



सत्यमेव जयते

File No.: J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA Division



Dated 21/02/2025



To,

Sh. Raj Kumar
M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
Project Office, Kulda Expansion OC Project, P.O.: Basundhara, Dist.: Sundergarh State: Orissa - 770076
E-mail: pokuldaexpansionmcl@gmail.com

Subject: Kulda Expansion Opencast Project (area 634.205 ha having capacity 21 MTPA) by M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, located at Villages: Karlikachhar, Siarmal, Tiklipada, Tumulia, Balinga, Bankibahal, Barapali & Hushara; District: Sundargarh; State: Odisha- Grant of amendment in EC for extension in timeline for road transportation and implementation of in-pit belt conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding- Regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to your online application vide proposal No. IA/OR/CMIN/442462/2023 dated 28/12/2024 along with CAF (Part A, B and C) and written submission dated 10.02.2025 for seeking amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide letter letter no. J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M) dated 24.05.2022 and its subsequent amendment dated 09/01/2023 & 05/01/2024, under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	
(ii) File No.	J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M)
(iii) Clearance Type	Amendment in EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Schedule No./ Project Activity	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vi) Sector	Coal Mining
(vii) Name of Project	KULDA EXPANSION OPENCAST PROJECT (21 Mty)
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	SUNDARGARH, ODISHA
(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) EC Date	24/05/2022
(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	NO

(xiii) Status of implementation of the project Implemented

3. The proposal was considered by EAC (Coal) in its 20th meeting held during January 20-23rd, 2025. The project activity is listed at schedule no. 1(a) Mining of minerals under schedule A of the EIA Notification, 2006. The minutes of the meeting and all the project documents are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in>.

4. The instant proposal is for amendment in Environment Clearance granted to M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited accorded vide File No.: J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M) dated 24.05.2022 for Kulda Opencast Project (area 634.205 ha having capacity 21 MTPA), located at Villages: Karlikachhar, Siarmal, Tiklipada, Tumulia, Balinga, Bankibahal, Barpalli & Hushara; District: Sundargarh; State: Odisha.

5. Details of all the prior ECs including the EC for which amendment is sought:

Sl. No.	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/ Validity Extension of EC	Capacity in (MTY)	Area in ha	Date	Status of Implementation
1.	J/11015/10/95-IA.II(M)	Fresh EC	10.00	878.290	24/12/2002	Implemented
2.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	14.00 (EC validity for one year)	634.205	22/03/2018	Implemented
3.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	EC validity extension	14.00 (EC validity for one year)	634.205	28/03/2019	Implemented
4.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	EC validity extension	14.00 (Extension/ continuation of EC for 30 years or life of the mine whichever is earlier)	634.205	10/01/2020	Implemented
5.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	16.80 (applied under 7(ii) clause of EIA Notification, 2006 as Ministry's OM dated. 15.09.2017 for first phase 20% expansion in production capacity)	634.205	02/03/2021	Implemented
6.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	19.60 (applied under 7(ii) clause of EIA Notification, 2006 as per Ministry's OM dated 15.09.2017 for second phase of 20% expansion in the production capacity)	634.205	14/02/2022	Being Implemented
7.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	21.00 (applied under 7(ii) clause of EIA	634.205	24/05/2022	Being Implemented

			Notification, 2006 as per the Ministry OM dated 07.05.2022 for another 10% expansion in production capacity as Special Dispensation)			
8.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA.II(M)	Amendment in EC	21.00 (applied for seeking amendment in the condition stipulated in EC dated 14.02.2022, for extension in timeline to implement in-pit conveyor system with silo and allow road transportation.)	634.205	09/01/2023	Being Implemented
9.	J-11015/10/ 1995-IA-II(M)	Amendment in EC	21.00 (applied for seeking amendment in EC condition stipulated in EC dated 09.01.2023, for extension in timeline to implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding as per the directives of EAC is commissioned)	634.205	05/01/2024	Being Implemented

6. PP submitted that the concerned mines became operational from 2007-2008 onward. CTO renewal has been obtained from the SPCB and is valid up to 31.03.2025. Details of the same are as follows:

Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal production in MTPA as per Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
2007-08	10.0	0.15	--
2008-09	10.0	2.47	--
2009-10	10.0	3.43	--
2010-11	10.0	5.02	--
2011-12	10.0	5.54	--
2012-13	10.0	5.50	--
2013-14	10.0	5.27	--
2014-15	10.0	4.80	--
2015-16	10.0	8.02	--
2016-17	10.0	10.00	--
2017-18	14.0	10.07	--
2018-19	14.00	12.81	--
2019-20	14.00	13.62	--
2020-21	16.80	15.73	--
2021-22	19.60	18.49	--

Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal production in MTPA as per Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
2022-23	21.00	21.00	--
2023-24	21.00	21.00	--

7. Details regarding amendment sought in the EC dated 24/05/2022 & its subsequent amendment dated 09/01/2023 & 05/01/2024

Details of Condition in which amendment is sought	Existing	Proposed/ Amendment	Reason
Additional Specific condition no. 1.3 in the EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December, 2024 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop and accordingly, SPCB shall grant CTO for road transportation.	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after June 2027 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop.	CTO is linked with the EC condition for ensuring further operation of this mine and to ensure continuous offtake of coal by the consumers to avoid stockpiling of coal and its degradation.
Additional Specific condition no. 1.4 in the EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 5.42 km till railway siding by December, 2024. SPCB shall not grant CTO for non-implementation of In-pit belt conveyor system after December, 2024.	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 4.245 km till railway siding by June 2027 .	

8. Traffic Assessment Route:

Mine pit to surface: By trucks and tippers

A. Interim transport arrangement

Details of Condition in which amendment is sought	Existing	Proposed/ Amendment	Reason
Additional Specific condition no. 1.3 in the EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December, 2024 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop and accordingly, SPCB shall grant CTO for road transportation.	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after June 2027 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop.	CTO is linked with the EC condition for ensuring further operation of this mine and to ensure continuous offtake of coal by the consumers to avoid stockpiling of coal and its degradation.
Additional Specific condition no. 1.4 in the EC amendment letter dated	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 5.42 km till railway siding by December, 2024. SPCB shall not grant CTO for non-implementation	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 4.245 km till railway siding by June 2027 .	

Details of Condition in which amendment is sought	Existing	Proposed/ Amendment	Reason
05.01.2024	of In-pit belt conveyor system after December, 2024.		

B. Transportation arrangement after Barpalli loop completion

Name of the mine	Capacity of the mine in MTPA		Coal evacuation rail arrangements with capacities existing	
			Barpalli Bulb Siding (Capacity: 90 MTPA)	Sardega Siding (Capacity: 40 MTPA)
Kulda Opencast project	21	21	21 MTPA	--
	Through Railway sidings: 21 MTPA		Through 2.5 km closed conveyor only from surface to Barpalli Bulb siding	Through 6.245 km closed conveyor only from coal surface to Sardega siding Standby arrangement if Barpalli bulb is put on stall due to maintenance.

9. **Traffic Impact Assessment Report:** PP submitted the Traffic Impact Assessment Report for Kulda OCP. Findings of the same are as follows:

Transportation of Coal and Traffic Load:

The coal transportation road from Kulda OCP originates from coal stockyard of Kulda OCP to the truck receiving hopper of Sardega Siding (stretch of 4.1 km & width 10.5 m). The Coal Transportation (CT) road towards Sardega Siding is a Pavement Quality Concrete (PQC) Road. This CT road is only for coal transportation and no other vehicle ply on this road. Coal to Sardega Siding is being dispatched through 40T capacity transportation trucks. This coal is discharged to a truck receiving hopper and further transported to Sardega Siding through belt (2.0 km) and RLS (20.0 Mty).

The traffic assessment details of the above road as submitted by the PP is detailed below:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Unit
1.	Coal dispatch to Sardega Siding per day	32876.71 Tonne
2.	Considering 40 T trucks no. of trips	822 trips
3.	Considering 21 hours duration of truck movement no. of trucks per hour	39 trucks
4.	No. of Passenger Car Unit (PCU) per hour	145
5.	Considering up and down movement the total PCU per hour	290

The vehicles passing through the road were counted at this route for 24 hrs duration on 19.12.2024. The number of vehicles per hour were counted and converted into Passenger Car Units (PCU"s) using factor given in IRC: 106- 1990.

Location	Traffic Assessment		
	No of PCU's/hr	V/C	LoS
Road to Sardega Siding	290	0.19	A
2 lane (Two Way) undivided as per IRC: 106 -1990 - 1500 PCUs			

From above table it can be observed that the CT road towards Sardega Siding falls under "Excellent" category.

The current proposal is only for permission to continue dispatch to Sardega Siding by this dedicated Coal transportation road for the same quantity i.e. 8.0 Mty (for Kulda OCP) which is currently dispatched. There is no increase in dispatch quantity.

Ambient Air Quality Monitoring

Annual data (2024) of 3 nearby CAAQMS i.e CAAQMS at Kulda OCP (0.78 km), CAAQMS at Jagannath Mandir (0.85 km) & CAAQMS at Siarmal OCP (adjacent mine) has been summarised.

PM_{2.5} annual average values were recorded as 23.78 µg/m³, 32.90 µg/m³ and 49.30 µg/m³ at Kulda OCP (0.78 km), CAAQMS at Jagannath Mandir (0.85 km) & CAAQMS at Siarmal OCP (adjacent mine) respectively as compared to Annual Standard of 40 µg/m³.

PM₁₀ annual average values were recorded as 53.91 µg/m³ , 52.10 µg/m³ and 72.50 µg/m³ at Kulda OCP (0.78 km), CAAQMS at Jagannath Mandir (0.85 km) & CAAQMS at Siarmal OCP (adjacent mine) respectively as compared to Annual Standard of 60 µg/m³.

SO₂ annual average values were recorded as 3.28 µg/m³ , 3.30 µg/m³ and 13.30 µg/m³ at Kulda OCP (0.78 km), CAAQMS at Jagannath Mandir (0.85 km) & CAAQMS at Siarmal OCP (adjacent mine) respectively as compared to Annual Standard of 50 µg/m³.

NO_x annual average values were recorded as 19.75 µg/m³, 22.20 µg/m³ and 16.64 µg/m³ at Kulda OCP (0.78 km), CAAQMS at Jagannath Mandir (0.85 km) & CAAQMS at Siarmal OCP (adjacent mine) respectively as compared to Annual Standard of 40 µg/m³.

It can be observed that out of three CAAQMS at 2 stations annual data is well within prescribed limit whereas at Gopalpur CAAQMS (Core zone of Siarmal OCP) the annual average of PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} is a little bit higher to NAAQS standard. Apart from these three CAAQMs, REM monitoring will be also be done as per NAAQS to assess the impact of road transportation.

Appropriate mitigation measures are in operation to control the dust suppression and to contain the predicted concentration within prescribed norms. Coal transportation vehicles are allowed to leave the mine premise only after properly covering by the tarpaulin. Round the clock dust suppression is being done by the project on the coal transportation route through 195 nos. mist type sprinklers, 10 nos. of mobile water tankers (4Kl- 28 Kl), 4 numbers of truck mounted cannons, 8 nos. of trolley mounted fog cannons and 2 nos. of mechanical road sweepers 3 nos. of instant shower systems and 3 nos. of wheel washing units. The transportation roads are being maintained properly for smooth road transportation as well as to prevent any spillage of coal, thereby reducing air pollution impact.

Noise Level Monitoring

Noise level monitoring was carried out during day and night at 3 locations, namely Near CT Road ((falling in Core Zone), Near Sardega Siding (6.10 Km) & Teleimal Village (3.37 Km).

The estimated noise levels Near CT road, Near Sardega Siding & Teleimal Village during the day were recorded to be between 56.7 to 66.3 dBA, 58.1 to 71.7 dBA and 47.4 to 54.7 dBA respectively.

The estimated noise levels Near CT road, Near Sardega Siding & Teleimal Village during the night were recorded to be between 50.1 to 64.7 dBA, 52.7 to 69.4 dBA and 39.1 to 44.1 dBA respectively.

The ambient noise level of existing project is being monitored regularly and noise levels are found to be within the limits of the prescribed standard.

To have proper control over the impact of road transportation on noise levels, avenue plantation is proposed to be enhanced by the project along with routine maintenance of the trucks.

10. Reason for delay in establishing 5.42 km Conveyor belt: PP submitted that the earlier tender floated for the pipe conveyor on 31.07.2023 has been cancelled due to incorporation and crusher and screening unit in the arrangement along with modifications in belt length from 5.42 Km to 4.245 Km and capacity from 16.5 MTPA to 17.5 MTPA. The reduction of the pipe conveyor length from 5.42 km to 4.245 km is based on optimized routing, engineering considerations,

environmental impacts, cost efficiency, and alignment with project objectives. This change will enhance the overall effectiveness of the transportation system while adhering to the environmental and engineering standards. D(T/P&P), MCL further submitted that the conveying arrangements in MCL has been operationalized in MCL from past few years has witnessed tear of the belts due to absence of the crushing and screening unit. In view of above reasons, the establishment of pipe conveyor has been delayed.

11. Reason for delay in regularisation of EC obtained for 21 MTPA vide letter J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M) dtd 24.05.2022: EC for Kulda, from 19.6 MTPA to 21.0 MTPA was granted by MoEF&CC vide letter dtd. 24-05-22 under “Special dispensation for consideration of EC for 50% expansion in Coal Mine projects, within existing mine lease area, without additional land acquisition-reg as per Ministry’s OM dated 07.05.2022. EIA/EMP of Kulda OCP Expn. 19.6 to 21.0 MTPA was submitted to MoEF&CC on 31.01.2023. The project was considered in the 40th EAC held on 16-17th February 2023. It was further considered in the 48th EAC held on 28.08.2023. As per 48th EAC, PP was to submit the application after physical progress of 50% work w.r.t. construction of mechanized system for 16.5 MTPA with CHP by submitting documentary proof with photograph and video footage. The compliance of this condition is still under compliance by PP based on which regularisation of EC obtained for 21 MTPA is yet to be obtained.

12. Details of Court Cases: There are no court cases pending on the project.

13. Written Submission: PP during the meeting submitted an undertaking that the timeline for completion of work for implementation of pipe conveyor shall be December 2026.

Observations and deliberation of the Committee:

14. The EAC noted the following:

1. M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited originally accorded EC for Kulda Expansion Opencast Project, located at Villages: Karlikachhar, Siarmal, Tiklipada, Tumulia, Balinga, Bankibahal, Barapali & Hushara; District: Sundargarh; State: Odisha vide letter J/11015/10/95-IA.II(M) dated 24.12.2002 for 10 MTPA, within the lease area of 878.290 ha. It further accorded EC for expansion production capacity of 14 MTPA in the reduced ML area of 634.205 ha vide letter dated 22.03.2018 and sought validity extension for the same vide letter dated 28.03.2019 and 10.01.2020. Later the PP accorded EC for increase in production capacity of 16.80 MTPA and 19.60 MTPA as per the provisions of Ministry’s OM dated 15.09.2027 respectively. Further PP accorded EC for increase in production capacity of 21 MTPA as per the Ministry’s OM dated 07.05.2022, vide letter dated 24.05.2022. Further the PP sought amendment in EC dated 24.05.2022 vide letter dated 09.01.2023 and 05.01.2024.

2. The project involves 227.89 Ha of forestland and PP obtained Stage – II forest clearance on the same on 08.08.2007.

3. EC for 21 MTPA was granted by MoEF&CC for Kulda OCP of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, vide letter no. J-11015/10/1995-IA.II(M), dated 24.05.2022 under the provisions of Ministry’s OM dated 07.05.2022 for special dispensation for consideration of EC for 50% expansion in Coal Mine projects, within the existing mine lease area.

4. Committee observed that the PP has applied for regularization of EC accorded vide letter dated 24.05.2022. The proposal was considered in the 40th EAC Meeting held on 16-17th February 2023 and 48th EAC meeting held on 28th August 2023. As per the ADS raised in 48th EAC meeting held on 28th August 2023, “PP was to submit the application after physical progress of 50% work w.r.t. construction of mechanized system for 16.5 MTPA with CHP by submitting documentary proof with photograph and video footage.” The compliance of this condition is yet to be completed. Hence, the proposal for regularisation of EC dated 24.05.2022 is yet to be re-submitted by the proponent along with the said compliance.

5. In condition no. 3(vi) of EC for 21 MTPA granted vide letter dated 24.05.2022, stated that all other terms & conditions as prescribed in Ministry’s letter dated 10.01.2020, 02.03.2021 & 14.02.2022 shall remain the same and this enhancement shall be read with EC dated 14.02.2022, which needs to be complied by PP.

6. Specific condition no. (v) of EC dated 14.02.2022, stated that “PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and no road transportation shall be allowed after December 2022 and accordingly SPCB

shall not grant CTO for road transportation after December 2022.”

For the said condition PP sought amendment vide EC letter dated 09.01.2023. Wherein the said condition was amended as “PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and no road transportation shall be allowed after October 2023 and accordingly SPCB shall not grant CTO for road transportation after October 2023.”

7. PP again sought amendment in the said condition of EC dated 09.01.2023 and the same was amended vide EC letter dated 05.01.2024 as “PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December, 2024 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop and accordingly, SPCB shall grant CTO for road transportation.”

8. Now the PP has again submitted the proposal for seeking amendment in EC dated 05.01.2024. The amendment is sought w.r.t. extension of timeline required for construction of belt conveyor of 4.245 km (instead of 5.42 km) from pit top to existing truck receiving hopper.

9. The amendment is sought by the proponent in 2 condition of EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024, i.e., specific condition no. 1.3 and specific condition no. 1.4, which are as follows:

Specific Condition no. 1.3: PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December 2024 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop and accordingly, SPCB shall grant CTO for road transportation.

Amendment sought: PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after June 2027 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop.

Specific Condition no. 1.4: PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 5.42 km till railway siding by December 2024. SPCB shall not grant CTO for non-implementation of In-pit belt conveyor system after December 2024.

Amendment sought: PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 4.245 km till railway siding by June 2027.

10. Committee observed that the total distance of Kulda to Sardega Siding is approx. 6.1 km. Out of this 6.1 km, conveyor belt of 2.0 km along with RLS of 20.0 MTPA has already been commissioned. The length of pipe conveyor earlier envisaged i.e 5.42 km, is now reduced to 4.245 km as per latest tender floated and DGPS survey.

11. Committee deliberated on the reasons for delay on implementation of these conditions and observed that the earlier tender floated for the pipe conveyor on 31.07.2023 has been cancelled due to incorporation and crusher and screening unit in the arrangement along with modifications in belt length from 5.42 Km to 4.245 Km and capacity from 16.5 MTPA to 17.5 MTPA. The reduction of the pipe conveyor length from 5.42 km to 4.245 km is based on optimized routing, engineering considerations, environmental impacts, cost efficiency, and alignment with project objectives. This change will enhance the overall effectiveness of the transportation system while adhering to the environmental and engineering standards. Also, the same involves 4.21 ha of forestland and significant amount of time got elapsed in the process of land schedule finalisation, DGPS survey, etc. Forest clearance application was submitted online on 24.11.2024 and the same is under scrutiny at DFO Office Sundargarh. PP submitted that till the time Stage – I FC is accorded on this land, they’ll complete the work on their lease area and right after obtaining the Stage – I FC they’ll start working on the forestland as well. Since, this is the linear diversion, construction work on the same can be started right after obtaining the Stage – I FC. After due deliberation, Committee opined that the implementation of the said pipe conveyor can be constructed before the time asked by the proponent, hence asked PP to reduce the timeline for the same from June 2027 to December 2026. PP submitted the undertaking that the same shall be completed by December 2026.

12. Committee deliberated on Traffic Impact Assessment report submitted by the proponent and observed that, the coal transportation road from Kulda OCP originates from coal stockyard of Kulda OCP to the truck receiving hopper of Sardega Siding, which is a stretch of 4.1 km. It is a dedicated coal transportation road and no other vehicle other than coal trucks ply on this road. Coal to Sardega Siding is being dispatched through 40T capacity transportation trucks. This coal is discharged to a truck receiving hopper and further transported to Sardega Siding through conveyor belt for next 2 km.

Committee observed that total nos of trips of trucks for coal dispatch per day (to and fro) are 822 trips.

Committee opined that both sides of the entire coal transportation road shall be planted with native species before the

monsoon of 2025.

13. Committee further deliberated on the air quality parameters of the coal transportation road and observed that out of the three CAAQMS, at 2 stations annual data is well within prescribed limit whereas at Gopalpur CAAQMS (Core zone of Siarmal OCP) the annual average of PM10 and PM2.5 is a little bit higher to NAAQS standard.

PP is taking appropriate mitigation measures to control the dust pollution. Coal is being transported through tarpauline covered trucks. 195 nos. mist type sprinklers, 10 nos. of mobile water tankers (4Kl- 28 Kl), 4 numbers of truck mounted cannons, 8 nos. of trolley mounted fog cannons and 2 nos. of mechanical road sweepers 3 nos. of instant shower systems and 3 nos. of wheel washing units are installed on the CTR to suppress dust pollution. Committee opined that the rain guns shall also be procured for the dust removal from the plantation already developed along the road sides.

14. Committee also deliberated on the noise level monitoring data submitted by the proponent and observed that, noise level of existing project is being monitored regularly and noise levels are found to be within the limits of the prescribed standard.

To control over the impact of road transportation on noise levels, avenue plantation is proposed to be enhanced by the project along with routine maintenance of the trucks.

Committee opined that this avenue plantation proposed by the proponent shall be carried out before the monsoon of 2025.

15. Committee observed that there are no court cases pending on the project.

Recommendations of the Committee:

15. After deliberations, the Committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/10/1995-IA-II(M) dated 24.05.2022 & its subsequent amendment dated 09/01/2023 & 05/01/2024 as detailed below subject to stipulation of additional specific conditions (**Annexure-I**). Other terms and conditions prescribed in EC dated 24.05.2022, 09.01.2023, and 05.01.2024 shall remain unchanged:

Reference in EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	Description as per approved EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	Amendment sought in EC	Recommendation of EAC
Specific condition no. 1.3	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December, 2024 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop and accordingly, SPCB shall grant CTO for road transportation.	PP shall implement in-pit conveyor system with silo loading facility till railway siding and No road transportation shall be allowed after December 2026 till Sardega Siding and after December 2025 for Barpalli loop.	Agreed Concerning the changes in specific condition no. 1.3 of EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024, Committee recommended to amend specific condition no. 1.3 as follows: “PP shall implement the commissioning of in-pit pipe conveyor system with silo loading facility till the railway siding by December 2026. No road transportation shall be allowed after December 2025 to Barpalli loop and after December 2026 to Sardega Siding.”
Specific condition no. 1.4	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 5.42 km till railway siding by December, 2024. SPCB shall not grant CTO for non-implementation of In-pit belt conveyor system after December, 2024.	PP shall complete the implementation of conveyor system of 4.245 km till railway siding by December 2026 .	Agreed Concerning the changes in specific condition no. 1.4 of EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024, Committee recommended to amend specific condition no. 1.4 as follows: “PP shall complete the implementation of the pipe-conveyor of 4.245 km and commission the same till Sardega

Reference in EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	Description as per approved EC amendment letter dated 05.01.2024	Amendment sought in EC	Recommendation of EAC
			“railway siding by December 2026.”

Decision of MoEF&CC

16. The undersigned is directed to inform that Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (Coal) hereby decided for grant of amendment in the EC dated 24.05.2022 & its subsequent amendment dated 09/01/2023 & 05/01/2024 as detailed in **para 15** above.

17. All other terms and conditions prescribed in EC letter dated 24.05.2022 & its subsequent amendment dated 09/01/2023 & 05/01/2024 shall remain unchanged.

18. The project proponent shall obtain fresh Environment Clearance in case of change in scope of the project, if any.

19. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Sundar Ramanathan)
Scientist 'F'
Tel: 011- 20819378
Email- r.sundar@nic.in

Copy To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Deputy Director General of Forests, Regional office (EZ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, A-31, Chandershekharpur, Bhubaneswar- 751023 (Odisha).
3. The Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar (Odisha).
4. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 32.
5. The Chairman, Orissa State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilkanthanagar, Unit VIII, Bhubaneshwar - 751012 (Odisha).
6. District Collector, Sundargarh, Government of Odisha.
7. PARIVESH Portal

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Additional Specific Conditions:

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	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.

S. No	EC Conditions
1.2	All the recommendations made in the Traffic Assessment Study Report regarding coal transportation by road shall be strictly adhered with. PP shall install one CAAQMS along the coal transportation road in consultation with the OSPCB. 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.
1.3	Additional air pollution control measures should be taken along roads being used for transport of coal including e-/CNG/LNG vehicles.
1.4	PP shall adopt wildlife protection measures including creating awareness among the drivers, sensitizing the drivers about prevention of road kills and handling of wildlife encounters while driving through forest areas and speed governors must be installed in the coal transporting trucks/dumpers.
1.5	Project proponent shall carry out three tier plantation along the coal transportation route during the monsoon season of 2025. Further, PP shall provide 50,000 plant saplings with 4 feet tall fruit bearing plants to farmers for plantation in barren and agriculture lands in the study area every year for 5 years with incentive to improve the green cover in and around the mine lease area. Sufficient nos of rain guns shall be procured for plantation already developed along the road side and other part of the ML area. 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.
1.6	Green house emission from the mine operations shall be evaluated and corresponding carbon absorption plan shall be submitted to the concerned RO, MoEF&CC by April, 2025.
1.7	PP shall align its activities to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), for which Present status and an action plan shall be submitted to the concerned RO, MoEF&CC by April, 2025.

