reasons:**

- Reduction in EC capacity from 2.30 MTPA to 1.50 MTPA for amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC
- Increase in mine capacity of Chapapur-II UG & OC from 0.68 MTPA to 1.50 MTPA to extract all the seams upto Metadih seam within the leasehold of Chapapur colliery.
- Increase in mine capacity of Khoodia UG from 0.035 MTPA to 0.065 MTPA due to availability of coal in B P Seam.
- Introduction of Highwall Method (Underground Mining) within the leasehold of Nirsa OC with no change in production capacity.
- As per coal mine Regulation and DGMS committee recommendation to maintain verticality, Gopinathpur UG & OC and Shampur A UG & OC have been merged into a single mine Gopinathpur – Shampur A UG & OC with an area of 520.10 Ha. The remaining area of 127.9 Ha has been boundary adjusted to adjacent Harijam UG as per DGMS rule.

Revised Mining Plan incorporating the above changes proposed in Cluster No. 1 along with Mine Closure Plans of individual mines has been approved by ECL Board on 14.01.2025.

As per the revised mine plan, the land use pattern shall be as follows:

S. No.	Type of Land Use	As per EC dated 16.01.2015			As per revised mine plan		
		Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)	Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)
1	Running Quarry	92.00	200.00		31.00	947.54	Brought under plantation
	Backfilled	-	-	200.00 & brought under plantation	110.00	-	
	Not Backfilled	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Abandoned/ exhausted quarry	171.00			52.00	0.00	Brought under plantation
	Backfilled	121.00	121.00	121.00 & brought under plantation	-	-	-
	Not backfilled	50.00	50.00	50.00 (waterbody)	-	-	-
3	External OB dump	48.00	48.00	48.00 to be brought under plantation	172.00	158.48	Brought under plantation
4	Service building/ mine infrastructure	382.00	382.00	300.00 (undisturbed) + 82.00 Ha under plantation	25.00	424.93	324.93 (100 Ha to be brought under plantation)
5	Rail & Road	108.00	108.00 (20 Ha for greenbelt)	108.00 (20 Ha under plantation)	-	-	-
6	Habitation (total)	592.00	592.00	592.00	309.00	289.00	289.00
7	Other built-up areas	654.00	654.00	654.00	-	-	-
8	Agriculture land	860.00	860.00	860.00	1430.00	1038.59	1038.59
9	Forest Land	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Plantation/ Natural Vegetation	60.00	60.00	593.00	299.00	299.00	1505.02
	Scrubs	62.00	62.00		1037.00	307.46	307.46
11	River/ Nallah/ pond	204.00	204.00	204.00	82.00	82.00	82.00
12	Barren Land	459.00	351.00	351.00	145.00	145.00	145.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>

## **II. Review of the following EC Conditions:**

Apart from the restructuring of the cluster, PP during the meeting also sought amendment/ review of certain specific conditions as mentioned in the EC letter dated 16.01.2015 and its subsequent amendment dated 18.12.2017 & 31.03.2021. However, the application on the Parivesh portal has been only submitted for restructuring of the mines in cluster with no increase in production capacity and no increase in mine lease area. In view of this, EAC not acceded to the request of PP for amendment in the EC conditions.

**30.6.4: Details of the court cases:** PP reported that there is no legal issue/violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act.

**30.6.5: Written Submissions:** PP submitted the following during the deliberation:

S. No.	Clarifications / Information Sought						
1	Details of Land-use Changes in respect of the proposed amendment						
Reply:							
A. Pre-mining Land Use (at present)							
S. No.	Land Use	Within ML Area (ha)	Outside ML Area (ha)	Total			
1	Agricultural Land	1430.00	0.00	1430.00			
2	Forest land	0.00	0.00	0.00			
3	Waste land	145.00	0.00	145.00			
4	Grazing land	0.00	0.00	0.00			
5	Surface Water Bodies	82.00	0.00	82.00			
6	Settlements (Urban, Rural & Industrial)	334.00	0.00	334.00			
7	Other (Scrubs, Plantation & Natural Vegetation, OB Dump & Quarry Area)	1701.00	0.00	1701.00			
	Scrubs – 1037.0 Ha						
	Plantation & Natural Vegetation – 299.0 Ha						
	Quarry Area – 31.0 Ha						
	Backfilled Quarry – 110.0 Ha						
	Water – filled Quarry – 52.0 Ha						
	OB Dump – 172.0 Ha						
	Total	3692.00	0.00	3692.00			
B. Land Use During Mining							
S. No.	Land Use during Mining	Plantation (ha)	Water Body (ha)	Public Use (ha)	Undisturbed (ha)	Total (ha)	
1	External OB Dump	158.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	158.48	
2	Top soil Dump	Top soil is dumped externally for which 20 Ha included in external dump area					
3	Excavation	947.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	947.54	
4	Roads	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5	Built up areas	100.00	0.00	324.93	0.00	424.93	
6	Green belt	0.00	0.00	0.00	299.00	299.00	
7	Plantation (apart from Green Belt)	0.00	0.00	0.00	156.00	156.00	
8	Safety Zone	Safety zone is included in the figure given the Green belt Area & Plantation - point. No. 6 & 7					-
9	Undisturbed Area	0.00	0.00	0.00	1706.05	1706.05	
	Total	1206.02	0.00	324.93	2161.05	3692.00	

C. Post-Mining Land Use				
S. No.	Type	Total Area (ha)	Reclaimed Area (ha)	Un- reclaimed area (ha)
1	Excavation/Quarry Area: (a) Backfilled areas	947.54	947.54	0.00
2	Excavation/Quarry Area: (b) Excavated Void	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	External Dump	158.48	158.48	0.00
4	Safety Zone	Safety zone is included in the figure given the Plantation Area - point. No. 8		
5	Road and infrastructure	424.93	100.00	324.93
6	Garland Drains	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Embankment	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Others (Plantation /Agriculture /Settlements /Water /Waste Land)	2161.05	455.00	1706.05
	Scrubs – 308 ha			
	Plantation – 299 ha			
	Agriculture – 1038 ha			
	Settlements – 289 ha			
	Water body – 82 ha			
	Waste land – 145 ha			
Total (ha)		3692.00	1661.02	2030.98

2

There is a total of 947.00 ha quarried out area, which is required to be filled up. Is the excavated OB sufficient to fill up the created voids? Also, explain how 355 MT coal of extractable reserve is extracted from quarry area of 947.00 ha.

**Reply:** As per the present mining plan total coal extracted/ to be extracted is given below

#	Name of the Mine	Extractable Reserve (MT) 2015	Extracted so far (MT)		Proposed Extraction (MT) As per the present plan	
			UG	OC	UG	OC
1	Hariajam UG	19.7	0.54	-	2.4	-
2	Badjna UG & OC	46.8	0.53	0.36	3.0	2.0
3	Chapapur – II UG & OC	12.3	0.44	2.56	1.5	7.8
4	Khoodia UG & OC	10	0.3	-	1.8	-
5	Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	240.5	1.37	2.30	6.0	35.0
6	Nirsa OC Patch including Highwall	6.1	-	1.31	-	1.5
7	Gopinathpur-Shampur A UG & OC	19.8	-	0.80	0.4	0.4
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>355.2</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>7.33</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>46.7</b>

From above table it is clear that as per the present plan only 54.03 MT (7.33+46.7) coal will be extracted though OC mining.

Assessment of OB sufficiency for backfilling of Quarry Voids

Parameter	Quantity (Million Cum)
OB Generated	52.60
OB to be generated	213.22
Total OB generated/ available for backfilling	265.82

Parameter	Quantity (Million Cum)
Void volume available due to OB removal considering 1.25 swell factor	212.66
Total coal volume considering sp gravilty of Coal as 1.4 (54.03/1.4 Mm³)	38.57
Total void volume created	251.23
OB required for backfilling with 0.9 compaction	264.45

Thus for filling up the void of 251.23 Mm <sup>3</sup> sufficient OB material is available,
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**Observations and deliberation of the Committee:**

**30.6.6: The EAC noted the following:**

1. The instant proposal is for seeking amendment in the environment clearance granted to M/s Eastern Coalfields Limited vide letter dated 16.01.2015, further amended vide EC letter dated 18.12.2017 and 31.03.2021 for Cluster No. 1 (Group of 7 Mines of ECL), located district: Dhanbad; state: Jharkhand.
2. The project is implemented and the mine is under operation.
3. The instant proposal is now placed before the EAC for seeking re-assessment of mine capacities to optimize the coal production plan within the cluster. Amendment has been sought by re-assessment/ restructuring the production capacity and mining methods of individual mines with overall production capacity and mine lease area remaining same.
4. Committee deliberated on the restructuring proposed by the PP and observed that, as per the latest amendment accorded for the said cluster project, there were 8 mines in total in the said cluster. However, in the instant project, the restructuring is being sought by amalgamating Shampur A UG & OC and Gopinathpur UG & OC. Committee also observed that after merging these two mines, the area of the same is being reduced from 648 Ha to 520.10 Ha. The remaining 127.9 Ha is being added in the Hariajam UG, increasing the area of the same from 316 Ha to 443.9 Ha
5. Apart from this, there are certain other changes being made in the production capacity and life of mine of certain other mines of the cluster as stated in the para no. 30.6.3. However, after all the restructuring and reassessment of the area and production capacity of the individual mines in the cluster, the overall production capacity and the total area of cluster shall remain same, i.e, 3.30 MTPA within the ML area of 3692 Ha.
6. Committee deliberated on the plantation in the safety zone of Gopinathpur UG & OC and Shampur A UG & OC and observed that the plantation done in the safety zone will be removed in phase-wise manner and simultaneously the plantation will be carried out in the periphery of the amalgamated mines.
7. Committee also observed that as per the aforementioned changes, the Mine Plan and Mine Closure Plans of individual mines has been approved by ECL Board on 14.01.2025.
8. Further, during the deliberation PP also sought review of certain other specific conditions of EC dated 16.01.2025 further amended vide letter dated 18.12.2017 and 31.03.2021. However, the application on Parivesh portal was submitted only for seeking amendment as per the proposed restructuring and reassessment of the production capacity and mining methods of individual mines with overall production capacity and mine lease area remaining same. In view of the same, the Committee not acceded to the request of proponent for amendment in the EC conditions and instant amendment shall be restricted only for the restructuring and re-assessment of mines.
9. During the meeting Committee also deliberated on the land use pattern of the cluster due to the aforementioned changes and the details of reserves present for extraction and PP submitted the same.



10. The committee deliberated on the written submission and found it satisfactory.

**Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.6.7:** In view of the foregoing and after the detailed deliberations, the Committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/78/2011-IA-II(M) dated 16.01.2015 and further amendment vide letter dated 18.12.2017 & 31.03.2021 as below, subject to submission of written submissions and fulfilment of the additional specific conditions:

1. The table under Para 3 of the EC dated 31.03.2021, shall be amended as follows:

S. No.	Existing (As per EC amendment dated 31.03.2021)				Proposed (As per revised proposal)				
	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)	S. No.	Name of the Mine	Lease Area (Ha)	Production Capacity (MTPA)	Mine Life (Yr)
1	Hariajam UG	316.0	0.08	>25	1	Hariajam UG	443.90	0.08	>25
2	Badjna UG & OC	676.0	0.45	>25	2	Badjna UG & OC	676.0	0.45	>30
3	Chapapur – II UG & OC	480.0	0.68	>25	3	Chapapur – II UG & OC	480.0	1.50	>20
4	Khoodia UG & OC	186.0	0.035	10	4	Khoodia UG & OC	186.0	0.065	>25
5	Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	1239.0	2.30	>25	5	Amalgamated Lakhimata, Shampur B, Mandman and Kapasara UG & OC	1239.0	1.50	>25
6	Nirsa OC Patch	147.0	0.40	8	6	Nirsa OC Patch including Highwall	147.0	0.40	10
7	Shampur – A UG & OC	491.0	0.20	8	7	Gopinathpur-Shampur A UG & OC	520.10	0.40	>25
8	Gopinathpur UG & OC	157.0	0.20	>25					
Total		3692.0	3.30*		Total		3692.0	3.30*	

2. The land usage of the project as given under Para 2 (viii) of the EC dated 16.01.2015, shall be amended as follows:

S. No.	Type of Land Use	As per EC dated 16.01.2015			As per revised mine plan		
		Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)	Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)
1	Running Quarry	92.00	200.00		31.00	947.54	To be brought under plantation
	Backfilled	-	-	200.00 & brought under plantation	110.00	-	
	Not Backfilled	-	-	-	-	-	-

S. No.	Type of Land Use	As per EC dated 16.01.2015			As per revised mine plan		
		Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)	Present Mining Land Use (Ha)	Land use During Mining (Ha)	Post Mining Land Use (Ha)
2	Abandoned/exhausted quarry	171.00			52.00	0.00	To be brought under plantation
	Backfilled	121.00	121.00	121.00 & brought under plantation	-	-	-
	Not backfilled	50.00	50.00	50.00 (waterbody)	-	-	-
3	External OB dump	48.00	48.00	48.00 to be brought under plantation	172.00	158.48	To be brought under plantation
4	Service building/ mine infrastructure	382.00	382.00	300.00 (undisturbed) + 82.00 Ha under plantation	25.00	424.93	324.93 (100 Ha to be brought under plantation)
5	Rail & Road	108.00	108.00 (20 Ha for greenbelt)	108.00 (20 Ha under plantation)	-	-	-
6	Habitation (total)	592.00	592.00	592.00	309.00	289.00	289.00
7	Other built-up areas	654.00	654.00	654.00	-	-	-
8	Agriculture land	860.00	860.00	860.00	1430.00	1038.59	1038.59
9	Forest Land	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Plantation/ Natural Vegetation	60.00	60.00	593.00	299.00	299.00	1505.02
	Scrubs	62.00	62.00		1037.00	307.46	307.46
11	River/ Nallah/ pond	204.00	204.00	204.00	82.00	82.00	82.00
12	Barren Land	459.00	351.00	351.00	145.00	145.00	145.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>	<b>3692.00</b>

#### **Additional Specific Conditions:**

1. The plantation of the safety zone of Gopinathpur UG & OC and Shampur A UG & OC shall be removed in a phase-wise manner and simultaneously plantation shall be developed in the periphery of the amalgamated Gopinathpur-Shampur A UG & OC. The plantation in the Cluster shall be carried out as per the following plan and density of plantation shall be 2500 trees per Ha:

2025 - 26	2026 - 27	2027 - 28	2028 - 29	2029 - 34	2034 - 39	2039 - 44	2044 - 49
23.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	200.0	200.0	300.0	445.0

2. Project proponent shall strictly comply with all the recommendations of the DGMS Committee during the restructuring of mines.
3. OB dumping shall be restricted to the area of 158.48 Ha and the mine voids and no OB dumping shall be done beyond the area specified for OB dumping.
4. PP shall carry out phase wise plantation with double the number of planting the saplings of 2 meter height in 1 year advance against the number of plants to be felled from the safety zone.

**Agenda No. 30.7:**

**30.7:** West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine (ML area being reduced from 1065.67 Ha to 491.07 Ha having capacity 0.33 MTPA) by **M/s South Eastern Coalfields Limited** located at Village: Khongapani; Tehsil: Manendragarh; **District: Manendragarh-Chirimiri-Bharatpur (MCB); State: Chhattisgarh – Revalidation of Environmental Clearance as per S.O. No. 1530(E) dated 06/04/2018 - regarding.**

**[Online Proposal No. IA/CG/CMIN/7753/2005; Consultant: CMPDI - NABET/EIA/25-28/RA 0412 issued on 03.07.2025 valid up to 08.04.2028]**

**30.7.1:** M/s. South Eastern Coalfields Limited has made an online application vide proposal no. IA/CG/CMIN/7753/2005 dated 14.09.2018 along with Form 1 and certified compliance report for seeking revalidation of Environment Clearance (EC) issued to West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine vide letter no J-11015/196/2005-IA.II(M) dated 06.09.2006 under EIA Notification, 1994 for the production capacity of 0.33 MTPA in the leasehold area of 1065.67 Ha. The instant proposal is now for obtaining re-validation of EC under EIA Notification, 2006, in compliance of the Gazette Notification S.O. No. 1530(E) dated 06/04/2018 for existing project.

The proposal was initially considered in 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of EAC (Coal Mining Sector) held on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and was deferred for the want of additional information sought by the EAC. As per the amendment to EIA Notification, 2006 on 20.04.2022, the proposed project activity is now listed at schedule no. 1(a) “mining of minerals” Under Category “B” of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006. However, as per the Ministry’s OM dated 27.09.2022, *“The proposals which have been considered/ appraised once by EAC either for ToR or EC, but final decision has not been taken, shall continue to be appraised at the Central level only, till final disposal for ToR/ EC, even after the amendments in the EIA Notification are issued from time to time regarding delegation of projects to SEIAAS”.*

The ADS reply was submitted by the PP on 25.06.2025 and subsequently ADS was raised on 08.07.2025. Now the proposal has been placed in 30<sup>th</sup> EAC Meeting held on 11.08.2025 for appraisal based on ADS reply submitted by the PP on 16.07.2025.

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

**30.7.2: Previous Approvals in chronological orders:** Project proponent submitted the details of the previous approvals in the chronological order as follows:

S. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/ Validity extension/ Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (Ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
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1	J/11015/196/2005-IA.II(M)	EC expansion under EIA 1994	0.33	1065.67	06.09.2006	Implemented
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W.r.t the previous approvals, proponent submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine from 1993-94 based on the consent from the SPCB and submitted that the mine became operational from 1945 onwards. CTO renewal has been obtained from SPCB vide letter dated 27.08.2024 for the production capacity of 0.316 MTPA and the same is valid up to 31.08.2025. Details of production are as follows:

Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal Production in MTPA as per Consent/ Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
1993-94	0.273100	0.27 (CTO)	0.0031
1994-95	0.237700	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
1995-96	0.225800	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
1996-97	0.234500	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
1997-98	0.249500	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
1998-99	0.254600	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
1999-20	0.285500	0.27 (CTO)	NIL
2000-01	0.270100	0.27 (CTO)	0.0001
2001-02	0.284220	0.27 (CTO)	0.01422
2002-03	0.309600	0.27 (CTO)	0.0396
2003-04	0.305000	0.27 (CTO)	0.035
2004-05	0.305650	0.27 (CTO)	0.03565
2005-06	0.307356	0.27 (CTO)	0.037356
2006-07	0.315733	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2007-08	0.315800	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2008-09	0.329900	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2009-10	0.240148	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2010-11	0.221720	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2011-12	0.176936	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2012-13	0.155001	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2013-14	0.151350	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2014-15	0.161015	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2015-16	0.166700	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2016-17	0.161696	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2017-18	0.141591	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2018-19	0.170755	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2019-20	0.170170	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2020-21	0.126050	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2021-22	0.122215	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2022-23	0.123500	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2023-24	0.081600	0.33 (EC)	Nil
2024-25	0.064701	0.316 (EC/CTO)	Nil

**30.7.3: Certified Compliance Report:** The status of compliance of earlier EC was obtained from Regional office of Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board (SPCB) vide letter no – 2433 dated 09.01.2025 in name of West Jhagrakhand Underground Coal mine and subsequently forwarded by the Member Secretary of CECB vide no – 10736 dated 14.02.2025. No non – complied/ partially complied conditions reported in Certified Compliance report of EC 0.33 MTPA of West Jhagrakhand Underground Coal mine.

#### 30.7.4: Environmental Site Settings:

The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo sheet No. 64 I/4 and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from Latitudes 23 °10'30" N to 23 °13'10" N and

Longitudes 82°07'30" E to 82°10'10" E.

Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018 of CPCB.

**Mining Lease:** PP submitted the following details of the Mine lease:

S. No.	Notification no. and date	Area (in Ha)	Area (in Ha) involved in West JKD	Remarks
1	<b>Principal Lease:</b> No. 4817/4677/III Dt. 27/11/59 from M.P. Govt. for a period of 30 years.	1722.342	491.07	The remaining land, 2122.024 ha (2613.094 ha - 491.07 ha) comprises 1679.862 ha Forest land and 442.162 ha of non-forest land. This remaining 2122.024 Ha of lease area is part of other old SECL Mines which are closed and not in operation right now.
2	1st Supplementary Lease: Sanctioned by M.P. Govt. vide no. 8985-8377/III dt. 11.12.1964	229.193		
3	2nd Supplementary Lease: The Collector, Surguja informed the Agent vide letter dt. 28.12.1964	73.895		
4	3rd Supplementary Lease: Sanctioned vide letter dt. 23.01.1968 by Dy. Collector, Ambikapur.	286.982		
5	4 <sup>th</sup> Supplementary Lease: Lease deed executed between State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Company on 28.11.1978	300.681		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2613.094</b>	<b>491.07*</b>	

Date of Block allotment/ lease with its expiry date: Mining Lease is valid upto 26.11.2065.

\*Details of area being reduced from 1065.67 Ha to 491.07 Ha are as follows:

Existing EC Area	Revised Area	Reasons for reduction/increase in area	Area reduced (in Ha)
<b>1065.67 Ha</b> TL: 0 GL: 745.67 Ha FL: 320 Ha	<b>491.07 Ha</b> TL: 108.074 Ha GL: 169.491 Ha FL: 213.505 Ha	Removal of overlapping areas of Rajnagar Opencast	324.57
		Removal of overlapping areas of Rajnagar RO UG Mine	120.52
		Non workable areas	129.51
		Total deductions	574.6
		<b>Area remaining after deductions</b>	<b>491.07</b>

**Forest Area:** Project involves total 213.51 Ha of forestland. Stage – II forest clearance for the same has been obtained vide letter no. 8-36/2007FC dated 16.02.2022. The total broken forestland is 5.799 Ha which has been used for infrastructure. Further, there is no violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Details of approval are as follows:

S. No.	Obtained vide letter No.	Area (Ha)	Stage I/ II	Validity
1	No.8-36/2007FC dated 16.02.2022	256.545 ha (211.881 ha area for underground mining and 44.664 ha for surface rights)	Stage II	Co-terminus with the period of the mining lease.

Note: Stage-II Forest Clearance (FC) has been granted for a total area of 256.545 ha. Out of this, 213.51 ha of forest land is involved in the West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine, while the remaining 43.035 ha has been diverted for infrastructure purposes of other mines and no mining has been done in this land. A letter in this regard has been obtained from the DFO Manendragarh, wherein it is mentioned that, out of the 256.545 Ha of forestland for which

Stage – II forest clearance has been obtained by the PP, only 213.51 Ha forms part of the said project. Remaining 43.035 Ha of forestland is outside the ML area, which is being used for infrastructure of other SECL mines, which are closed as on date.

It is pertinent to mention that as per the letter obtained from DFO, only 211.881 Ha is allotted for mining rights, remaining 44.664 ha has been allotted for surface rights.

213.51 Ha of forestland which is part of the instant project involves 211.881 Ha forest with mining rights and 1.629 Ha forest with surface rights for colony.

**Protected Area:** The project is not located within 10 km of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/tiger corridor/elephant corridor etc.

The Wildlife Conservation Plan for West Jhagrakhand UG Coal Mine has been prepared by TFRI, Jabalpur and duly approved by PCCF (Wildlife), Raipur vide letter no. wildlife/Management-416/17/5636 dated 28.11.2017. As per the Conservation Plan, the following Schedule-I species have been reported in the area:

1. Sloth Bear (*Melursus ursinus*).
2. Indian Gazelle (*Gazella bennettii*)

An amount of ₹10.24 Crs. has already been deposited in CAMPA Fund on 08.03.2018 as directed by the Chhattisgarh Forest Department for its implementation.

#### Other Sensitive Receptors:

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
i. Habitation	Particulars	Distance	Direction
	Bangawan	0.6 km	West
	Dola	2.2 km	North - West
	Pauradhar	2.2 km	South – West
	Jhagrakhand	2.55 km	East
	Ledri	2.80 km	South – East
	Manandragarh (Town)	3.20 km	North – East
	Nandgaon (R&R site)	3.45 km	North - West
ii. School	Particulars	Distance	Direction
	Adiwasi Vidya Mandir High School, Kol Dafai	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt primary school West Jhagrakhand	Within mine boundary	-
	Adarsh Adiwasi Vidya Mandir Pokhari Dafai	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt boys primary school Khangapani	Within mine boundary	-
	Adarsh Vidya Mandir Higher secondary school	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt upper primary girls school Khangapani	Within mine boundary	-
	Sri Yamuna Prasad Shastri Higher secondary school, Khangapani	Within mine boundary	-
	Takshasila upeer primary public school, khangapani	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt. Primary school, Sahwanitola	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt. higher secondary school	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt. upper primary school	Within mine	-

Project site proximity to sensitive area	Distance in km (within 5 km from the ML area)		
		boundary	
	S prabha memorial upper primary school	Within mine boundary	-
	Govt. primary school B-seam	Within mine boundary	-
iii. River/ Waterbody	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Distance</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Kulharia Nallah	Passes through mine	South- Eastern
	Hasdeo River (HFL:420.86 m)	6 km	East
	Kewai River (HFL:500.09 m)	6 km	West
	Bukbhuka Nallah	Passes through mine	East
iv. Forest	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Distance</b>	<b>Direction</b>
	Haldibari RF	Within mine boundary	-
	Malga RF	0.1 km	South - West
	Nandlal Patera RF	2.5 km	North
	Kora R.F	5.5 km	South
v. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protected site	Nil		
vi. Any other	Nil		

No diversions are proposed for the said project, neither any diversion is done previously.

**30.7.5: Method of Mining and Mining Plan:** PP submitted that the Mining Plan including Mine Closure Plan for the project was approved by CoFD SECL Bilaspur on 20.06.2025 for (capacity-0.33 MTPA, Area-491.07 Ha).

- Method of Mining to be adopted shall be underground mining with Bord and Pillar method.
- Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 24.19 MT with 19.35 MT mineable reserves. Out of the total mineable reserve of 19.35 MT, 1.23 MT are available for extraction as on 01.04.2025. The percentage of extraction is 80% (w.r.t geological reserve).
- 2 seams (4A and 5A) with thickness ranging from 1.5 m - 2.5 m are workable.
- Grade of coal is G-5 to G-6 while gradient is 1 in 36 (for 4A) and 1 in 40 (for 5A).
- Life of mine is 8 years as on 01.04.2025.
- Details of land use

a. Pre-mining land use pattern:

S. No.	Land Use	Within ML Area (Ha)	Outside ML Area (Ha)	Total
1	Agricultural Land (tenancy land)	108.07	0.000	108.07
2	Forest land	213.51	0.000	213.51
3	Waste land	0.000	0.000	0.000
4	Grazing land	0.000	0.000	0.000
5	Surface Water Bodies	0.000	0.000	0.000
6	Settlements	0.000	0.000	0.000
7	Other (Government Land)	169.49	0.000	169.49
	<b>Total</b>	<b>491.07</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>491.07</b>

b. Post-mining land use pattern:

S. No.	Type	Total Area (in Ha)	Reclaimed Area (in Ha)	Un-reclaimed Area (in Ha)
1	Excavation/ Quarry	405.639	0	405.639

S. No.	Type	Total Area (in Ha)	Reclaimed Area (in Ha)	Un-reclaimed Area (in Ha)
	(UG Working) Area:			
2	Mine infrastructure	10.750	10.750	0
3	Others (Colony, road, other infrastructure)	74.681	0	74.681
	<b>Total</b>	<b>491.070</b>	<b>10.750</b>	<b>480.320</b>

- vii. **Details of transportation of coal:** The coal is proposed to be transported within and outside the mining lease in the following manner:
- In pit: From underground mine face to surface through covered belt conveyors
  - Surface to siding: 6.72 km via Tarpaulin Covered Tippers
  - Siding to loading: Through Rajnagar RO Railway Siding equipped with closed conveyor belts
  - Siding to consumer: By rail
- viii. **Details of reclamation:** 10.750 Ha area of mine infrastructure will be reclaimed and afforested post closure. Density of plantation will be 2500 trees per hectare.

**30.7.6: Baseline data:** As per the 44th EAC (Coal mining projects) meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019, EIA EMP was not prescribed. Secondary monitoring data collected for April 2024 to March 2025:

Period	Data for the period April 2024 to March 2025
<b>AAQ parameters at 05 Locations (min and max)</b>	<p><b>Core Zone</b>  <math>PM_{2.5} = 16 \text{ to } 42 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>  <math>PM_{10} = 52 \text{ to } 153 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>SO_2 = 7 \text{ to } 17 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>NO_x = 12 \text{ to } 25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math></p> <p><b>Buffer Zone</b>  <math>PM_{2.5} = 16 \text{ to } 44 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>  <math>PM_{10} = 60 \text{ to } 86 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>SO_2 = 8 \text{ to } 13 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math>,  <math>NO_x = 13 \text{ to } 21 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3</math></p>
<b>Ground water quality at 3 Locations</b>	<p><b>Core Zone</b>  pH: 6.52 to 7.36,  TDS: 323 to 723 mg/l,  Chlorides: 12.54 to 23.48 mg/l,  Fluoride: 0.19 to 0.83 mg/l.  Heavy metals (Se): BDL(QL=0.001)  Heavy metals (As): BDL(QL=0.002)</p> <p><b>Buffer Zone</b>  pH: 6.53 to 7.48,  TDS: 403 to 677 mg/l,  Chlorides: 23.28 to 49.77 mg/l,  Fluoride: 0.22 to 0.60 mg/l.  Heavy metals (Se): BDL(QL=0.001)  Heavy metals (As): BDL(QL=0.002)</p>
<b>Noise levels Leq (Day and Night)</b>	<p><b>Core Zone</b>  46.2 to 71.5 dB(A) for the day time and 36.2 to 59.5 dB(A) for the Night time.</p> <p><b>Buffer Zone</b>  46.2 to 53.4 dB(A) for the day time and 36.2 to 40.6 dB(A) for the Night time.</p>

**30.7.7: Water Requirement:** PP submitted that the water requirement for the said project is 3231 KLD (Industrial use: 505 KLD and Domestic use: 2726 KLD). NOC was accorded to



West Jhagrakhand UG Coal Mine for abstracting groundwater vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2023/19502 which was valid till 11.01.2025. Renewal application has been made, vide application no 3147 MIN/CG/2025/302/R-1 dated 22.02.2025 which is currently under process. Further, PP submitted that no water body is proposed for diversion in the said project.

**30.7.8: Power Requirement and details of diversion of Hi-Tension/ Transmission Line:** Total Power Requirement is 4.212 MVA and the same is sourced from Chhatisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited (CSPDCL). There is no diversion of Hi – tension / transmission line proposed for the said project.

**30.7.9: Details of Solid and Hazardous Waste:** The details of solid and hazardous waste generation along with its mode of treatment/disposal is furnished as below:

S. No.	Type of Waste	Source	Quantity	Mode of Treatment	Disposal
1.	Hazardous Waste- Used Oil (schedule 5.1)	Machine operations in UG Mine	0.22 KL (In FY 2024-25)	Collected and stored in steel barrels and kept in covered shed with elevated pucca platform.	Sale to CPCB authorized recycler in centralized manner through MSTC Limited

**Note:** Authorization for generation, collection, reception, storage, transport, reuse, recovery, pre-processing, utilization, treatment, disposal or any other use of hazardous or other waste on the premises of West Jhagrakhand Underground Coal Mine Project has been obtained from CECB vide consent no. 721/HSMD/HO/CECB/ATAL NAGAR, RAIPUR issued on 28.02.2025.

**30.7.10: Details of Public Consultation:**

Particulars	Old Public Hearing	Public Notice for revalidation of EC
Details of advertisement given	2/3/4/5.07.2003 in Dainik Bhaskar, Nav Bharati, Hari Bhumi and Swadesh	Published on 11.02.2022 in one national daily newspaper, Hindustan Times and on 12.02.2022 in one local daily newspaper Dainik Bhaskar, Raipur informing the stakeholders about the present coal mining operations and inviting their comments.
Date of PH/ public consultation	08.08.2003	11.02.2022 – 12.02.2022 (Advertisement)
Venue	Tehsil office Manendragarh, Koriya. CG	Public consultation was done through newspaper publication
Presiding Officer	Sub Divisional Officer, Manendragarh	Public consultation was done through newspaper publication
Number of Person Attended Hearing	15	Public consultation was done through newspaper publication
Number of representation received in writing from the district and outside of district, please give details:	Nil	Nil, As communicated by the Regional Officer, CECB Ambikapur vide letter dated 27/09/2023, no written objections/queries were received for the above mentioned public consultation.
Major issues raised	Community welfare (infrastructure, health, education), Sustainable practices (tree plantation, rainwater harvesting) and Environmental Management (effluent treatment, air and noise control).	Nil

Action plan as per MoEF&CC O.M. dated 30/09/2020-

This is a running mine and PH was conducted on 08.08.2003. All the issues raised during the public hearing have been implemented and continuous in nature.

S. No.	Physical activity and action plan	Year of implementation (Budget in Lakh)- 2025-26 onwards								Total Expenditure (in Rs Lakhs)
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Infrastructure creation for drinking water Supply	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	40
2.	Sanitation	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	5
3.	Education	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
4.	Skill Development	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	4
5.	Basic Health Infrastructure	3	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	26
6.	Road Infrastructure	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	17
<b>Total</b>										<b>100</b>

**30.7.11: EMP Budget:** Existing capital cost for environmental protection measures was Rs. 40.60 Lakhs. The capital cost for environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs 388.0 Lakhs. The annual recurring cost towards the environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 225.27 Lakhs. The employment generation from the proposed project / expansion is Regular employee - 430 nos & Contractual – 1272 nos.

**The details of cost for environmental measures are as follows:**

S. No.	Description of item	Existing		Proposed	
		Capital Cost (in lakh)	Recurring Cost (in lakh)	Capital Cost (in lakh)	Recurring Cost (in lakh)
(i)	Air Pollution Control/ Noise Management	10.00	12.77	15	17.77
(ii)	Water Pollution Control	10.00	10	80	15
(iii)	Environmental Monitoring and Management	0	40.71	0	100
(iv)	Green Belt & Plantation Development	15.60	0	193.00	10.00
(v)	Other heads as proposed in EIA/ committed during the EAC	5.00	82.50	100.00	82.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>40.60</b>	<b>145.98</b>	<b>388.00</b>	<b>225.27</b>

**30.7.12: Plantation:** Existing green belt has been developed in 6 ha area which is about 1.22% of the total ML area of 491.07 ha with total sapling of 15000 trees. Proposed greenbelt will be developed in 4.75 ha which is about 1.00% of the total ML area. Thus total of 10.750 ha area (2.18 % of total ML area) will be developed as greenbelt/green cover. Local and native species will be planted with a density of 2500 trees per hectare. In addition to this, gap plantation shall be carried out to strengthen green cover in forest land falling in mining area.

**30.7.13: Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) details:** There is no R&R issue in respect of West Jhagrakhand UG Mine. The mining area comprising 491.07 hectares is located entirely within the lease area (land acquired before 1978).

**30.7.14: Project Cost:** Cost of the project is Rs. 62.29 crores. Cost of implementing EMP is Rs. 428.6 Lakhs (capital cost) and Rs. 225.27 Lakhs (recurring cost).

**30.7.15: Details of pending litigation:** There is no legal issues / violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air(P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project pertaining to the environment.

**30.7.16 Undertaking and Affidavit:** PP has submitted following vide an undertaking:

- That there is no construction/mining done at the site or the construction/mining done at the site or the construction done without any deviation as per the EC obtained (vide F. No. J-11015/196/2005-IA.II(M) dated 06.09.2006).
- That there is no litigation on the project at NGT or any other court of law under EP Act, 1986, Air Act 1981 or Water Act, 1974.
- That the mining rights have been granted under Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 by the State Government as detailed below:

S. No.	Notification no. and date	Area (in ha)	Remarks
1	<b>Principal Lease:</b> No. 4817/4677/III Dt. 27/11/59 from M.P. Govt. for a period of 30 years.	1722.342	Jhagrakhand & Khongapani Teh. Manendragarh
2	1st Supplementary Lease: Sanctioned by M.P. Govt. vide no. 8985-8377/III dt. 11/12/64	229.193	Sarkari Jungle, Purani Ledri, Tah. - Manendragarh
3	2nd Supplementary Lease: The Collector, Surguja informed the Agent vide letter dt. 28/12/1964	73.895	Jhagrakhand, Tah. - Manendragarh, Distt. Surguja (M.P.)
4	3rd Supplementary Lease: Sanctioned vide letter dt. 23/01/68 by Dy. Collector, Ambikapur.	286.982	Jhagrakhand, Tah. - Manendragarh, Distt. Surguja (M.P.)
5	4 <sup>th</sup> Supplementary Lease: Lease deed executed between State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Company on 28.11.1978	300.681	Sarkari Jungle, Tah. - Manendragarh
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2613.094</b>	

There is no R&R issue in respect of West Jhagrakhand UG Mine. The mining area comprising 491.07 hectares is located entirely within the lease area.

- That there is no difference in the documents submitted i.e., Form 1, Mining Plan, and presentation being made to the EAC.
- That the project is being submitted for grant of revalidation of EC under the provisions of MoEF&CC S.O. 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018.

**30.7.17: ADS information in chronology:** The proposal was initially considered in 44<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 24/25<sup>th</sup> April 2019 wherein the committee deferred the proposal for additional information. PP submitted the reply vide letter no.47 dated 25.06.2025 and uploaded the same on the PARIVESH portal. Later the ministry further sought ADS which again submitted vide letter no. 47 dated 16.07.2025. Details of the same are as follows:

The proponent submitted the ADS reply vide letter dated 25.06.2025, uploaded on PARIVESH on 25.06.2025. Point-wise reply of ADS is as below –

S. No.	ADS Point	Reply/ Response of PP
1.	Public notice shall be issued through concerned SPCB for information of the stakeholders about the present coal mining operations inviting comments and their redressal	A Public Notice was issued by Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board on 11.02.2022 in one national daily newspaper, Hindustan Times and on 12.02.2022 in one local daily newspaper Dainik Bhaskar, Raipur informing the stakeholders about the present coal mining operations and inviting their comments. (Publication copies are submitted).  Subsequently, Regional Officer CECB, Ambikapur vide his letter dated 27.09.2023 has informed that no grievances or comments were received from the public against the publications. Copy of the letter has been submitted.
2.	Mining Plan and Progressive Mine Closure Plan duly approved by the competent authority	Mining Plan including Mine Closure Plan for West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine, covering an area of 491.07 hectares with capacity of 0.33 MTPA has been approved by CoFD SECL on 20.06.2025, is enclosed as Annexure-III. The mining area has been reduced to 491.070 ha in place of 1065.67 ha.
3.	Compliance status of the conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance from the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry.	Compliance status of the conditions stipulated in the environmental clearance from Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board, Raipur is submitted.
4.	Valid Consent to operate from the State Pollution Control Board for the present mining operations.	Consent to Operate (CTO) has been obtained from CECB which is valid till 31.08.2025 (copy submitted).
5.	Redressal of issues raised during the public hearing conducted by the SPCB.	A detailed report of redressal of issues which were raised during the public hearing conducted on 08.08.2003 is submitted.
6.	Coal production realized from the mine from 1993-94 vis-à-vis capacity stipulated in the environment clearance.	Coal production data vis-à-vis capacity stipulated in the environment clearance is submitted.
7.	Need assessment survey for the activities proposed under the CSR and the comprehensive plan to be prepared accordingly for implementation by the project proponent. Also, impact of the CSR activities undertaken at an interval of 5 years to be evaluated and a report to be submitted.	A Need Assessment Survey was conducted in November 2023 by a team comprising representatives from SECL Hasdeo Area HQ and mine officials in three villages namely Khongapani, Bangawan and Dola falling in the core zone of the project. An in-depth report detailing the survey techniques along with an implementation strategy of the identified CSR works, is submitted.  A report on impact of CSR activities undertaken at an interval of 5 years is also submitted.
8.	Forest clearance for diversion of 17.50 ha of forest land as required under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.	Stage-II Forest Clearance for 256.545 ha has been granted by MoEF&CC, New Delhi, vide F.No. 8-72/2002-FC dated 06.12.2019, which includes 213.510 ha of forest land falling within the mining plan of West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine.
9.	Details of court cases and the compliance of the orders, if any.	There are no court cases against pending against West Jhagrakhand UG Coal Mine of SECL under any act or rule related to Environment under any court of law or Hon'ble NGT. An undertaking for the same is submitted.
10.	Compliance of the Ministry's OM dated 30th May, 2018	This is a revalidation case. The project proponent has submitted the application for revalidation of EC to MOEF&CC, New Delhi in compliance of the Gazette Notification issued by MOEF&CC, New Delhi on dated 14.09.2018. The proposal was considered in the EAC meeting held on 24-25.04.2019.

The proponent submitted the ADS reply vide letter dated 16.07.2025, uploaded on PARIVESH on 16.07.2025. Point wise reply of ADS is given as below:

S. No.	ADS dated 08.07.2025 for West Jhagrakhand UG Mine	Reply
1.	The proposal was originally considered by the EAC in its 44th EAC meeting held on 24-25.04.2019 and deferred for want of additional information. The reply to the ADS was submitted on 25.06.2025, after a span of more the 6 years. PP shall justify the reasons for submitting the ADS reply after more than 6 years.	<p>The delay of approximately six years in submission of the reply to the queries raised during the EAC meeting held on 24–25 April 2019, in connection with the West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine, is deeply regretted.</p> <p>It is respectfully submitted that the delay may kindly be considered in view of the following justifications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic (2020 to 2022): The COVID-19 pandemic severely affected field operations, availability of manpower, and coordination with various statutory authorities. This disruption also led to significant delay in activities such as the Need Assessment Survey, which involved extensive field-level surveys in nearby villages.</li> <li>2. Delay in Receipt of Public Consultation Response: As per the instructions of the EAC, the public notice regarding the West Jhagrakhand UG Mine was issued on 11 February 2022. Despite continuous follow-up, the official response from the Regional Officer, CECB Ambikapur, regarding comments or objections from project-affected persons was received only on 27 September 2023.</li> <li>3. Delay in Finalisation of Revised Mining Plan: The process of reassessment, preparation, and approval of the revised mining plan took considerable time. The plan was approved on 20 June 2025.</li> <li>4. Delay in Issuance of Certified Compliance Report (CCR): A site inspection was carried out on 16 and 17 August 2023 by an official from the Integrated Regional Office (IRO), Raipur. However, the Compliance Certification Report was not issued thereafter. Multiple requests were made for re-inspection and issuance of the report, but the same were not acted upon. Subsequently, in accordance with the MoEF&amp;CC Office Memorandum dated 8 June 2022, a formal request was made to the CECB for site inspection and issuance of the CCR. The site inspection was conducted by the Regional Officer, CECB Ambikapur on 8 January 2025, and the report was issued on 9 January 2025.</li> </ol>
2.	As per EC dated 06.09.2006, the forestland involved in the said project is 320 Ha. However, in the MoM of 44th EAC meeting, it is stated that, “Stage – I forestry clearance has been obtained in two parts, for 40.81 Ha on 10.01.2008 and on 256.545 Ha on 16.08.2010. Further, in ADS PP has been asked to submit forestry clearance on 17.50 Ha of forestland. There is no clarity in the quantum of ML area and the forestland involved in the said project. Kindly submit the	<p>As per the Environment Clearance dated 06.09.2006, the forest land involved in the project is 320 hectares. However, only 213.51 hectares of forest land, which forms part of the 256.545 hectares of forest land, is presently involved in the mining plan of the mine.</p> <p>It may be noted that, all SECL proposals, including West Jhagrakhand UG Mine discussed in 44th EAC meeting has an erroneous mention of 17.5 hectares of forest land in its Minutes of Meeting. Forestry Clearance of 17.5 hectares is not a part of West Jhagrakhand UG Mine.</p> <p>In regard to requirement of letter from DFO, a request letter has been sent to DFO, Manendragarh on 16.07.2025 requesting issuance of letter stating the status of the</p>

S. No.	ADS dated 08.07.2025 for West Jhagrakhand UG Mine	Reply
	status of ML area being reduced. Out of the total land being reduced, bifurcation for forestland and non-forestland is required to be submitted. At the same time, PP shall obtain a letter from DFO regarding the status of the forestland being reduced from the project area that no mining activities have been carried out under the same.	forestland being reduced from the project area (Copy of letter is submitted).
3.	Kindly clarify as to why the certified compliance report has not been obtained from the Ministry's RO, but from the CECB. Also, action taken report for the same is required to be submitted.	<p>It is humbly submitted that on request of the Mine Management, a site inspection was conducted by IRO, Raipur on 16-17 June 2023. Subsequently, multiple requests were made to IRO Raipur for issuance of CCR or conducting site inspection again for issuance of CCR via email and in physical meetings but there was no response from their end.</p> <p>Hence, as per MoEF&amp;CC O.M. dated 08.06.2022, a request was made to CECB, Raipur for conducting site inspection and issuance of CCR. The site inspection was conducted by Regional Officer, CECB Ambikapur on 08.01.2025 and the CCR was issued on 09.01.2025.</p> <p>As per CCR, there is no non-complied or partially complied condition. However, action taken report regarding observation of Regional Officer, CECB Ambikapur is submitted.</p>
4.	As per EC dated 06.09.2006, the life of the mine at the rated capacity is 15 years. Accordingly, the EC was valid till 05.09.2020. PP may clarify on what basis the production is still being continued when the validity of EC has expired.	<p>As per EC, rated capacity was 0.33 MTY for 15 years, aimed at extraction of 4.95 MT coal reserve. However, during this period, due to unfavourable geo mining conditions, coal production of only 3.0 MT could be achieved, with a cumulative production of 3.396 MT upto March 2025.</p> <p>In view of this, a revised mining plan has been prepared for the available reserve of 1.23 million tonnes, with a reduced capacity of 0.13 MTPA and extended mine life of 08 years.</p> <p>It may kindly be noted that the proposal for revalidation of the EC is under consideration, and production is currently being undertaken in continuity of the existing operations, without any enhancement in capacity or change in mining methodology, while adhering to all environmental safeguards.</p>
5.	Kindly submit the details of sensitive receptors on the coal transportation road, along with the mitigation measures being followed and further proposed to be followed.	<p>Details of sensitive receptors on the coal transportation road are as follows:</p> <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri Higher Secondary School, Khongapani</li> <li>2. Govt. Primary School, B-Seam Colliery</li> </ol> <p>Residential areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Khongapani</li> <li>2. B-Seam colony</li> <li>3. Sector-C colony, Rajnagar</li> </ol> <p>Mitigation measures being followed and further proposed to be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black-topped road constructed along the entire stretch of the coal transportation route to minimize dust generation from vehicle movement.</li> <li>• All coal-laden tippers optimally loaded and covered</li> </ul>

S. No.	ADS dated 08.07.2025 for West Jhagrakhand UG Mine	Reply								
		<p>with tarpaulin to prevent coal spillage and control of fugitive dust emissions during transportation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular use of truck-mounted fogging machines along transportation route for effective suppression of airborne dust generated by vehicular movement.</li><li>• Mechanical road sweeping carried out at regular intervals for removal of accumulated dust from the road surface to maintain cleanliness and reduce resuspension.</li><li>• Fugitive dust emission monitoring shall be done for the transportation route.</li><li>• Installation of Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (CAAQMS) within the mine boundary – monitoring of ambient air quality on real-time basis; installation and commissioning expected by 31.07.2025.</li></ul>								
6.	Kindly submit the drone video and the geo-tagged photographs of the coal transportation route.	<p>The geotagged photographs of the coal transportation route are submitted.</p> <p>The drone video will be shared physically or during EAC meeting due to constraints of uploading of large sized files on portal.</p>								
7.	Kindly submit the status of Schedule – I species observed in the study area and Wildlife Conservation Plan for the said project.	<p>The Wildlife Conservation Plan for West Jhagrakhand UG Mine has been prepared by TFRI, Jabalpur and duly approved by PCCF (Wildlife), Raipur. As per the Conservation Plan, the following Schedule-I species have been reported in the area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Sloth Bear (<i>Melursus ursinus</i>).</li><li>2. Indian Gazelle (<i>Gazella bennettii</i>)</li></ol> <p>An amount of ₹10,24,29,000/- has already been deposited in CAMPA as directed by the Chhattisgarh Forest Department for its implementation. (Copy of Wildlife Conservation Plan &amp; DFO demand note are submitted)</p>								
8.	<p>Kindly submit the details of water requirement for the said project and the latest status of CGWA application renewal. Kindly make sure that the factual data mentioned in Form, Mine plan, presentation and EIA/ EMP Report are in the same order and do not mismatch.</p> <p>All the documents provided by your good self must be legible. Also, along with the corrections mentioned above, please ensure the completeness of the Form and all the documents.</p>	<p>NOC was obtained from Central Ground Water Authority for groundwater abstraction in West Jhagrakhand UG Mine vide NOC no. CGWA/NOC/MIN/ORIG/2023/19502 which was valid till 11.01.2025. Owing to the technical issues pertaining to import of application and NOC from NOCAP portal to Bhuneer App portal, the mine management was unable to apply for renewal which was promptly communicated to the Authority vide email dated 08.01.2025. As a compliance measure and proactive step, the renewal application was submitted to CGWA vide email dated 13.01.2025. Finally, the application was submitted on 22.03.2025 and is currently under process for payment of charges.</p> <p>The water requirement for West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine, as assessed and detailed in the Comprehensive Hydrogeological Report prepared by CMPDIL; submitted along with the renewal application for CGWA NOC is as follows:</p> <table><tr><th>S. No.</th><th>Purpose/ Activity</th><th>Demand (KLD)</th><th>Remarks</th></tr><tr><td>1.</td><td>Domestic use in mines</td><td>2726</td><td>Mine water use for Domestic/Potable water demand (2700 KLD) after treatment from filter plant for</td></tr></table>	S. No.	Purpose/ Activity	Demand (KLD)	Remarks	1.	Domestic use in mines	2726	Mine water use for Domestic/Potable water demand (2700 KLD) after treatment from filter plant for
S. No.	Purpose/ Activity	Demand (KLD)	Remarks							
1.	Domestic use in mines	2726	Mine water use for Domestic/Potable water demand (2700 KLD) after treatment from filter plant for							

S. No.	ADS dated 08.07.2025 for West Jhagrakhand UG Mine	Reply			
					colony, Mine site drinking: 26 KLD
		2.	Green belt development	2	Treated mine water for greenbelt development
		3.	Suppression of Dust	432	Treated mine water for dust suppression
		4.	Other items	1945	Other industrial use: 71 KLD 1874 KLD of surplus water discharge to natural water course for irrigation and domestic use by local populace.
		<b>Total</b>		<b>5105</b>	

**30.7.18: Written Submission:** PP submitted the following during the meeting:

S. No.	Particulars	Reply
1	Application form copy along with other documents supporting balance mine life as 8 years as on 01.04.2018.	The covering letter, along with Form-I and other supporting documents submitted in 2018 for EC revalidation under EIA Notification, 2006 is submitted.
2	PP shall obtain a letter from DFO regarding the status of the forestland being reduced from the project area that no mining activities have been carried out under the same.	Stage-II Forest Clearance (FC) has been granted for a total area of 256.545 ha. Out of this, 213.51 ha of forest land is involved in the West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine, while the remaining 43.035 ha has been diverted for infrastructure purposes and no mining has been done in this land. In this regard, the letter obtained from DFO, Manendragarh is submitted.

**Observation and deliberation of the EAC:**

**30.7.19: The Committee noted the following:**

1. The instant proposal is for revalidation of EC accorded by M/s South Eastern Coalfields Ltd for West Jhagrakhand Underground Mine vide letter no. J-11015/196/2005-IA.II(M) dated 06.09.2006 under EIA Notification, 1994, for the production capacity of 0.33 MTPA within the leasehold area of 1065.67 Ha. In the instant proposal, the ML area is being reduced from 1065.67 Ha to 491.07 Ha. The revalidation of EC granted is under EIA Notification 2006 (as amended) as per the provision of S.O 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018 read with OM dated 16.02.2021.
2. PP applied for revalidation of EC in PARIVESH Portal on 14.09.2018, i.e., well within the window period of 6 months (i.e. before 5.10.2018) and also submitted Form-1 as required under S.O 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018 for the re-validation of EC



under EIA Notification 2006 (as amended).

3. Committee observed that the said project was earlier apprised in the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of EAC (Coal Mining Sector) held on 24-25/04/2019 and the same was deferred for want of additional information. PP submitted the same vide letter dated 25.06.2025 and 16.07.2025 on PARIVESH 1.0 Portal.
4. Committee observed that the coal produced from the said mines is well within the EC capacity, since the EC is granted and there is no excess production.
5. Committee deliberated on the certified compliance report obtained by the PP. Committee observed that status of compliance of earlier EC was obtained from Regional office of Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board (SPCB) vide letter no – 2433 dated 09.01.2025 in name of West Jhagrakhand Underground Coal mine and subsequently forwarded by the Member Secretary of CECB vide no – 10736 dated 14.02.2025. No non – complied/ partially complied conditions reported in Certified Compliance report of EC 0.33 MTPA of West Jhagrakhand Underground Coal mine.
6. Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA)/ Severely Polluted Area (SPA), as per CEPI Assessment 2018.
7. Committee observed that as per the EC dated 06.09.2006, the project involved the ML area of 1065.67 Ha. The same is now being reduced to 491.07 Ha. Committee deliberated on the reasons for reducing the ML area and observed that, out of the total 574.6 Ha of area being reduced is 445.09 Ha area being overlapping with the other SECL mines and remaining 129.51 Ha area is non-workable. Committee further observed that, as per the EC dated 06.09.2006, the project involved 320 Ha of forestland and 745.67 Ha of non-forestland. Now, after the area being reduced to 491.07 Ha, the project will involve, 213.505 Ha of forestland and 277.565 Ha of non-forestland. Stage – II forest clearance for the forestland involved in the same project has been obtained vide letter dated 16.02.2022.
8. The project is not located within 10 km of any ESZ/ ESA/ national park/ wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve/ tiger reserve/ elephant reserve/ tiger corridor/ elephant corridor etc. The project involves Schedule – I species and the Wildlife Conservation Plan for the same has been approved by PCCF (Wildlife), Raipur vide letter no. wildlife/Management-416/17/5636 dated 28.11.2017. An amount of ₹10.24 Crs. has already been deposited in CAMPA Fund on 08.03.2018 as directed by the Chhattisgarh Forest Department for its implementation.
9. The Mining Plan including Mine Closure Plan for the project was approved by CoFD SECL Bilaspur on 20.06.2025 for (capacity-0.33 MTPA, Area-491.07 Ha). Method of Mining to be adopted shall be underground mining with Bord and Pillar method.
10. Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 24.19 MT with 19.35 MT mineable reserves. Out of the total mineable reserve of 19.35 MT, 1.23 MT are available for extraction as on 01.04.2025. The percentage of extraction is 80% (w.r.t geological reserve). Grade of coal is G-5 to G-6.
11. PP submitted that, as per the mine plan approved vide letter dated 20.06.2025, the life

of mine is 8 years (as on 01.04.2025). Committee deliberated on the said aspect, as the life of mine as per the EC dated 06.09.2006 was 15 years, according to which the said EC was only valid till 05.09.2021. However, the PP submitted that while submitting the application for revalidation on 14.09.2018, the life of mine was submitted to be 8 years (as on 01.04.2018).

12. Committee deliberated on the method of transportation of coal being followed in the said project and observed that, from in – pit to surface the coal is being transported through series of conveyor belts. Then from surface to Rajnagar RO railway siding by covered tippers, at a distance of approx. 6.72 km. Further from siding to loading the same is being transported through closed conveyor belts. Committee opined that PP shall take adequate measures to control the pollution being done due to road transportation of coal and PP shall carryout regular maintenance of the potholes on roads, repair and maintenance of roads, scrapping of material fallen on roads, and removal of scraps from mining areas. Along with this, PP shall make sure that all the pollution control equipments are in good working condition and maintenance of those equipments are regularly carried out.  
Committee also opined that PP shall develop thick plantation with native and fruit bearing species on both the sides of the coal transportation road.
13. Committee deliberated on the routine monitoring data of the AAQ parameters of the said mine and observed that all the parameters are within the permissible limits.
14. Committee deliberated on the water requirement of the said project and observed that, the water required for the said project is 3231 KLD (Industrial use: 505 KLD and Domestic use: 2726 KLD). NoC for the same has been obtained from CGWA, which was valid up to 11.01.2025. Renewal application has also been made for the same and the same is under process. Committee further observed that there is no water body diverted and none is proposed to be diverted in future for the said project.
15. Committee deliberated on the public consultation done by the PP for the said project and observed that, advertisement for the same was published on 11.02.2022 in Hindustan times and on 12.02.2022 in Dainik Bhaskar. As per the communication obtained from CECB Ambikapur, no written objections were received in this regard. However, PP has submitted the action plan for public hearing issues of PH held on 08.08.2003 as per the Ministry's OM dated 30.09.2020. The budget allocated for the same is Rs. 100 Lakhs, which is proposed to be implemented within 8 years. Committee opined that the same shall be implemented efficiently in a time bound manner.
16. Further, Committee deliberated on EMP budget submitted by the PP and observed that, the capital cost for environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 388 Lakhs and the annual recurring cost towards the environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs. 225.27 Lakhs/Annum. Committee opined that the same shall be efficiently implemented in a time – bound manner.
17. Committee deliberated on the plantation activities done by the PP till date and observed that, the existing green belt has been developed in 6 ha area which is about 1.22% of the total ML area of 491.07 ha with total sapling of 15000 trees. Proposed greenbelt will be developed in 4.75 ha which is about 1.00% of the total ML area. Thus total of 10.750 ha area (2.18 % of total ML area) will be developed as greenbelt/green cover. Local and native species will be planted with a density of 2500

trees per hectare. PP further submitted that, in addition to it, gap plantation will be carried out to strengthen green cover in forest land falling in mining area. Committee opined that, the PP shall focus on agro-forestry and fruit bearing species shall be distributed and planted on the periphery of the agricultural farms of the villagers, by developing a plan to compensate the farmers/ villagers for survival of these fruit bearing trees. A Three tier plantation shall also be developed on both the sides of the coal transportation road with 2 meter height of saplings of the native and fruit bearing species.

18. Committee observed that no R&R issues are involved in the instant project.
19. There is no legal issues / violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP) Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.
20. Committee opined that the PP shall align its activities with the sustainable development goals.
21. The EAC also deliberated on the ADS reply and written submissions of the project proponent and found it satisfactory.
22. The EAC noted that the Project Proponent has given an undertaking that the data and information given in the application and enclosures are true to the best of his knowledge and belief and no information has been suppressed in the EIA/ EMP reports. If any part of data/ information submitted is found to be false/ misleading at any stage, the project will be rejected and Environmental Clearance given, if any, will be revoked at the risk and cost of the project proponent.

#### **Recommendations of the Committee:**

**30.7.20:** In view of the foregoing and after detailed deliberations, the committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of revalidation of EC dated 06.09.2006 as per provisions of S.O. 1530(E) dated 06.04.2018 read with OM dated 16.02.2021. Grant of revalidation of EC is subject to the compliance of the following specific conditions and standard conditions in addition to the conditions granted in earlier EC:

#### **Specific Conditions:**

1. PP shall monitor the subsidence and take necessary measures/ steps for filling the subsidence area as per subsidence plan.
2. The budget proposed for Public Hearing is Rs. 100 Lakhs. The budget proposed shall be kept in a separate account and shall be audited annually. Project proponent shall implement the action plan to address the issues raised during public hearing within a time frame of 8 years from the date of grant of revalidation of EC. PP shall submit the progress report regarding the implementation of the action plan to concerned RO along with the six-monthly compliance report.
3. Project proponent shall implement the protective measure proposed in Environment Management Plan (EMP) in a time-bound manner. The budget earmarked for the same is Rs 388 Lakhs (Capital) and Rs 225.27 Lakhs per annum (recurring) and should be kept in separate accounts and audited annually. The implementation status along with the amount spent with documentary proof shall be submitted to the

concerned Regional Office for the activities carried out during the previous year.

4. Only 213.505 Ha of forestland shall be utilized for mining activities in the instant project, against the 256.545 ha of forest clearance accorded. PP shall clearly demarcate the same, in consultation with the State forest department, not included in the instant proposal. All officers, supervisors, overman, mate, workers, operators, persons employed in the mine should be made aware about the unutilised forestland and its boundaries so that there is no disturbance of the same.
5. Proponent shall carryout regular maintenance of the potholes on roads, repair and maintenance of roads, scrapping of material fallen on roads, and removal of scraps from mining areas. Along with this, PP shall make sure that all the pollution control equipments are in good working condition and maintenance of those equipments are regularly carried out.
6. Project proponent shall obtain ground water clearance from CGWA for the water requirement of 3231 KLD.
7. Total plantation by the end of the mine life shall be done in at least 10.750 Ha of the ML area. Apart from this agro forestry and community plantation shall be carried out on the land purchased for surface rights. Dense plantation shall also be carried out on both the sides of coal transportation roads with at least of 2 meter height saplings in this monsoon of 2025. Plantation shall be done with the mainly native and fruit bearing species. Apart from this, gap plantation shall be done on the forestland involved in the ML area, in consultation with the forest department.
8. Project Proponent shall ensure that all types of plastic waste generated from the mines shall be stored separately in isolated areas and disposed of strictly adhering to the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016. In pursuant to the Ministry's OM dated 18/07/2022, PP shall also create awareness among the people working in the project area as well as in its surrounding area on the ban on Single Use Plastic (SUP) in order to ensure compliance of the Ministry's Notification published by the Ministry on 12/08/2021. A report along with the photographs of the measures taken shall also be included in the six monthly compliance reports being submitted by PP.
9. PP should establish an Environment Management Cell at its mines in order to make sure that all the compliances related to environment are being complied efficiently. PP should conduct the monthly review meeting with the environment management cell shall be carried out at mine level and quarterly at with environment management committee of the company. The record of the same shall be maintained.
10. The proponent shall obtain all necessary clearances/approvals that may be required before the start of the project.
11. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.
12. The Environmental Clearance to the aforementioned project is under provisions of EIA Notification, 2006. It does not tantamount to approvals/consent/permissions etc. required to be obtained under any other Act/Rule/regulation.
13. Project Proponent is under obligation to obtain approvals /clearances under any other Acts/Regulations or Statutes, as applicable, to the project.
14. Project Proponent is under obligation to implement commitments made in the Environment Management Plan, which forms part of this EC.

15. Validity of EC is as per the para 9 of EIA Notification 2006 read with its subsequent amendment dated 12th April 2022.
16. 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.
17. 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 2nd August, 2017 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.114/2014 in the matter of Common Cause Vs Union of India & others.
18. 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. 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.
19. All other conditions stipulated in EC dated 06.09.2006 shall remain the same.

**General Instructions:**

- a. The project proponent shall prominently advertise it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days indicating that the project has been accorded environment clearance and the details of MoEF&CC website where it is displayed.
- b. 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 must display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
- c. The project proponent shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors (in case of Company) or competent authority, duly prescribing 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.
- d. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the project proponent (during construction phase) and authorized entity mandated with compliance of conditions (during operational phase) shall be prepared. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Six monthly progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report.
- e. 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.
- f. The Regional Office of this MoEF&CC 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.

**ANNEXURE-I**

**GENERIC TOR FOR AN OPEN CAST COAL MINE PROJECT**

- (i) An EIA-EMP Report shall be prepared for MTPA rated capacity in an ML/project area of.....ha based on the generic structure specified in Appendix III of the EIA Notification, 2006.
- (ii) An EIA-EMP Report would be prepared for..... MTPA rated capacity to cover the impacts and environment management plan for the project specific activities on the environment of the region, and the environmental quality encompassing air, water, land, biotic community, etc. through collection of data and information, generation of data on impacts including prediction modeling for MTPA of coal production based on approved project/Mining Plan for.....MTPA. Baseline data collection can be for any season (three months) except monsoon.
- (iii) A toposheet specifying locations of the State, District and Project site should be provided.
- (iv) A Study area map of the core zone (project area) and 10 km area of the buffer zone (1: 50,000 scale) clearly delineating the major topographical features such as the land use, surface drainage pattern including rivers/streams/nullahs/canals, locations of human habitations, major constructions including railways, roads, pipelines, major industries/mines and other polluting sources. In case of ecologically sensitive areas such as Biosphere Reserves/National Parks/WL Sanctuaries/ Elephant Reserves, forests (Reserved/Protected), migratory corridors of fauna, and areas where endangered fauna and plants of medicinal and economic importance found in the 15 km study area should be given.
- (v) Land use map (1: 50,000 scale) based on a recent satellite imagery of the study area may also be provided with explanatory note on the land use.
- (vi) Map showing the core zone delineating the agricultural land (irrigated and un-irrigated, uncultivable land as defined in the revenue records, forest areas (as per records), along with other physical features such as water bodies, etc should be furnished.
- (vii) A contour map showing the area drainage of the core zone and 25 km of the study area (where the water courses of the core zone ultimately join the major rivers/streams outside the lease/project area) should also be clearly indicated in the separate map.
- (viii) A detailed Site plan of the mine showing the proposed break-up of the land for mining operations such as the quarry area, OB dumps, green belt, safety zone, buildings, infrastructure, CHP, ETP, Stockyard, township/colony (within and adjacent to the ML), undisturbed area -if any, and landscape features such as existing roads, drains/natural water bodies to be left undisturbed along with any natural drainage adjoining the lease /project areas, and modification of thereof in terms of construction of embankments/bunds, proposed diversion/re-channeling of the water courses, etc., approach roads, major haul roads, etc should be indicated.
- (ix) In case of any proposed diversion of nallah/canal/river, the proposed route of diversion/modification of drainage and their realignment, construction of embankment etc. should also be shown on the map as per the approval of Irrigation and flood control Department of the concerned state.
- (x) Similarly, if the project involves diversion of any road/railway line passing through the ML/project area, the proposed route of diversion and its realignment should be shown in the map along with the status of the approval of the competent authority.
- (xi) Break up of lease/project area as per different land uses and their stage of acquisition should be provided.

LAND USE DETAILS FOR OPEN CAST PROJECT should be given as per the following table:

Sl. No.	Land use	Within ML area (ha)	Outside ML area (ha)	Total
1.	Agricultural land			
2.	Forestland			
3.	Wasteland			
4.	Grazingland			
5.	Surface water bodies			
6.	Settlements			
7.	Others (specify)			
	TOTAL			

- (xii) Break-up of lease/project area as per mining plan should be provided.
- (xiii) Impact of changes in the land use due to the project if the land is predominantly agricultural land/forest land/grazing land, should be provided.
- (xiv) One-season (other than monsoon) primary baseline data on environmental quality - air (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>x</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub> and heavy metals such as Hg, Pb, Cr, As, etc), noise, water (surface and groundwater), soil - along with one-season met data coinciding with the same season for AAQ collection period should be provided.
- (xv) Map (1: 50, 000 scale) of the study area (core and buffer zone) showing the location of various sampling stations superimposed with location of habitats, other industries/mines, polluting sources, should be provided. The number and location of the sampling stations in both core and buffer zones should be selected on the basis of size of lease/project area, the proposed impacts in the downwind (air)/downstream (surface water)/groundwater regime (based on flow). One station should be in the upwind/upstream/non-impact/non- polluting area as a control station. The monitoring should be as per CPCB guidelines and parameters for water testing for both ground water and surface water as per ISI standards and CPCB classification wherever applicable. Observed values should be provided along with the specified standards.
- (xvi) Study on the existing flora and fauna in the study area (10km) should be carried out by an institution of relevant discipline. The list of flora and fauna duly authenticated separately for the core and study area and a statement clearly specifying whether the study area forms a part of the migratory corridor of any endangered fauna should be given. If the study area has endangered flora and fauna, or if the area is occasionally visited or used as a habitat by Schedule-I species, or if the project falls within 15 km of an ecologically sensitive area, or used as a migratory corridor then a Comprehensive Conservation Plan along with the appropriate budgetary provision should be prepared and submitted with EIA-EMP Report; and comments/observation from the CWLW of the State Govt. should also be obtained and furnished.
- (xvii) Details of mineral reserves, geological status of the study area and the seams to be worked, ultimate working depth and progressive stage-wise working scheme until the end of mine life should be provided on the basis of the approved rated capacity and calendar plans of production from the approved Mining Plan. Geological maps and sections should be included. The Progressive mine development and Conceptual Final Mine Closure Plan should also be shown in figures. Details of mine plan and mine closure plan approval of Competent Authority should be furnished for green field and expansion projects.
- (xviii) Details of mining methods, technology, equipment to be used, etc., rationale for selection of specified technology and equipment proposed to be used vis- à-vis the potential impacts should be provided.



- (xix) Impact of mining on hydrology, modification of natural drainage, diversion and channeling of the existing rivers/water courses flowing through the ML and adjoining the lease/project and the impact on the existing users and impacts of mining operations thereon.
- (xx) Detailed water balance should be provided. The break-up of water requirement for the various mine operations should be given separately.
- (xxi) Source of water for use in mine, sanction of the Competent Authority in the State Govt and impacts vis-à-vis the competing users in the upstream and downstream of the project site should be given.
- (xxii) Impact of mining and water abstraction from the mine on the hydrogeology and groundwater regime within the core zone and 10 km buffer zone including long-term monitoring measures should be provided. Details of rainwater harvesting and measures for recharge of groundwater should be reflected in case there is a declining trend of groundwater availability and/or if the area falls within dark/grey zone.
- (xxiii) Impact of blasting, noise and vibrations should be given.
- (xxiv) Impacts of mining on the AAQ and predictions based on modeling using the ISCST-3 (Revised) or latest model should be provided.
- (xxv) Impacts of mineral transportation within the mining area and outside the lease/project along with flow-chart indicating the specific areas generating fugitive emissions should be provided. Impacts of transportation, handling, transfer of mineral and waste on air quality, generation of effluents from workshop etc, management plan for maintenance of HEMM and other machinery/equipment should be given. Details of various facilities such as rest areas and canteen for workers and effluents/pollution load emanating from these activities should also be provided.
- (xxvi) Effort be made to reduce/eliminate road transport of coal inside and outside mine and for mechanized loading of coal through CHP/ Silo into wagons and trucks/tippers.
- (xxvii) Details of waste OB and topsoil generated as per the approved calendar programme, and their management shown in figures as well explanatory notes tables giving progressive development and mine closure plan, green belt development, backfilling programme and conceptual post mining land use should be given. OB dump heights and terracing based on slope stability studies with a max of 28° angle as the ultimate slope should be given. Sections of final dumps (both longitudinal and cross section) with relation to the adjacent area should be shown.
- (xxviii) Efforts be made for maximizing progressive internal dumping of O.B., sequential mining, external dump on coal bearing area and later rehandling into the mine void. --to reduce land degradation.
- (xxix) Impact of change in land use due to mining operations and plan for restoration of the mined area to its original land use should be provided.
- (xxx) Progressive Green belt and ecological restoration /afforestation plan (both in text, figures and in the tabular form as per the format of MOEFCC given below) and selection of species (native) based on original survey/land-use should be given.

Table 1: Stage-wise Land use and Reclamation Area (ha)

S.N.	Land use Category	Present (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	5 <sup>th</sup> Year	10 <sup>th</sup> Year	20 <sup>th</sup> Year	24 <sup>th</sup> Year (end of mine life)*
1.	Backfilled Area Reclaimed with plantation)					
2.	Excavated Area (not					

	reclaimed)/void					
3.	External OB dump Reclaimed with plantation)					
4.	Reclaimed Top soil dump					
5.	Green Built Area					
6.	Undisturbed area (brought Under plantation)					
7.	Roads (avenue plantation)					
8.	Area around buildings and Infrastructure					
	TOTAL					

\*As a representative example

Table2: Stage Wise Cumulative Plantation

S.No.	YEAR*	Green Belt		External Dump		Backfilled Area		Others (Undisturbed Area/etc)		TOTAL	
1.	1 <sup>st</sup> year										
2.	3 <sup>rd</sup> year										
3.	5 <sup>th</sup> year										
4.	10 <sup>th</sup> year										
5.	15 <sup>th</sup> year										
6.	20 <sup>th</sup> year										
7.	25 <sup>th</sup> year										
8.	30 <sup>th</sup> year										
9.	34 <sup>th</sup> year (end of minelife)										
10.	34- 37 <sup>th</sup> Year (Post- mining)										

\*As a representative example

(xxxi) Conceptual Final Mine Closure Plan and post-mining land use and restoration of land/habitat to the pre- mining status should be provided. A Plan for the ecological restoration of the mined out area and post mining land use should be prepared with detailed cost provisions. Impact and management of wastes and issues of re-handling (wherever applicable) and backfilling and progressive mine closure and reclamation should be furnished.

Table3:Post-Mining Land use Pattern of ML/Project Area (ha)

S.N.	Land useduring Mining	LandUse(ha)				
		Plantation	Water Body	Public Use	Undisturbed	TOTAL

S.N.	Land useduring Mining	LandUse(ha)				
1.	External OB Dump					
2.	Topsoil Dump					
3.	Excavation					
4.	Roads					
5.	Built up area					
6.	Green Belt					
7.	Undisturbed Area					
	TOTAL					

- (xxxii) Flow chart of water balance should be provided. Treatment of effluents from workshop, township, domestic waste water, mine water discharge, etc. should be provided. Details of STP in colony and ETP in mine should be given. Recycling of water to the maximum possible extent should be done.
- (xxxiii) Occupational health issues. Baseline data on the health of the population in the impact zone and measures for occupational health and safety of the personnel and manpower in the mine should be given.
- (xxxiv) Risk Assessment and Disaster Preparedness and Management Plan should be provided.
- (xxxv) Integration of the Env. Management Plan with measures for minimizing use of natural resources-water, land, energy, etc. should be carried out.
- (xxxvi) Cost of EMP (capital and recurring) should be included in the project cost and for progressive and final mine closure plan.
- (xxxvii) Details of R&R. Detailed project specific R&R Plan with data on the existing socio-economic status of the population (including tribals, SC/ ST, BPL families) found in the study area and broad plan for resettlement of the displaced population, site for the resettlement colony, alternate livelihood concerns/ employment for the displaced people, civic and housing amenities being offered, etc and costs along with the schedule of the implementation of the R&R Plan should be given.
- (xxxviii) CSR Plan along with details of villages and specific budgetary provisions (capital and recurring) for specific activities over the life of the project should be given.
- (xxxix) Corporate Environment Responsibility:
- The Company must have a well-laid down Environment Policy approved by the Board of Directors.
  - The Environment Policy must prescribe for standard operating process/ procedures to bring into focus any infringements/ deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/ conditions.
  - The hierarchical system or Administrative Order of the company to deal with environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the environmental clearance conditions must be furnished.
  - To have proper checks and balances, the company should have a well laid-down system of reporting of non-compliances/ violations of environmental norms to the Board of Directors of the company and/or shareholders or stakeholders at large.
- (xl) Details on Public Hearing should cover the information relating to notices issued in the newspaper, proceedings/ minutes of Public Hearing, the points raised by the general public and commitments made by the proponent and the action proposed with budgets in suitable time frame. These details should be presented in a tabular form. If the Public Hearing is in the regional language, an authenticated English Translation of the same should be provided.

- (xl) Inbuilt mechanism of self-monitoring of compliance of environmental regulations should be indicated.
- (xli) Status of any litigations/court cases filed/ pending on the project should be provided.
- (xliii) Submission of sample test analysis of Characteristics of coal: This should include details on grade of coal and other characteristics such as ash content, Sand heavy metals including levels of Hg, As, Pb, Cr etc.
- (xliv) Copy of clearances/approvals such as Forestry clearances, Mining Plan Approval, mine closer plan approval. NOC from Flood and Irrigation Dept.(if req.), etc. wherever applicable.

FOREST CLEARANCE: Details on the Forest Clearance should be given as per the format given:

TOTAL ML/ PROJECT AREA(Ha)	Total Forestland (Ha)	Date of FC	Extent of forest land	Balance area for which FC is yet to be obtained	Status of Appl for. Diversion of forestland
		If more than, provide details of Each FC			

**Annexure - II**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS OF EAC (COAL) IN 30<sup>TH</sup> MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025, THROUGH VIRTUAL MODE**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name &amp; Address</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>11.08.2025</b>
1.	Shri Inder Pal Singh Matharu, IFS (Retd.)	Chairman	Present
2.	Shri Lalit Kapur	Member	Present
3.	Dr. Umesh Jagannathrao Kahalekar	Member	Present
4.	Dr. Santosh Kumar Hampannavar	Member	Present
5.	Shri Savalge Chandrasekhar	Member	Present
6.	Shri K. B. Biswas	Member	Present
7.	Prof. Shyam Shanker Singh	Member	Present
8.	Dr. Vinod Agrawal	Member	Present
9.	Shri Prasoon Gargava, Scientist - F	Representative of Central Pollution Control Board	Present
10.	Shri Mahi Pal Singh, Chief Engineer	Representative of Central Electricity Authority (CEA)	Present
11.	Shri Harmeet Sahaney	Representative of Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)	Absent
12.	Prof. R M Bhattacharjee	Representative of IIT/ISM Dhanbad	Present
13.	Shri Sundar Ramanathan	Scientist 'F' & Member Secretary	Present
<b>MoEF&amp;CC</b>			
1.	Dr. Rajesh Prasad Rastogi	Scientist 'D'	Present

**Approval of the Chairman**

**Re: Zero Draft Minutes of the 30th EAC (Coal Sector) meeting held on 11th August 2025**

Inderpal Singh Matharu

5:11 PM INBOX

RAJESH PRASAD RASTOGI

**Warning: Possible spam**

The email has been sent from an external organization. Be alert when clicking any links, downloading attachments or sending sensitive information to this sender.

Dear Rastogi ji,

I have gone through the final draft MoM of the 30th EAC- Coal held on 11/08/2025 sent by you. In this all the points have been incorporated including the amendments done in Zero draft of it. I agree with the above Final draft of MoM.

Hence I approve the MoM of the 30th EAC- Coal .

Sincerely yours

Inder Pal Singh Matharu

Chairman

EAC Coal mining and Thermal power

MoEF&CC

Gol