

No. 8-104/91 - FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Dated, the 28th June, 2000

To
The Secretary (Forests)
Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

FINAL APPROVAL ORDER

Subject: Diversion of 103.52 ha. of forest land for Belpahar Open Cast project in IB valley area of Sambalpur district in favour of M/s. Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.

Sir,

1. I am directed to refer to the State Government, Forest and Environment Department's letter no. 10F(Cons)-28/91.7908/F&E dated 22.4.1991 and no. 10F(Cons)-71/99.17960/F&E dtd. 27.9.99 on the above mentioned subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section-3 of the aforesaid Act.

2. After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendations of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 103.52 ha. of forest land for Belpahar Open Cast project in IB valley of Sambalpur district in favour of M/s. MCL subject to the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii. Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over 207.04 ha. of degraded forest land at the project cost.
- iii. Penal Compensatory afforestation will be carried out over 207.04 ha. of degraded forest land at the project cost.
- iv. Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area will be done at the project cost. Besides this, afforestation over one and a half times of safety zone area in degraded forest land elsewhere will be done at the project cost.
- v. Demarcation of mining lease area will be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward & back bearings and distance from pillar to pillar.

Contd. on page 2

So
communicate to
the project file
for compliance. - 16/6/00

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- vi. Breking of fresh forest land, which is being renewed for mining, will be done as per the phasing mentioned in the approved mining plan.
- vii. No felling of trees shall be done within the lease area unless it is really warranted for mining and such felling should be done with the prior permission and the conditions imposed by the concerned DFO.
- viii. The user agency will make arrangement for free supply of fuelwood preferably alternate energy source to labourers and staff working on the project site so as to avoid any pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
- ix. The user agency will dispose off the unsystematic waste dumps and rearrange them in the specifically earmarked dumpyard in benches with boulder wall fencing to prevent washing away of waste dumps.
- x. Reclamation of leased mined areas shall be done in the renewal period as per the Reclamation plan and in time bound manner in consultation with the State Forest Department at the cost of user agency. The progress of reclamation shall be assessed by the State Forest Deptt. and Regional Office, Bhubaneswar periodically.
- xi. The enclosed environmental safeguards will be strictly adhered to by the lessee.
- xii. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986.
- xiii. The State Government before issuing the release order for the said diverted forest land to the user agency, will obtain an undertaking from the user agency to the effect that they will identify and initiate administrative action on the defaulting officers for the violation of F(C) Act, 1980 within a period of 6 months, failing which prosecution of the Chief Executive officer of M/s. MCL will be taken up. The CCF(C), Bhubaneswar will closely monitor the follow-up in this regard by the State Government.
- xiv. The mining lease shall be co-terminus with the lease under C. B. Act, subject to a maximum of 20 years.
- xv. Any other condition that the State Govt. or the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation and protection of floral and fauna of the area.

Yours faithfully,

(J.P. Misra)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

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Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.
2. The Nodal Officer, Office of the PCCF, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar
4. Regional Office (Hq), New Delhi.
5. The Chief General Manager, M/s.Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd., IB Valley Area, P.O.Brajraj Nagar, Dist. Sambalpur, Pin-768 216 (Orissa).
6. Guard File
7. V.V. (1A)

J.P. Misra
(J . P . Misra) 2.6.2000

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

~~OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, ORISSA~~

Memo No. 19151 / 9F(MG)689/99
Dated. Bhubaneswar the 20th. Aug '2000.

Copy alongwith copies of General Environmental conditions for the mining Project forwarded to the D.F.O., Sambalpur Divn. for information and necessary action. He is requested to ensure compliance to the stipulations imposed by the Govt. of India, M.O, E.F. and submit monitoring report from time to time in the matter to this office for onward transmission to Govt. His attention is drawn specifically on condition No. XIII, which should be complied positively before handing over of Forest land.

Tommy
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS: (NODAL-I).

Memo No. / Date.

Copy alongwith the copies of General Environmental conditions forwarded to the Conservator of Forests, Sambalpur Circle for information and necessary action.

Sally
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS: (NODAL-I).

Memo No. / Date.

Copy alongwith the copies of General Environmental Conditions forwarded to the Chief General Manager, M/s Mahanadi Coalfield Ltd, IB Valley Area, P.O. Brajanagar, Dist-Sambalpur for information.

Sally
CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS: (NODAL-I).

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