



**No. J-11015/86/2005-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: 01124695301

**Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**

To,

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

**Sub: Umrer Opencast coal mine project of 4.90 MTPA in an area of 944.65 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located in Village Kanhwa Tehsil Umrer District Nagpur(Maharashtra) – Extension of Validity of Environment Clearance –reg**

Sir,

This is with reference to your online application No. IA/MH/CMIN/166052/2020 dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2020, on the above mentioned subject.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has granted Environment Clearance (EC) to the project on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 to Expansion of Expansion of Umrer Opencast coal mine project from 3.50 MTPA to 4.90 MTPA in an area of 944.65 ha M/s Western Coalfields Limited located in Village Kanhwa Tehsil Umrer District Nagpur(Maharashtra). The life of the mine was 2 Years as per EC.

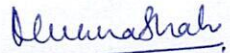
3. Now, project proponent has submitted that mine is in its last phase of operation. The reserves are being extracted with due consideration of conservation of coal before final closure of the mine. In this case, the mine proposed for end of mining operation by FY 2020-21 with production of 1.88 MT. But now, it is seen that there is about 3.0 MT (precisely 3.12 MT) of Coal, which was locked up for safety issues (barrier etc.). And while retreating, this additional coal of 3.12 MT needs to be extracted before finally closing the mine for better conservation of Coal reserves. Life of mine for extraction of coal reserves and OB removal is 03 years from 01.04.2020 i.e. till 2023.

Mining Plan (Including Progressive Mine Closure Plan) (pertaining to enhancement in production capacity from 3.50 to 4.90 MTPA within the existing ML area of 944.65 ha) has been approved by the WCL Board on 24-05-2018 as communicated vide letter no WCL/BD/SECTT/BM-300/2018/93 dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2018

*Umesh Shah*

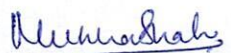
4. The proposal was considered by the sectoral Expert Appraisal Committee in its 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 28-29 September, 2020 through video conferencing wherein the Committee recommended the proposal for extension in validity of Environment Clearance. Based on recommendations of the EAC, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords approval for the extension of validity to Expansion of Umrer Opencast coal mine project from 3.50 to 4.90 MTPA capacity in mine lease area of 944.65 ha of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located in village Kanhwa, Tehsil Umrer, District Nagpur (Maharashtra) for life of the mine (three years i.e. till 2023 as project proponent committed that evacuation of mineral will be completed in three years during presentation in EAC) or 30 years whichever is earlier as per EIA Notification, 2006 with all the condition stipulated in EC dated 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 shall remain the same and subject to additional conditions as mentioned below for environment safeguards: -

- No untreated mine water shall be discharged in Amb river which is adjacent to the boundary of the mine.
- 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”.

  
(Munna Kumar Shah)  
Scientist D

**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 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. CMD, WCL, Nagpur
5. The Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi
6. The Chairman, Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru 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
7. The District Collector, Chandrapur, Government of Maharashtra
8. Monitoring File/Guard File 9. PARIVESH

  
(Munna Kumar Shah)  
Scientist D