



सत्यमेव जयते

File No.: J-11015/381/2015-IA.II(M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
IA Division  
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Dated 15/03/2024



To,  
The General Manager (Mining) Environment  
M/s Western Coalfields Limited  
Coal Estate Civil lines, Nagpur-440001 Coal Estate Civil lines, Nagpur-440001, , NAGPUR,  
MAHARASHTRA, Civil Lines, Nagpur, 440001  
wclenv07@gmail.com

**Subject:** Amalgamated Yekona I & II OC (Phase-I) [Production capacity 2.75 MTPA/3.44 MTPA (Normative/Peak) ; Lease Area 1679.39 ha] of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) located in Tehsil Warora, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra) – for Amendment of Environment Clearance dated 01.01.2021 – reg.

**Sir/Madam,**

This is in reference to your application submitted to MoEF&CC vide proposal number IA/MH/CMIN/438539/2023 dated 30/07/2023 for grant of an amendment in prior Environmental Clearance (EC) to the project under the provision of the EIA Notification 2006-and as amended thereof.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC23A0101MH5865391A
(ii) File No.	J-11015/381/2015-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	Amalgamated Yekona I & II OC (Phase-I)
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	CHANDRAPUR, MAHARASHTRA
(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) EC Date	30/07/2023
(xii) Applicability of General Conditions	NO
(xiii) Status of implementation of the project	Project is operational for complete components/units envisaged in the EC

3. Proposal is for amendment in Environmental Clearance granted vide letter dated 01.01.2021 for Amalgamated Yekona I & II OC (Phase-I) for increase in production capacity from 1.0 MTPA to 2.75 MTPA/3.44 MTPA (Normative/Peak) of M/s Western Coalfields Limited and increase in land area from 680.06 ha to 1679.39 ha located in Tehsil Warora, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra).

4. The project proponent vide proposal no IA/MH/CMIN/438539/2023 applied for an amendment in EC dated 01.01.2021. PP vide letter no. 5-G/969-970 dated 28.07.2023 requested Ministry for amendment of following specific condition no. 4 (vi) & 4 (xviii) of EC letter dated 01.01.2021 as:

Specific Condition as per EC dated 1.01.2021	Amendment Sought
(vi) "Transportation of coal from Coal Handling Plant shall be through mechanized covered trucks for 3 years. Not transportation by trucks after 3 years and proposed railway siding/pipe conveyor system."	Transportation of Coal from the mine shall be through tarpaulin covered trucks till the commissioning of proposed railway Siding i.e by December 2026. No transportation by trucks after Dec'2026 except for small scale industry/ consumers.
(xviii) "Toe wall of atleast 15 mts to 20 mts height should be constructed along the OB dump to protect yekona village."	Construction of toe wall with adequate dimensions along the OB dump to protect the Yekona village and check runoff and siltation in regard to the rainfall data.

5. PP vide aforesaid EC amendment application requested for condition related to amendment in transportation of coal through road till Dec 26 and height of the toe wall around the OB dump. Proposal was considered in the 48<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 wherein the committee had deferred the proposal for want of requisite information. The PP has submitted the reply on PARIVESH portal vide letter dated 18.12.2023 and proposal was considered in 6<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held during 17-18 January, 2024. Committee deliberated on the amendment application considering various issues related to the proposal i.e transportation of mineral outside the lease area, pollution due to transportation, stability of BC Dump, plantation, propose railway siding site and status of its construction, details of the court case on the issue of diversion of road near Warora town etc. EAC after detailed deliberation **recommended** the proposal for an amendment in EC as under:

Specific Condition as per EC dated 1.01.2021	Recommendation of EAC
(vi) "Transportation of coal from Coal Handling Plant shall be through mechanized covered trucks for 3 years. Not transportation by trucks after 3 years and proposed railway siding/pipe conveyor system."	Transportation of Coal from the mine shall be through tarpaulin covered trucks till the commissioning of proposed railway Siding i.e. by December 2026. No transportation by trucks after Dec'2026 except for small scale industry/ consumers. PP shall implement the additional measures i.e i) Use upto 25% CNG/EV Tippers for the coal transportation, ii) ensure that transportation of mineral is in covered tippers, iii) regular water spraying on the road, iv) No overloading of the tippers, v) cleaning of the roads at least for a 5 KM span on the transportation route to thermal power plant, vi) allowing the vehicle having valid fitness certificate and PUC, vii) wheel washing facility and viii) installation of CCTV camera at mine entrance etc. PP shall also implement the measures proposed in letter dated 18.01.2024 submitted to the Ministry for mitigating air pollution.
(xviii) "Toe wall of atleast 15 mts to 20 mts height should be constructed along the OB dump to protect yekona village."	PP shall implement the recommendation made by VNIT by June 2024 for the stability of OB Dump and allied protection of Yekona village. There should not be any dumping toward the Yekona village side and additional measures be taken to ensure that the village is not endangered. With respect to other dump inside the mining lease area PP shall carry out the stability studies from the reputed institutes and implement the recommendations. PP

	<p>shall submit the compliance of the same to RO, MoEF&amp;CC along with documentary proof viz. photograph before and after implementation, ii) certificate from VNIT that the recommendation made by them has been implemented in letter and spirit and audited expenditure statement.</p> <p>Additional planting be done on the OB dump for densification of the vegetation and submit geo tagged proof on half yearly basis to IRO</p>
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6. MoEF&CC has examined the proposal in accordance with the extant provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and based on the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee hereby **accords** amendment (as per para 5 above) in Environment Clearance dated 01/01/2021 to M/s Western Coalfields Limited for the *Amalgamated Yekona I & II OC (Phase-I) [Production capacity 2.75 MTPA/3.44 MTPA (Normative/Peak) ; Lease Area 1679.39 ha located in Tehsil Warora, District Chandrapur (Maharashtra),* under the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and as amended thereof subject to compliance of EC conditions issued vide previous clearances granted and additional specific conditions as given in Annexure 1.

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

**Copy To**

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Principal Secretary, Department of environment, Government of Maharashtra-15<sup>th</sup> Floor, New Admin Bldg, Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32 (Maharashtra)
5. The Chairman, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Kalapataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floors, Sion, Matunga Scheme Road No 8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion circle, Sion ( E ) Mumbai-2.
6. The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA),18/11Jamnagar House, Man Singh Road, New Delhi-11001.
7. The Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Central Region, N.S. Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur 440001 Maharashtra
8. District Collector, Chandrapur, Government of Maharashtra
9. PARIVESH Portal

**Annexure 1**

**Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)**

**1. Specific Condition:**

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	<i>PP shall strengthen the existing Environment Management division of the unit under intimation to the IRO</i>