



IA-J-11015/93/2005-IA-II(M)

Government of India
Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira ParyavaranBhawan,
Jorbagh Road, N Delhi – 3

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Dated: 3rd March, 2021

To,

The General Manager (Environment),
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd,
Coal Estate, 9th Floor, Civil Lines,
Nagpur- 1 (Maharashtra)
Email: gmenvironment.wcl@nic.in; wclenv@yahoo.in

Sub: Hindustan Lalpeth Opencast Coal Mining Project from 0.59 to 1 MTPA in ML area 311.66 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located near village Mana, Tehsil and District Chandrapur (Maharashtra) - For Revalidation of Environmental Clearance under Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018 -reg

Sir,

This has reference to your online proposal No. IA/MH/CMIN/79185/2006 dated 17th September, 2018 for Revalidation of Environmental Clearance dated 14th July, 2006, submitted to this Ministry in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Hindustan Lalpeth Opencast Coal Mining Project from 0.59 to 1 MTPA in ML area 311.66 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located near village Mana, Tehsil and District Chandrapur (Maharashtra).

The project/activity is covered under category 'A' of item 1 (a) 'Mining of Minerals' the Schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006

2. The proposal was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Thermal & Coal Mining Sector in its 45th meeting held on 27th May, 2019 and 7th EAC meeting held on 29th January, 2021.

3. The public notices were published through Maharashtra Pollution Control Board in the national and local newspapers (The Hitavada & Loksatta) in English and Local Language on 03/09/2020 inviting comments, suggestions, objections within 30 days of publication of the public notice. The point wise reply/ compliance report in respect of the objections raised by Pragriti Foundation was submitted to SRO, MPCB, Chandrapur /671 dated 22.10.2020. Certified Compliance Monitoring report has been submitted by Ministry's Regional Office Nagpur vide its letter File No.3- 45/2006/(ENV)/7353 Dated 19th October, 2020. The Action

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Taken Report has also been submitted to Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Nagpur vide letter no 673, Dated 22nd October, 2020. Project area involves 72.21 ha of forest land. Stage-II forest clearance for diversion of forest land has been obtained for non-forestry purposes, as mandated under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on for 72.22 ha on 8th May, 2001. The Mining plan including mine closure plan has been approved in 325th meeting of Board of Directors. WCL confirmed vide resolution WCL/Office of CS/BM- 325/2020-21/467, dated: 08.10.2020 of Expansion of Hindustan Lalpeth OC Mine (with Peak Capacity of Coal 1 MTPA & Mine Lease area of 311.66 Ha) as per OM F.No.34011/28/2019-CPAM dated 29/5/2020

4. The Expert Appraisal Committee in its 7th EAC meeting held on 29th January, 2021 has recommended the project for grant of Revalidation of Environment Clearance (EC) based on Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018. Based on recommendations of the EAC, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords approval for revalidation of the Environment Clearance dated 14th July, 2006 to the Hindustan Lalpeth Opencast Coal Mining Project from 0.59 to 1 MTPA in ML area 311.66 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located near village Mana, Tehsil and District Chandrapur (Maharashtra), for life of the mine or 30 years, whichever is earlier as per EIA Notification, 2006, as mandated under the Ministry's Notification dated 6th April, 2018, subject to terms and conditions stipulated therein remaining the same and with additional conditions mentioned below:-

- (i) PP shall implement rain water harvesting mechanism in order recharge the ground water or as water conservation measure in addition to the proposed structure.
- (ii) PP shall carry out regular monitoring of Ground water level and quality.
- (iii) Effective safeguard measures for prevention of dust generation and subsequent suppression like regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in areas prone to air pollution. The Fugitive dust emission from all sources shall be regularly controlled by installation of required equipment's. It should be ensured that air pollution level confirm to the standards prescribed by the MOEFCC/CPCB
- (iv) The PP shall submit time bound action plan to the concerned Regional Office of Ministry within 6 months from the date of issuance of EC for undertaking the activities committed during the Public Consultation.
- (v) PP shall install two continuous air quality monitoring station and made operation by December 2021 and the real time data so generated to be uploaded on company website. In addition, data should also be displayed digitally at entry and exist gate of mine lease area for public display.
- (vi) Adequate effectiveness of EMP should be analyzed in the offset/hike of air pollution data from continuous monitoring station and quarterly report shall be generated and submitted with 6 monthly compliance report to RO, MoEF&CC.
- (vii) Continuous monitoring of Occupational health safety and other health hazards and the corrective actions need to be ensured.
- (viii) 5 nos. of Fog canon (mist sprayer) shall be installed to reduce the impact of air pollution

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- (ix) Water quality and Bioassay test of Erai River shall be monitored quarterly and submitted to State Pollution Control Board. No water shall be discharged in river without treatment
- (x) Project proponent to plant 150,000 nos. of native trees with broad leaves along the periphery of habitation/villages to prevent the effect of air pollution. After completion of tree plantation, number of trees shall be duly endorsed from District Forest Officer
- (xi) Project Proponent shall obtain blasting permission from DGMS for conducting mining operation near villages and also explore deployment of rock breakers of suitable capacity in the project to avoid blasting very near to villages. There shall be no damages caused to habitation/structures due to blasting activity
- (xii) The Project Proponent shall comply with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors. State Government shall ensure that the entire compensation levied, if any, for illegal mining paid by the Project Proponent through their respective Department in strict compliance of judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors.
- (xiii) Hon'ble Supreme Court in an Writ Petition(s) Civil No. 114/2014, Common Cause vs Union of India & Ors vide its judgement dated 8th January, 2020 has directed the Union of India to impose a condition in the mining lease and a similar condition in the environmental clearance and the mining plan to the effect that the mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. Compliance of this condition after the mining activity is over at the cost of the mining lease holders/Project Proponent". The implementation report of the above said condition shall be sent to the Regional Office of the MoEFCC.
5. All other terms and conditions stipulated in the Environment clearance dated 14th July, 2006, shall remain same.
6. This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.


(Lalit Bokolia)
Director

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. The Principal Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, 15th Floor, New Admn. Bldg, Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 32 (Maharashtra)

3. The Additional PCCF (Central), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (Western Central Zone), Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur-1 (Maharashtra)
4. The Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi
5. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi - 32
6. The Chairman, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Kalapataru Point, 3rd & 4th Floors, Sion, Matunga Scheme Road No. 8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (E), Mumbai - 2
7. The District Collector, Chandrapur, Government of Maharashtra
8. Monitoring File/Guard File 9. PARIVESH Portal


(Lalit Bokolia)
Director