

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jorbagh Road, N Delhi – 3
Email: lk.bokolia@nic.in; Tel: 011-20819417

Dated: 9th January, 2023

To;

The Chief General Manager (CP&P)
M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
PO - Jagruti Vihar, Burla,
Sambalpur-768 020 (Odisha)
E-mail: cgmenvt2014@gmail.com

Sub: Kulda Opencast Coal Mine Project with production capacity from 19.6 MTPA to 21 MTPA in Mine Lease area of 634.205 ha of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited located at village Balinga, Tumulia, Siarmal, Kulda & Bankibahal, Tehsil Hemgir, District Sundargarh (Odisha) – Reconsideration for Amendment in Environmental Clearance dated 14.02.2022 & 24.05.2022 – reg.

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No. IA/OR/CMIN/276156/2022 dated 10th October, 2022 on the above mentioned subject.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has granted Environmental Clearance vide letter dated 24.12.2002 for 10 MTPA in an ML area of 878.29 ha. Expansion in EC was granted by Ministry vide its letter dated 22nd March, 2018 from 10 MTPA to 14 MTPA with Public Hearing. Extension in validity of EC was granted on 28th March, 2019, 10th January, 2020. Expansion in EC capacity vide letter dated 02.03.2021 from 14 MTPA to 16.80 MTPA, from 16.8 MTPA to 19.6 MTPA vide letter dated 14.02.2022 and from 19.6 MTPA to 21 MTPA vide letter dated 24.05.2022 under different OMs time to time with exemption in Public Hearing and no change mine lease area.

3. The proposal for amendment in Environment Clearance was appraised by EAC in its 36th meeting held during 36th meeting held during 20-21 October, 2022 and 38th meeting held during 14-15 December, 2022. PP has requested for amendment in environmental clearance of EC letter dated 14-02-2022 & 24-05-2022 since implementation of the said conditions are yet to be complied and required further time to complete the condition i.e. till October, 2023. The specific condition as mentioned below:

Specific Condition no.	Amendment required in EC conditions
Specific Condition (v)	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.
Specific Condition (ix)	PP should not transport coal through road passing through any village and further ensure that its consumers of coal are also not using village road and passing through any sensitive location such as schools, hospitals etc. PP shall take legal undertaking from its consumers accordingly.
Specific Condition (xvi)	PP shall deploy only 40-50 tonnes covered trucks/dumper to reduce fleet size till Rapid loading system and conveyor belt system is commenced. (i.e., till December 2022).

Also, PP has submitted an undertaking vide letter dated 15.12.2022 by Director (Technical/Project and Planning) of M/s MCL that construction of Rapid loading system with coal conveying arrangement will be completed by 31.10.2023.

4. The Expert Appraisal Committee in its 38th EAC meeting held on 14-15th December, 2022 through Video Conferencing has recommended the project for amendment in Environment Clearance (EC) for extension in timeline from December, 2022 to October, 2023 for road transportation and for commencement of In-pit belt Conveyor system with the latest technology. No amendment has been provided for the Specific Condition (ix). Accordingly, SPCB shall not grant CTO for road transportation after October, 2023. Based on recommendations of the EAC, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords approval for Amendment in Environment Clearance (EC) to Kulda Opencast Coal Mine Project with production capacity from 19.6 MTPA to 21 MTPA in Mine Lease area of 634.205 ha of M/s Mahanadi Coalfields Limited located at village Balinga, Tumulia, Siarmal, Kulda & Bankibahal, Tehsil Hemgir, District Sundargarh (Odisha), under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments/circulars thereto subject to the compliance of the following terms & conditions / specific conditions therein.

- (i) No further expansion in capacity shall be granted to the project till the compliance of in-pit conveyor and silo loading system till railway siding is implemented.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) PP shall deploy only 40-50 tonnes covered trucks/dumper to reduce fleet size till Rapid loading system and conveyor belt system is commenced. (i.e., till October, 2023).
- (iv) PP shall submit the action plan for In-pit belt Conveyor system Kulda OC mine separately to IRO and implement the same before submitting any type of application on PARIVESH portal before October, 2023.
- (v) All other terms and conditions as prescribed in Ministry's letter dated 22nd March, 2018, 10.01.2020 02.03.2021, 14.02.2022 and 24.05.2022 needs to be complied by PP.

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This issues with the approval of the competent Authority


(Lalit Bokolia)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator 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 Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Jamnagar House, 18/11, Man Singh Road Area, New Delhi, Delhi 110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118, Nilkanthanagar, Unit VIII, Bhubaneshwar - 751012 (Odisha).
6. District Collector, Sundargarh, Government of Odisha.
7. Monitoring File /Record File 8. PARIVESH Portal


(Lalit Bokolia)
Director