

No. J-11015/71/2013 -IA.II (M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change  
IA-II (Coal Mining) Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2015

To,  
The General Manager (Environment),  
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,  
Coal Estate, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Civil Lines,  
NAGPUR -440001

**Sub.: Expansion of Ballarpur OCP (from 0.50 MTPA to 0.625 MTPA in an ML area of 242.64 ha; Latitude 20° 48' 94" to 20° 49' 06" N and Longitude 79° 20' 65" to 79° 20' 76"E) M/s Western Coalfields Limited, Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra - EC under 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 – Environmental Clearance - reg.**

Sir,

This is with reference to letter no. CIL/DLI/EMP/2013/23 dated 01.03.2013 with the application and subsequent letter nos. dated 17.07.2013; 11.01.2014; 16.12.2014 and 18.01.2015 for Environmental Clearance for Expansion under 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 for the above-mentioned project.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has considered the application. It is noted that the proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance for **Expansion of Ballarpur OCP (from 0.50 MTPA to 0.625 MTPA in an ML area of 242.64 ha; Latitude 20° 48' 94" to 20° 49' 06" N and Longitude 79° 20' 65" to 79° 20' 76"E) M/s Western Coalfields Limited, Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra under 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006.** The proposal was considered in the 27<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. The proponent has informed that:

- i. The project was accorded EC vide letter no. J-11015/145/2007-IA.II(M) dated 18.06.2008 for 0.50 MTPA capacity in an ML area of 242.64 ha.
- ii. The latitude and longitude of the project are 20° 48' 94" to 20° 49' 06" N and 79° 20' 65" to 79° 20' 76"E respectively.
- iii. **Joint Venture:** No Joint Venture.
- iv. **Coal Linkage:** Linked to Thermal Power Plants of MAHAGENCO.
- v. The land usage of the project will be as follows:

Pre-Mining:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Area in Ha
1	Agricultural land	242.11 ha;
2	Govt. Land	0.53 ha
	<b>Total</b>	<b>242.64 ha</b>



Post- Mining

Sl. No	Category	Plantation/ Reclaimed with Plantation	Reclaimed land	Water Body	Public Use	Undistur- bed	Total
1	External OB Dump	32.53					32.53
2	Excavation/ Quarry area	90.21	52.48	29.62			172.31
3	Infrastructures Incl. Roads	---			24.64		24.64
4	Green belt	0.50					0.50
5	Blasting Zone & Rationalization Area	3.00				9.66	12.66
	<b>Total</b>	<b>126.24</b>	<b>52.48</b>	<b>29.62</b>	<b>24.64</b>	<b>12.66</b>	<b>242.64</b>

Core area

Sl. No	Category	Plantation/ Reclaimed with Plantation	Reclaimed land	Water Body	Public Use	Undisturbed	Total
1	External OB Dump	32.53					32.53
2	Excavation/Quarry area	60.21	82.48	29.62			172.31
3	Infrastructures Incl. Roads	---			24.64		24.64
4	Green belt	0.50					0.50
5	Blasting Zone & Rationalization Area	---				12.66	12.66
		<b>93.24</b>	<b>82.48</b>	<b>29.62</b>	<b>24.64</b>	<b>12.66</b>	<b>242.64</b>

- vi. The total geological reserve is 14.00 MT. The mineable reserve 2.918 MT, extractable reserve is 2.918 MT. The per cent of extraction would be 90 %.
- vii. The coal grade is G9 .The stripping ratio is 5.41. The average Gradient is 1 in 13. There will be one seams with thickness ranging upto 16 m.
- viii. The total estimated **water requirement** is 165 m<sup>3</sup>/day. The level of ground water ranges from 1.0 m to 6.0m.
- ix. The Method of mining would be opencast with shovel-dumper combination.
- x. There is no external OB dump and one internal dump with Quantity of 13.780 Mbcm in an area of 142.69 ha.
- xi. The final mine void would be in 29.62 Ha with depth of 100.00 m. and the Total quarry area is 172.31Ha. Backfilled quarry area of 90.21 Ha shall be reclaimed with plantation. A void of 29.62ha with depth of 100.00 m which is proposed to be converted into a water body.
- xii. The seasonal data for ambient air quality has been documented and all results at all stations are within prescribed limits.
- xiii. The **life of mine** is 5 Years.
- xiv. **Transportation:** Coal transportation in pit by Dumpers, Surface to Siding by Dumpers and loading at siding by Pay loaders.
- xv. There is no **R & R** involved. There are no PAFs.
- xvi. **Cost:** Total capital cost of the project is Rs. 25.00 Crores. CSR Cost Rs. 2.00 per tonne. R & R Cost Nil. Environmental Management Cost (capital cost Rs. 0.288 crores, annual recurring cost Rs. 0.175crores)

- xvii. **Water body:** Wardha river is flowing near the mine lease boundary of the project.
- xviii. **Approvals:** Board's obtained approval on 20.02.2013. Mining plan has been approved on 20.02.2013. Mine Closure Plan approval on 28.01.2013.
- xix. **Wildlife issues:** There are no national Parks, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserves found in the 10 km buffer zone.
- xx. **Forestry issues:** There is no forest area involved.
- xxi. Total **afforestation** plan shall be implemented covering an area of 126.24 ha at the end of mining. Green Belt over an area of 0.50 ha. Density of tree plantation 2500 trees/ ha of plants.
- xxii. There are no **court cases/violation** pending with the project proponent.
- xxiii. **Public Hearing** was done earlier.

3. **EC Compliance report:** The compliance report of the, Regional Office, MoEFCC at Bhopal vide letter no 3-45/2008(ENV)/375 dated 08.12.2014 was deliberated in the EAC meeting. The Committee has noted the Action taken for compliance by the Project which, inter alia, are as follows:

- i. The copy of the EC has been sent to panchayat but no documentary evidence was submitted.
- ii. The advertisement regarding grant of EC was published in newspapers on 05.07.2008 and clause of seven days was not followed.
- iii. The proponent submitted that they have noted and in future this will be adhered to.

4. The proposal was considered in the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) (Thermal & Coal Mining) and recommended in 27<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 for granting Environmental Clearance. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change hereby accords environmental clearance for the above-mentioned **Expansion of Ballarpur OCP (from 0.50 MTPA to 0.625 MTPA in an ML area of 242.64 ha; Latitude 20° 48' 94" to 20° 49' 06" N and Longitude 79° 20' 65" to 79° 20' 76" E) M/s Western Coalfields Limited, Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra under 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006** under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments/circulars thereto subject to the compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:

#### A. Specific Conditions:

- i. The maximum production from the mine at any given time shall not exceed the limit as prescribed in the EC.
- ii. The validity of the EC is for the life of the Mine or as specified in the EIA Notification, 2006, whichever is earlier.
- iii. Mining shall be carried out as per statuette at a safe distance from the seasonal nallah flowing within/close to the lease boundary.
- iv. Topsoil shall be stacked properly with proper slope at earmarked site(s) and should not be kept active and shall be used for reclamation and development of green belt
- v. The existing OB dumps which have been biologically reclaimed shall be monitored and if required stabilised with plantation using native species.
- vi. Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of the dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off.
- vii. Drills should be wet operated only.
- viii. Roads shall be metal topped and mechanical sweepers shall be regularly deployed to minimise clear the dust off the main approach and mineral transportation roads. Water sprinkling (fixed and mist type, mobile) shall be regularly done along the main haul roads.
- ix. The company shall obtain prior approval of CGWA/CGWB Regional Office for use of groundwater if any, for mining operations.



- x. Coal transportation in pit by Dumpers, Surface to Siding by Dumpers and loading at siding by Pay loaders.
- xi. The production shall be within the same Mining Lease area.
- xii. The depth of the internal void shall be 35 m from the ground level and should be adequate for fishery purpose.
- xiii. The OB shall be completely re-handled at the end of the mining and will be back filled upto the ground level and covered with about a meter thick top soil and put to use. The land after mining shall be brought back for agriculture purpose.
- xiv. Appropriate embankment shall be provided along the side of the river/nallah flowing near or adjacent to the mine.
- xv. The CSR cost should be Rs 5 per Tonnes of Coal produced which should be adjusted as per the annual inflation.
- xvi. Everybody in the core area should be provided with mask for protection against fugitive dust emissions.
- xvii. Dust mask to be provided to everyone working in the mining area.
- xviii. The supervisory staff should be held personally responsible for ensuring compulsory regarding wearing of dust mask in the core area.
- xix. People working in the core area should be periodically tested for the lung diseases and the burden of cost on account of working in the coal mine area.
- xx. The mining area should be surrounded by green belt having thick closed thick canopy of the tree cover.
- xxi. The embankment constructed along the river boundary shall be of suitable dimensions and critical patches shall be strengthened by stone pitching on the river front side and stabilised with plantation so as to withstand the peak water flow and prevent mine inundation.
- xxii. There shall be no overflow of OB into the river and into the agricultural fields and massive plantation of native species shall be taken up in the area between the river and the project.
- xxiii. There shall be no external OB dumps.
- xxiv. Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from soil, OB and mineral dumps. The water so collected shall be utilised for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development, etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted and maintained properly. Garland drains (size, gradient and length) and sump capacity shall be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above the peak sudden rainfall and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity shall also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material.
- xxv. Crushers at the CHP of adequate capacity for the expansion project shall be operated with high efficiency bag filters, water sprinkling system shall be provided to check fugitive emissions from crushing operations, conveyor system, haulage roads, transfer points, etc.
- xxvi. The project authorities shall undertake regular repairing and tarring of roads used for mineral transportation. A 3-tier green belt comprising of a mix of native species shall be developed all along the major approach roads,
- xxvii. Controlled blasting shall be practiced with use of delay detonators and only during daytime. The mitigative measures for control of ground vibrations and to arrest the fly rocks and boulders shall be implemented.
- xxviii. A Progressive afforestation plan shall be implemented covering an area of 126.24 ha at the end of mining, which includes reclaimed External OB dump area (32.53 ha), Internal OB dump area (90.21 ha), along roads and Green belt (0.50 ha) and in township located outside the lease by planting native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2500 plants per ha. Massive plantation shall be carried out in open spaces in and around the mine and a 3-tier avenue plantation along the main approach roads to the mine.
- xxix. An estimated total 13.780 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be generated during the balance life of the mine. Out of which 13.780 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be dumped in one internal OB dump covering an area of 142.69 ha

with height upto ground level. Monitoring and management of reclaimed dump sites shall continue till the vegetation becomes self- sustaining and compliance status shall be submitted to MOEF and its Regional Office on yearly basis.

- xxx. The proponent should prepare restoration and reclamation plan for the degraded area. The land be used in a productive and sustainable manner.
- xxxi. Compensatory Ecological & Restoration of waste land, other degraded land and OB dumps in lieu of breaking open the land be carried out.
- xxxii. The mining should be phased out in sustainable manner. No extra over burden dumps are permitted.
- xxxiii. No groundwater shall be used for mining operations.
- xxxiv. Of the total quarry area of 172.31ha the backfilled quarry area of 90.21 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation and a void of 29.62 ha at a depth of 40 m which is proposed to be converted into a water body shall be gently sloped and the upper benches shall be terraced and stabilised with plantation/afforestation by planting native plant species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2500 plants per ha.
- xxxv. Regular monitoring of groundwater level and quality shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and construction of new peizometers. The monitoring for quantity shall be done four times a year in pre-monsoon (May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) seasons and for quality in May. Data thus collected shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & climate change and the Central Pollution Control Board quarterly within one month of monitoring.
- xxxvi. The Company shall put up artificial groundwater recharge measures for augmentation of groundwater resource in case monitoring indicates a decline in water table. The project authorities shall meet water requirement of nearby village(s) in case the village wells go dry due to dewatering of mine.
- xxxvii. Sewage treatment plant shall be installed in the existing colony. ETP shall also be provided for workshop and CHP wastewater.
- xxxviii. Besides carrying out regular periodic health check-up of their workers, 10% of the workers identified from workforce engaged in active mining operations shall be subjected to health check-up for occupational diseases and hearing impairment, if any, through an specialised agency /institution within the District/State and the results reported to this Ministry and to DGMS.
- xxxix. Land oustees shall be compensated as per the norms laid out R&R Policy of CIL or the National R&R Policy or R&R Policy of the State Government whichever is higher.
- xl. For monitoring land use pattern and for post mining land use, a time series of land use maps, based on satellite imagery (on a scale of 1: 5000) of the core zone and buffer zone, from the start of the project until end of mine life shall be prepared once in 3 years (for any one particular season which is consistent in the time series), and the report submitted to MOEF&CC and its concerned Regional office
- xli. A detailed Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change within 6 months of grant of Environmental Clearance.
- xl.ii. The project authorities shall in consultation with the Panchayats of the local villages and administration identify socio-economic and welfare measures under CSR to be carried out over the balance life of the mine.
- xl.iii. Corporate Environment Responsibility:
  - a) The Company shall have a well laid down Environment Policy approved by the Board of Directors.
  - b) The Environment Policy shall prescribe for standard operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental or forest norms/conditions.



- c) The hierarchical system or Administrative Order of the company to deal with environmental issues and for ensuring compliance with the environmental clearance conditions shall be furnished.
- d) To have proper checks and balances, the company shall 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.

## **B. General Conditions**

- i. No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
- ii. No change in the calendar plan of production for quantum of mineral coal shall be made.
- iii. Four ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> monitoring. Location of the stations shall be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. Monitoring of heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr, etc carried out at least once in six months.
- iv. Data on ambient air quality (PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>) and heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr and other monitoring data shall be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its concerned Regional Office and to the State Pollution Control Board and the Central Pollution Control Board once in six months. Random verification of samples through analysis from independent laboratories recognised under the EPA rules, 1986 shall be furnished as part of compliance report.
- v. Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operation of HEMM, etc shall be provided with ear plugs/muffs.
- vi. Industrial wastewater (workshop and wastewater from the mine) shall be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (I) dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1993 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 1993 or as amended from time to time before discharge. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- vii. Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Vehicles used for transporting the mineral shall be covered with tarpaulins and optimally loaded.
- viii. Monitoring of environmental quality parameters shall be carried out through establishment of adequate number and type of pollution monitoring and analysis equipment in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board and data got analysed through a laboratory recognised under EPA Rules, 1986.
- ix. Personnel working in dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- x. Occupational health surveillance programme of the workers shall be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and to take corrective measures, if needed and records maintained thereof. The quality of environment due to outsourcing and the health and safety issues of the outsourced manpower should be addressed by the company while outsourcing.
- xi. A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the company.
- xii. The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and shall not be diverted for other purpose. Year-wise expenditure shall be reported to this Ministry and its concerned Regional Office.
- xiii. The Project authorities shall advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated around the project, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned within seven days of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution control Board and may also be seen at the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change at <http://envfor.nic.in>.

- xiv. A copy of the environmental clearance letter shall be marked to concern Panchayat/Zila Parishad, Municipal Corporation or Urban local body and local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been received while processing the proposal. A copy of the clearance letter shall also be displayed on company's website.
- xv. A copy of the environmental clearance letter shall be shall also be displayed on the website of the concerned State Pollution Control Board. The EC letter shall also be displayed at the Regional Office, District Industry Sector and Collector's Office/Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- xvi. The clearance letter shall be uploaded on the company's website. The compliance status of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions shall also be uploaded by the project authorities on their website and updated at least once every six months so as to bring the same in public domain. The monitoring data of environmental quality parameter (air, water, noise and soil) and critical pollutant such as PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub> (ambient) and critical sectoral parameters shall also be displayed at the entrance of the project premises and mine office and in corporate office and on company's website.
- xvii. The project proponent shall submit six monthly compliance reports on status of compliance of the stipulated environmental clearance conditions (both in hard copy and in e-mail) to the respective Regional Office of the Ministry, respective Zonal Office s of CPCB and the SPCB.
- xviii. The Regional Office of this Ministry located in the Region shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The Project authorities shall extend full cooperation to the office(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/ information/monitoring reports.
- xix. The Environmental statement for each financial year ending 31 March in For –V is mandated to be submitted by the project proponent for the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently, shall also be uploaded on the company's website along with the status of compliance of EC conditions and shall be sent to the respective Regional Offices of the MoEF&CC by e-mail.

5. The proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report so also during their presentation to the EAC.

6. The commitment made by the Proponent to the issue raised during Public Hearing shall be implemented by the Proponent

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

8. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

9. The Proponent shall setup an Environment Audit cell with responsibility and accountability to ensure implementation of all the EC Conditions.

10. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.


11. The above conditions will 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 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. The proponent shall ensure to undertake and



provide for the costs incurred for taking up remedial measures in case of soil contamination, contamination of groundwater and surface water, and occupational and other diseases due to the mining operations.

12. 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.

13. This EC supersedes the earlier EC, vide letter no. J-11015/145/2007-IA.II (M) dated 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2008 for 0.50 MTPA.

  
(Dr. Manoranjan Hota)  
Director

**Copy to:**

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, 15th Floor, New Admn. Bldg., Madam Cama Road, MUMBAI -- 400032.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests, Regional office (EZ), Ministry of Environment & Forests, E-2/240 Arera Colony, Bhopal -- 462016.
4. Member Secretary, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Kalapataru Point, 3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> Floors, Sion, Matunga Scheme Road No. 8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (E), Mumbai -- 400002.  
Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi -110032.
5. Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
6. Dr. R.K. Garg, Advisor, Coal India Limited, SCOPE Minar, Core-I, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Vikas Marg, Laxmi nagar, New Delhi.
7. District Collector, Chandrapur, Government of Maharashtra.
8. Monitoring File    9. Guard File    10. Record File    11. Notice Board.

  
(Dr. Manoranjan Hota)  
Director