

No.J-11015/165/2009-IA-II (M) pt. file  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
IA-II (Coal Mining) Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Jorbagh Road, N Delhi-3  
Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2017

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](mailto:gmenvironment.wcl@nic.in); [wclenv@yahoo.in](mailto:wclenv@yahoo.in)

**Sub: Expansion of Ghonsa OCP of capacity 0.60 MTPA of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd with increase in land area from 128.79 ha to 278.683 ha located in District Yavatmal (Maharashtra) - Environmental Clearance - reg.**

Sir,

This is with reference to your letter No. WCL/ENV/HQ/11-B/95 dated 10.03.2016, online proposal No. IA/MH/CMIN/61865/2013 and subsequent letters/email dated 27.04.2016, 07.05.2016, 13.05.2016, 21.09.2016, 23.09.2016, 05.10.2016, 31.01.2017, 20.03.2017, 18.04.2017 and 27.04.2017 for grant of environmental clearance to the above-mentioned project.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has considered the application. It is noted that the proposal is for grant of environmental clearance to the expansion of Ghonsa OCP of capacity 0.60 MTPA of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd with increase in land area from 128.79 ha to 278.683 ha located in District Yavatmal (Maharashtra).

3. The proposal was considered in its 55<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 11-13 May, 2016, 4<sup>th</sup> reconstituted EAC meeting held on 30-31 January, 2017 and 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27-28 April, 2017. The details of the proposal, as per the documents submitted by the project proponent, and also as informed during the meeting, are reported to be as under:-

(i) EC was granted vide letter no J-11015/165/2009-IA-II (M) dated 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 for Phase-I of Ghonsa OC for 0.45 MTPA in an area of 128.79 ha. EC was further granted under 7(ii) of EIA notification 2006 vide letter no J-11015/165/2009-IA-II (M) dated 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 for expansion in production capacity from 0.45 MTPA to 0.60 MTPA within same mine lease area of 128.79 ha.

(ii) The latitude and longitude of the project are 19° 57'11" to 19° 58'35" N and 78° 49'30" to 78° 50' 25" E respectively.

(iii) Joint Venture: There is no Joint venture.

(iv) Coal Linkage: Thermal power plants of MAHAGENCO & Miscellaneous consumers.

Ghonsa OCP Expn in area from 128.79 ha to 278.68 ha by M/s WCL



- (v) Employment generated / to be generated: Required Manpower for the project is 108 Nos.
- (vi) Benefits of the project: This project will thus bridge the gap to the extent of the peak production capacity of the project) between demand & supply of non – coking coal for power plants& other bulk consumers from Western as well as Southern part of the country.
- (vii) The land usage of the project will be as follows:

Pre-Mining:

Agriculture Land	204.443 ha
Forest Land	24.0 ha
Waste land	50.240 ha

Post- Mining:

S. No.	Land use post mining	Land use (ha)				
		Plantation	Water Body	Public use	Undis- turbed	Total
1	External OB Dump	29.35	0	0	0	29.35
2	Excavation Area	80	46.84	0	8.28	135.12
3	Infrastructure like Sub-station, CHP Service Buildings etc.	4	0	11	0	15
4	Diverted Road	0.25	0	1.25	0	1.5
5	Blasting Zone (including rationalization Area)	20	0	0	32.333	52.333
6	Future Extn. & Plain Land Plantation	0.76	0	0	14.24	15
7	Embankment	0	0	30.38	0	30.38
Total		134.36	46.84	42.63	54.853	278.683

- (viii) Total geological reserve is 20.50 MT. The mineable reserve 4.90 MT, extractable reserve is 4.90 MT (balance as on 1.04.2016). The per cent of extraction would be 100 %.
- (ix) The coal grade is GCV – 4684 Kcal/kg, G9. The stripping ratio is 1: 5.77 m<sup>3</sup>/t. The average Gradient is 1 in 12 to 1 in 7.5. There will be three seams.
- (x) Thickness of the Seam:

Seam/Parting	Depth Range (floor) (m)		Thickness Range (m)	
	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.
Seam-II	8.95	84.30	2.80	6.30
Parting	12.30 m - 19.27 m			
Seam-I	11.25	107.20	0.85	3.50
Parting	6.95 m to 8.41 m			
Local Seam	-	-	0.20	1.10

- (xi) Total estimated water requirement is 130 KLD.
- (xii) The Method of mining would be Opencast with Shovel – Dumper Combination
- (xiii) There is one external OB dump with Quantity of 3.27 Mm<sup>3</sup> (As on 01.04.2016) in an area of 29.35 ha with height of 60 meter above the surface level and one internal dump with Quantity of 25.85 Mm<sup>3</sup> in an area of 88.28 ha (maximum height 30 m above ground level).
- (xiv) The final mine void would be in 46.84 ha with depth upto 75.m and the Total quarry area is 135.12 Ha. Backfilled quarry area of 80 Ha shall be reclaimed with plantation (and 8.28 ha of backfilled area shall remain as undisturbed). A void of 46.84 ha with depth varying upto 75 m which is proposed to be converted into a water body.
- (xv) Fortnightly environmental monitoring as per Existing EC is being carried out.
- (xvi) The life of mine is 9 Years.
- (xvii) Transportation: Coal transportation in pit by dumpers. Surface to siding by Tippers and loading at siding by pay loaders
- (xviii) There is no R & R involved.
- (xix) Cost: Total capital cost of the project is Rs.102.47 crore (Existing Capital Rs.5.23 Crores & Additional Capital requirement Rs 97.24 Crores). CSR Cost: The fund for the CSR will be allocated based on 2% of the average net profit of the Company for the three immediate preceding financial years or Rs 2.00 per tonne of coal production of the previous year whichever is higher. R&R Cost Nil. Environmental Management Cost: Capital Cost Rs 0.60 crores and Recurring cost Rs.6.00 per tonne.
- (xx) Water body : The main drainage of the area is controlled by Vidharbha River which flows in south-westerly direction passing along the Central and Southern property and finally meets with Penganga River. A few small seasonal nallahs passing through the property drain into Vidharbha River during rainy season.
- (xxi) Approvals: Application submitted to CGWA vide letter no. WCL/ENV/HQ/20-J&17-U/567 dated 26.12.16. Mining plan has been approved vide letter no. WCL/BD/SECTT/BM-267/2015/2241 on 21.08.2015 by WCL Board. Mine closure plan is an integral part of mining plan.
- (xxii) Wildlife issues: There are no national Parks, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserves found in the 10 km buffer zone.
- (xxiii) Forestry issues: 24.0 ha is the forest land for which Stage-I FC has been obtained.
- (xxiv) Total afforestation plan shall be implemented covering an area of 134.36 ha at the end of mining. Green Belt over an area of 20 Ha ha. Density of tree plantation 2500 trees/ ha of plants.
- (xxv) There are no court cases/violation pending with the project proponent.
- (xxvi) Public Hearing was held on 09.08.2011. The issues raised in the PH include land compensation, air pollution control, plantation & disposal of OB, water sprinkling & CSR works.
- (xxvii) Public notice: Public notice issued in three local newspapers (In English, Marathi and Hindi) for inviting comments. No comments were received.
- (xxviii) The proposal for expansion of Ghonsa Opencast Coal Mine involving an increase in production capacity from 0.30 MTPA to 0.45 MTPA and ML area from 128 ha to 293.65 ha was earlier discussed in the EAC meeting held on 3-4 January, 2012. The mine lease area of 293.65 ha involved 24 ha of forest land, for which the stage-I FC was not available while considering the proposal for grant of EC at that stage. In order to meet the production target, the EC for enhancement was granted for 0.45 MTPA in the existing land area without forest land i.e. 128.79 ha as Phase-I. Regarding phase-II for production capacity 0.45 MTPA in the extended ML area of 293.65 ha, EAC recommended the project for EC, mentioning about the Public



Hearing (PH) conducted 9th August, 2011. The Stage-I Forestry Clearance has since been obtained vide MoEF's letter dated 8th March, 2016.

(xxix) The latest status of compliance of PH along with details of CSR activities (from 2010-11 to 2013-14) taken up in the subject mine as well as various pollution control measures taken up in the surrounding operating mines of Wani North Area of WCL have been compiled in the form of a booklet. It may be seen that all the issues raised in the Public Hearing have been duly addressed and the work completed. Further, additional works beyond the works committed during PH have also been completed and listed in the booklet. As such, the Public Hearing has been duly completed for the mining area of 293 ha and the present area of 278.683 ha is within the same land area of 293 ha and there is no change in location, type of mining etc.

(xxx) Re-inspection by the Regional Office, MoEF&CC has been conducted and the fresh Regional Office's report as received vide no. 3-29/2012 (ENV) dated 7th September, 2016. The same was deliberated in the meeting.

(xxxi) The Mine Closure Plan (MCP) for the existing Mine vis-a-vis existing Environmental Clearance (EC) has been prepared and duly approved by WCL Board. Further, based on the existing EC and the Project Report, the Escrow Account details as well as details of Corpus have also been submitted along with the compliance report. As such, the final Mine Closure Plan vis-a-vis the existing mine / existing EC is not applicable, hence not prepared. However, the progressive Mine Closure Plan for the expansion project (with enhanced land area) as per Ministry of Coal's guidelines dated 07.01.2013 has been prepared and approved.

(xxxii) Fresh air quality and water quality data are monitored & submitted.

(xxxiii) The instant proposal is for grant of EC to Ghonsa OCP at its existing capacity of 0.60 MTPA, but in the mine lease area increased from 128.79 ha to 278.683 ha located in District Yavatmal (Maharashtra).

(xxxiv) Out of the total area of 278.683 ha, forest land involved is 24 ha, for which stage-I FC has been obtained on 8th March, 2016.

(xxxv) As desired by the EAC in its meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2017, public notice was issued on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017 in three local newspapers in English, Hindi and Marathi inviting comments/suggestions from the locals/stakeholders within three weeks, and thus fulfilling the requirement of public consultations. There have been no comments/suggestions so far.

4. The EAC, after detailed deliberations on the proposal in the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27-28 April, 2017 decided for exempting the proposal from the requirement of fresh TOR and fresh Public Hearing, and recommended the proposal for grant of Environmental Clearance. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change hereby accords Environmental Clearance to the **Expansion of Ghonsa OCP of capacity 0.60 MTPA of M/s Western Coalfields Ltd with increase in land area from 128.79 ha to 278.683 ha located in District Yavatmal (Maharashtra)** under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments/circulars thereto, subject to the compliance of the following terms and conditions and environmental safeguards 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.

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- (iii) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish/Operate under the Air Act, 1981 and the Water Act, 1974 from the State Pollution Control for the Ghonsa OCP of 0.60 MTPA in the mine lease area of 278.683 ha in District Yavatmal (Maharashtra).
- (iv) **Transportation of coal to be carried out through rail network or the covered trucks. Mitigative measures to be undertaken to control dust and other fugitive emissions all along the roads by providing water sprinklers.**
- (v) Continuous monitoring of occupational safety and other health hazards, and the corrective actions need to be ensured.
- (vi) Controlled blasting technique should be adopted to control ground vibrations and fly rocks.
- (vii) A progressive afforestation plan shall be implemented covering an area of 134.36 ha at the end of mining, which includes reclaimed External OB dump area 29.35ha, Internal OB dump area (80.0 ha) and Green belt (20 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.
- (viii) An estimated total 29.12 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be generated during the entire life of the mine. Out of which 3.27 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be dumped in one external OB Dumps an earmarked area covering 29.35 ha of land. 25.85 Mm<sup>3</sup> of will be one internal OB dump in covering an area of 88.28 ha. The maximum height of internal OB dump will not exceed 30 m above ground level. The maximum slope of the dump shall not exceed 28 degrees. Monitoring and management of reclaimed dump sites shall continue till the vegetation becomes self- sustaining and compliance status shall be submitted to Regional Office on yearly basis.
- (ix) Of the total quarry area of 135.12 ha, the backfilled quarry area of 80 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation and a void of 46.84 ha with maximum depth of 75 m 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.

## **B. General Conditions**

### **(a) Mining**

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of work shall be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of coal and waste should be made.
- (ii) Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan, and also abiding by the relevant laws related to coal mining and the circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS). An approved progressive Mine Closure Plan shall strictly be complied with and submitted.

### **(b) Land Reclamation**

- (i) Digital processing of the entire lease area using remote sensing technique shall be carried out regularly once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report submitted to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change its Regional Office.



- (ii) Final mine void depth should not be more than 40 m. The void area should be converted into water body. The remaining area should be back filled up to the ground level and covered with thick top soil. The land after mining should be restored for agriculture or forestry purpose.
- (iii) The top soil, if any, shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and it should not be kept unutilized for long. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation. The overburden dumps should be vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. The entire excavated area shall be backfilled and afforested in line with the approved Mine Closure Plan. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas should continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Regional Office on six monthly basis.
- (iv) Greenbelt shall be developed all along the mine lease area in a phased manner. The width of the green belt along forest area should not be less than 7.5 m, and the total area covered by 3 tier green belt shall not be less than 100 ha. A 3-tier green belt comprising of a mix of native species shall be developed all along the major approach roads.

(c) Emissions, Effluents, and Waste Disposal

- (i) Transportation of coal by road should be carried out by covered trucks only. Effective measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central/State Pollution Control Board in this regard.
- (ii) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Project should obtain 'PUC' certificate for all the vehicles from authorized pollution testing centres.
- (iii) Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring of pollutants, namely PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>x</sub>. 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) Crusher/feeder and breaker material transfer points should invariably be provided with dust suppression system. Belt-conveyors should be fully covered to avoid air borne dust. Drills shall be wet operated or fitted with dust extractors.
- (v) The project proponent shall not alter the major channels around the site. Appropriate embankment should be provided along the side of the river/nallah flowing near or adjacent to the mine. The embankment constructed along the river/nallah boundary should be of suitable dimensions and critical patches should 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.
- (vi) Rainwater harvesting shall be implemented for conservation and augmentation of ground water resources in the area in consultation with Central Ground Water Board.
- (vii) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, coal heaps and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the river and other water bodies. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly. Sump capacity should provide

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adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. Dimension of the retaining wall to be constructed at the toe of the dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation should be based on the rainfall data.

(viii) Industrial waste water (CHP, workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules made there under, and as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.

(d) Noise & Vibration Control

(i) 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.

(ii) Controlled blasting techniques should be practiced with use of delay detonators to mitigate ground vibrations and fly rocks.

(e) Occupational Health & Safety

(i) Besides carrying out regular periodic health check-up of their workers, 20% 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.

(ii) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Supervisory staff shall be held responsible for ensuring compulsory wearing of dust mask.

(iii) In case of outsourcing of work through MDO, the project proponent shall ensure the strict enforcement of the above conditions.

(f) Biodiversity

(i) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered fauna, if any, spotted in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Regional Office.

(g) Implementation of Action Plan as per Public Hearing and CSR Activities

(i) Implementation of Action Plan on the issues raised during the Public Hearing shall be ensured. The Project Proponent shall complete all the tasks as per the Action Plan submitted with budgetary provisions during the Public Hearing. Land oustees should be compensated as per the norms laid out R&R Policy of the Company or the National R&R Policy or R&R Policy of the State Government, whichever is higher.

(ii) The Board of every company, shall ensure that the company spends, in every financial year, at least two per cent. of the average net profits of the company made during the three immediately preceding financial years, in pursuance of its Corporate Social Responsibility Policy



under Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, for the socio economic development of the neighbourhood.

(h) Corporate Environment Responsibility

- (i) The Company should have a well laid down Environment Policy approved by the Board of Directors.
- (ii) To have proper checks and balances, the Company should 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.
- (iii) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (iv) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure should be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office.

(i) Statutory Obligations

- (i) Environmental clearance is granted subject to final outcome of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble High Court, NGT and any other Court of Law, if any, as may be applicable to the project.
- (ii) This Environmental Clearance is subject to obtaining requisite NBWL Clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife, if any, as applicable to the project.
- (iii) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate from the concerned State Pollution Control Board prior to increase in capacity of washery and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (iv) Project Proponent shall obtain the necessary prior permission from the Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for drawl of water (surface and ground water).

(j) Monitoring of Project

- (i) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The monitoring shall be carried out four times in a year pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and its Regional Office, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (ii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly reports on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, its Regional Office, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (iii) The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.
- (iv) The activities pertaining to development of green belt/horticulture shall be reported to concerned Regional Office of MoEF&CC on six monthly basis from the date of commencement of mining operations.

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(v) For half yearly monitoring reports, the data should be monitored for the period of April to September and October to March of the financial years and submitted to the concerned authorities within 2 months of the completion of periodicity of monitoring.

(k) Miscellaneous

(i) A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat/local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.

(ii) An electronic copy of the EC letter shall be marked to the concerned State Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, District Industry Sector and Collector's Office/Tehsildar Office for information in public domain within 30 days.

(iii) The EC letter shall be uploaded on the company's website. The compliance status of the stipulated EC 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.

(iv) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue 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 also at web site of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at [www.environmentclearance.nic.in](http://www.environmentclearance.nic.in) and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional Office.

(v) The Environmental Statement for each financial year ending 31 March in Form-V is mandated to be submitted by the PP 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 project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report and also that during their presentation to the EAC. The commitment made by the project proponent to the issue raised during Public Hearing shall be implemented by the proponent.

6. The project proponent shall 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.

7. The PP shall set up an Environment Audit cell with responsibility and accountability to ensure implementation of all the EC Conditions.


8. 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 EC and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.



9. 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 PP 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.


10. Any appeal against this EC 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.

11. This EC supersedes the earlier EC granted vide letter No.J-11015/165/2009-IA-II(M) dated 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 for expansion in production capacity from 0.45 MTPA to 0.60 MTPA in ML area of 128.79 ha.

  
8/6/2017  
(S. K. Srivastava)  
Scientist E

**Copy to:**

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, 15th Floor, New Admn. Bldg., Madam Cama Road, **Mumbai** - 32.
3. The APCCF, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (Western Central Zone), Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretariat Building Civil Lines, Nagpur (Maharashtra)
4. The 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 - 400 002.
5. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi -110 032.
6. The Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
7. The District Collector, **Nagpur**, Government of Maharashtra
8. Monitoring File 9. Guard File 10. Record File 11. Notice Board

  
8/6/2017  
(S. K. Srivastava)  
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No. J-11015/165/2009 -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: 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2014

To,

The General Manager (Environment),  
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,  
Coal Estate, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Civil Lines,  
NAGPUR -440001  
Email: wclenv@yahoo.in

**Sub. : Expansion of Ghonsa OCP expansion (from 0.45 MTPA to 0.60 MTPA in an ML area of 128.79 ha; Latitude 19° 57'11" to 19° 58'35" N and Longitude 78° 49'30" to 78° 50' 25" E) of M/s Western Coalfield Ltd, dist. Yavatmal, Maharashtra - EC under 7(ii) of EIA Notification, 2006 – Environment Clearance - reg.**

Sir:

This is with reference to letter no. CIL/DLI/EMP/2012/18 dated 10.01.2013 with the application and subsequent letter no. dated 05.08.2014; 21.08.2014; 28.08.2014; 04.09.2014; 20.10.2014 and 17.11.2014 for Environmental Clearance for Expansion under 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 for the above-mentioned project.

2. The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change has considered the application. It is noted that the proposal is for grant of Environmental Clearance for **expansion of Ghonsa OCP expansion (from 0.45 MTPA to 0.60 MTPA in an ML area of 128.79 ha; Latitude 19° 57'11" to 19° 58'35" N and Longitude 78° 49'30" to 78° 50' 25" E) of M/s Western Coalfield Ltd, dist. Yavatmal, Maharashtra**. The proposal was considered in the 17<sup>th</sup> EAC meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup>– 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 and reconsidered in the 23<sup>rd</sup> EAC meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> October, 2014. The proponent has informed that:

- i. The project was accorded EC vide letter no. J-11015/165/2009-IA.II (M) dated 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 for 0.45 MTPA. Now project proponent has applied for 25 % expansion under 7(ii) of EIA Notification 2006 in line with the MoEF O.M. No. J-11015/30/2004-IA.II (M) dated 19.12.2012.
- ii. The latitude and longitude of the project are 19° 57'11" to 19° 58'35" N and 78° 49'30" to 78° 50' 25" E respectively.
- iii. There is not 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:

S.N.	LAND USE	Within ML Area (ha)	Outside ML Area (ha)	Total
1	Agricultural land	128.79	---	128.79
2	Forest land	Nil	Nil	Nil
3	Waste land/Govt. land	---	---	---
	Total	128.79	Nil	128.79



Post- Mining

Sl. No.	Particulars	Plantation	Void	Public Use	Undisturbed/ Unplanted	Total
1	External OB Dump	29.35	-	-	-	29.35
2	Excavated Area	4.00	34.05	-	---	38.05
3	Infrastructure	-	-	10.00	-	10.00
4	Blasting Zone Including Rationalisation Area	10.00	-	-	25.39	35.39
5	Embankment	15.00	-	-	-	15.00
6	Colony			1.00		
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58.35</b>	<b>34.05</b>	<b>11.00</b>	<b>25.39</b>	<b>128.79</b>

Land Use Pattern - Mining Lease Area

Sl. No.	Particulars	Agricultural Land (Ha)	Waste Land (Ha)	Forest Land (Ha)	Total
1	Excavation Area	38.05	-	--	38.05
2	Ext. Ob Dump	29.35	---	-	29.35
3	Infrastructure	10.00	-	-	10.00
4	Blasting Zone	35.39	--	-	35.39
5	Embankment	15.00	-	-	15.00
6	Colony Outside ML Area	1.00	---	---	1.00
	Total	128.79	----	----	128.79

- vi. The total geological reserve is 20.50 Mt. The mineable reserve 1.73 Mt (within the quarry), extractable reserve is 1.73 Mt (1,1,1) (within the quarry). The per cent of extraction would be 90 %.
- vii. The coal grade is "E" (Non – Coking). The stripping ratio is 1: 4.94 m<sup>3</sup>/t. The average Gradient is 1 in 12 to 1 in 10.5. There will be two seams with thickness ranging from Seam – I – 1.00 to 3.50 & Seam – II – 2.12 to 6.30.
- viii. The total water requirement for project site has been worked out to 383 Kl per day. The level of ground water ranges in Pre Monsoon 3.90m -14.00 m & Post Monsoon 1.90 m- 10.10 m bgl.
- ix. The method of mining would be opencast with shovel-dumper combination.
- x. There is one external OB dump with Quantity of 7.37 Mm<sup>3</sup> in an area of 29.35 Ha with height of 60 meter and 1 internal dump with Quantity of 1.17 Mm<sup>3</sup> in an area of 4 Ha with the height of upto ground level.
- xi. The final mine void would be in 34.05 Ha with depth of 46 m.
- 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 3 years (Balance life).
- xiv. **Transportation:** Coal transportation in pit by Dumpers, Surface to Siding by Dumpers and loading to siding by Pay Loaders.
- xv. There is **R & R** involved and it has been already completed. No additional R&R required.
- xvi. **Cost:** Total capital cost of the project is Rs. 6.99 crores. CSR Cost Rs. 2 /Tonne. Environmental

Management Cost Rs. 9.00 lakhs.

- xvii. **Water body:** There are flowing Vidharbha River.
- xviii. **Approvals:** Board's approval obtained on 25.08.2012. Mining plan: Approved by WCL Board on 17.12.2012. Mine closure plan has been approved by WCL Board on 25.08.2012.
- 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 in the project.
- xxi. **Total afforestation** plan shall be implemented covering an area of 58.35 ha at the end of mining.
- xxii. There is no court **cases/violation** pending with the project proponent.

3. Certificate of compliance of earlier EC from MoEF, Regional office, Bhopal has been received vide their letter no. 3-7/2005(ENV)/005 dated 15.05.2014. The Committee deliberated upon the compliance report received from MoEF, Regional Office, Bhopal. The Committee was not satisfied with the level of compliance from the proponent which is a subsidiary of the Coal India Limited. The EAC was of the view Coal India Limited is technically rich and has enough human resources to deal with the environmental matters more specifically with compliance of EC conditions. The proponent has submitted that they have complied with and also prepared action plan so as to comply with the EC conditions. The proponent has further submitted that even after they informed the RO, MoEF, the responses were fully captured in the RO's report. The Committee has observed that there is a deficiency in cooperation and communication between the proponent and the RO, MoEF and urged both the parties to sort out the matter and submit a revised compliance report so as to enable the EAC to take a view.

4. The proponent further informed that:

- i. It has requested the MoEFCC that Garland drain and toe wall may not be insisted and this may be waived off.
- ii. Check dam on secondary/tertiary channels for artificial ground water recharge measures have already been taken with due consultation with the concerned village Panchayat and de-silting/ deepening of existing ponds in the villages at a total cost of Rs. 12.48 lakh was done. The acidic pH of mine discharge was observed in one sample collected on one day only. The samples analysed during the last three quarters i.e. December, 2013, March 2014 & June 2014 did not show any acidic pH suggesting an error in the observations. An Environmental Management Cell is existing at the HQ which analyses the samples. Environmental personnel are being recruited.
- iii. The revised Compliance report has been submitted with the Action Plan.
- iv. Plantation in the Mine area has been carried out through the State Forest Agency and with 3 years/ 5 years maintenance contract. Adequate fund provision is made every year under revenue head for plantation. The species to be planted shall be native of the area.
- v. The artificial ground water recharge measures have already been taken with due consultation with the concerned village Panchayat through de-silting/ deepening of existing pond in the Sakhara, Rasa & Sukanegaon villages at a total cost of Rs. 12.48 lakhs. In addition to the above, check dams shall also be constructed through boulders of 1 m height in the natural water course flowing in the vicinity at 3-4 points along its course.
- vi. The existing 2 nos. bores are taken as peizometers and the same are being monitored. The depth of these bores are 65 m in Sakhra & 60 m in Kumbarkahani Village. The Existing mine depth is about 50 m, hence the existing monitoring is well below the depth of working. These bores are in continuous use and the ground water level monitoring results are clearly indicating the rise /fall of water level with specific reference to mine working. Till date no such adverse impacts have been noticed.
- vii. The Sustainability Report 2012-13 covering Land degradation and impact on biodiversity; Mine Water Utilization; Energy Consumption in mining operations; Expenditure for environmental

protection etc has been prepared for further follow up. One portable digital testing Kit for onsite monitoring of pH, Conductivity, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Salt & Temperature (One Digital Meter) on regular basis at project level is programmed to be provided by 31.03.2015.

- viii. The reason for acid mine water is because of presence of pyrite band in one of the benches only. Therefore, it is proposed to carry out day to day monitoring of pH levels in the mine sump itself (i.e. source). In case, acidity is recorded immediate action for neutralizing it through "lime – dozing" will be taken. Further after supernatant water is pumped out on surface, the monitoring of acidity level in discharge water will also be done and if required further lime – dozing in surface sedimentation pond will be done.
- ix. Construction of retaining wall at the toe of the OB dump though Stone wall/Boulders/gabion wall (filled with stone) to be taken up facing any natural water courses to prevent any flow of silt & sediments.

5. The proposal was re-considered in the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) (Thermal & Coal Mining) and recommended in 23<sup>rd</sup> EAC meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 for granting Environmental Clearance. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change hereby accords environmental clearance for the above-mentioned **expansion of Ghonsa OCP expansion (from 0.45 MTPA to 0.60 MTPA in an ML area of 128.79 ha; Latitude 19° 57'11" to 19° 58'35" N and Longitude 78° 49'30" to 78° 50' 25" E) of M/s Western Coalfield Ltd, dist. Yavatmal, Maharashtra** under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments/Circulars issued thereon and subject to the compliance of the following specific conditions, in addition to the general 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. Plantation of Prosperis species should be avoided and only native plant species be planted.
- iv. Rain water harvesting and other facilities should be created for ground water recharge..
- v. Run off from the garland canal must pass through the settling tank.
- vi. As far as possible No bore well should be made close to the mine.
- vii. Trained manpower and environmental laboratory at site be provided for analysing basic parameters and for advanced analysis, a regional environmental laboratory be established so as to cater to a group of mines in the vicinity. Action Taken report to the implementation of submitted action plan be submitted to the concerned SPCB and the RO, MoEFCC.
- viii. The garland drain and toe wall be provided after necessary consultation with the DGMS for its adequacy.
- ix. Check dams/secondary/tertiary channels be provided for storing of water/rain water harvesting for ground water recharge.
- x. An Environmental Management Cell with an Ecologist and a Social Scientist be established for environmental monitoring in the area.
- xi. Restoration of OB Dumps should be done and monitored with respect of the approved plan.
- xii. The source of acid mine water be identified and action plan to be prepared for treatment.
- xiii. Mine sump water be periodically monitored for pH with regard to acid mine water discharge as precautionary measure.
- xiv. Gabion i.e. stone in wire mesh be provided to prevent any land slide.
- xv. Coal transportation in pit by Dumpers, Surface to Siding by Dumpers and loading to siding by Pay Loaders.
- xvi. The production shall be within the same Mining Lease area.

- xvii. The depth of the internal void shall be 40 m from the ground level and should be adequate for fishery purpose.
- xviii. The OB shall be completely re-handled at the end of the mining.
- xix. The rest of the area will be back filled upto the ground level and covered with about a meter thick top soil and put to use.
- xx. Garland drains be provided.
- xxi. Appropriate embankment shall be provided along the side of the river/nallah flowing near or adjacent to the mine.
- xxii. The land after mining shall be brought back for the use of agriculture purpose to the extent possible.
- xxiii. The CSR cost should be Rs 5 per Tonnes of Coal produced which should be adjusted as per the annual inflation.
- xxiv. Everybody in the core area should be provided with mask for protection against fugitive dust emissions.
- xxv. Dust mask to be provided to everyone working in the mining area.
- xxvi. The supervisory staff should be held personally responsible for ensuring compulsory regarding wearing of dust mask in the core area.
- xxvii. 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.
- xxviii. The mining area should be surrounded by green belt having thick closed thick canopy of the tree cover.
- xxix. 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.
- xxx. 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.
- xxxi. OB shall be stacked at earmarked external OB dumpsite(s) only. The ultimate slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. Monitoring and management of existing reclaimed dumpsites shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change and its concerned Regional office on yearly basis.
- xxxii. 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.
- xxxiii. Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of the dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rainfall data.
- xxxiv. 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.
- xxxv. Drills shall be wet operated.
- xxxvi. 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,
- xxxvii. 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.
- xxxviii. A Progressive afforestation plan shall be implemented covering an area of 58.35 ha at the end of mining, which includes reclaimed External OB dump area (29.35 ha), excavated area ( 4.0 ha), blasting zone (10 Ha) and Embankment area (15 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.

- xxxix. An estimated total 8.54 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be generated during the entire life of the mine. Out of which 7.37 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB will be dumped in one external OB Dumps an earmarked area covering 29.35 ha of land with height of upto ground level. 1.17 Mm<sup>3</sup> of will be one internal OB dump in covering an area of 4 ha with height of 60 m. The maximum height of external OB dump for hard OB will not exceed 90 m. The maximum slope of the dump shall not exceed 28 degrees. 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.
- xl. The proponent should prepare restoration and reclamation plan for the degraded area. The land be used in a productive and sustainable manner.
- xli. Compensatory Ecological & Restoration of waste land, other degraded land and OB dumps in lieu of breaking open the land be carried out.
- xl.ii. The mining should be phased out in sustainable manner. No extra over burden dumps are permitted.
- xl.iii. No groundwater shall be used for mining operations.
- xliv. Of the total quarry area of 38.05 ha, the backfilled quarry area of 4.0 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation and a void of 34.05 ha at a depth of 46 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.
- xlv. 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.
- xlvi. 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.
- xlvi. Sewage treatment plant shall be installed in the existing colony. ETP shall also be provided for workshop and CHP wastewater.
- xlvi. 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.
- xl. 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.
- l. 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
- li. 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.
- lii. 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.
- liii. 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 (E) 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.
6. The proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report so also during their presentation to the EAC.
7. The commitment made by the Proponent to the issue raised during Public Hearing shall be implemented by the Proponent
8. 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.
9. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.
10. The Proponent shall setup an Environment Audit cell with responsibility and accountability to ensure implementation of all the EC Conditions.
11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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.

14. This EC supersedes the earlier EC, vide letter no. J-11015/165/2009-IA.II (M) dated 29<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 for 0.45 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.
5. Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi -110032.
6. Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
7. Dr. R.K. Garg, Advisor, Coal India Limited, SCOPE Minar, Core-I, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Vikas Marg, Laxmi nagar, New Delhi.
8. District Collector, Yavatmal, Government of Maharashtra.
9. Monitoring File    10.    Guard File    11.    Record File    12. Notice Board.

  
(Dr. Manoranjan Hota)  
Director



**Ministry of Environment & Forests**

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodi Road  
New Delhi-110003.

**No. J-11015/165/2009-IA.II (M)**

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012

To  
General Manager (Env.)  
**M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,**  
Coal Estate, Civil Lines,  
NAGPUR-440001.

**Sub: Ghonsa OC Expansion Project (0.30 MTPA to 0.45 MTPA within the ML area of 128.79 ha) of M/s WCL located in Tehsil Wani, district Yavatmal, Maharashtra-Environment Clearance**

Sir,

This has reference to letter No 43011/29/2009 dated 28.05.2009 Ministry of Coal forwarding your application for Terms of Reference and this Ministry's grant of TOR vide letter dated 08.07.2009 and your application for environmental clearance vide letter no.WCL/ENV/HQ/11-B/558 dated 13.12.2011 and 06.01.2012 on the above mentioned subject. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has considered the application. It is noted that an EC was granted on 12.04.2002 to the existing Ghonsa Open Cast Project of 0.3 MTPA capacity in ML area of 128 ha. The present proposal is for **expansion of the Ghonsa Open Cast Coal Mine Project from 0.3 MTPA to 0.45 MTPA peak production capacity within the existing ML area of 128.79 ha consisting of agricultural land**. No forestland is involved. The main linkage is MAHAGENCO. There are no ecologically sensitive areas such as National parks, WL Sanctuaries in the core zone and 10km radius of the buffer zone. River Vidarbha flows at a distance of 100m from the lease boundary. Diversion of a major irrigation canal of Rasa Dam and diversion of a stretch of major nala of 2km is proposed. In addition, 1.5km of SH-233 passing through the ML is also to be diverted. Mining would be opencast with shovel-dumper. The break-up of ML for mining operations consists of 38.05 ha of quarry area, 29.35 ha of ext. OB dumps, 15 ha is for embankment along River Vidarbha, 10 ha is for infrastructure and 35.60 ha is for blasting zone and for rationalisation of lease boundary. Ultimate working depth is 46m. It is proposed to construct an embankment of 30.38 ha all along the ML along River Vidarbha. An estimated 8.54 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB would be generated in the existing ML area of 128 ha, of which 7.37 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB would be stored in the existing ext. OB dumps and used in construction of embankment and 1.17 Mm<sup>3</sup> of OB would be backfilled. The quarry would however be worked in the expansion project when the ML area would expand from 128 ha to 293.65 ha. There are 69 land losers of agricultural land, who would be appropriately rehabilitated as per the latest CIL Policy. The project does not involve any displacement. Grade of coal is E. The total provision made for EMP is Rs 48 lakhs (capital) and Rs 3/T of coal as recurring expenditure has been made. Balance life of the mine is 18 years. A provision of Rs 5/T of coal has been made for CSR. Public Hearing was held on 09.08.2011 for the existing ML area and its proposed expansion to 293.65 ha. The project has been approved by WCL on 09.09.2008 for expansion to 0.45 MTPA. Capital Cost of the project is Rs 39.9401 crores.

2. The Ministry of Environment & Forests hereby accords environmental clearance for the above mentioned **Ghonsa Open Cast Coalmine Expansion Project of M/s Western Coalfield Limited**

*GM(Mining)/Env.*  
*[Signature]*

from 0.30 MTPA to 0.45 MTPA production capacity within the existing ML area of 128.79 ha under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments and Circulars thereto issued thereon subject to the compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:

**A. Specific Conditions**

- (i) No washery shall be established within the ML without prior environmental clearances from this Ministry.
- (ii) Topsoil shall be stacked properly with proper slope at earmarked site(s) of the two topsoil dumps shall not be kept active and shall be used within a year of its generation for reclamation and development of green belt.
- (iii) The embankment constructed along the river boundary shall be of suitable dimensions and stabilised with plantation so as to withstand the peak water flow and prevent mine inundation.
- (iv) OB shall be stacked at the existing earmarked external OB dumpsite(s) only. The ultimate slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. Bamboo and other native species shall be planted on OB dumps for slope stability. Monitoring and management of the reclaimed dumpsites shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and its Regional office located at Bhopal on yearly basis.
- (v) 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. Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of the dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rainfall data.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Drills shall be wet operated.
- (viii) The project authorities shall ensure that the main approach roads are black topped and are properly maintained. A 3-tier green belt comprising of a mix of native species shall be developed all along the major approach roads and major haul roads.
- (ix) The capacity of trucks used for transportation shall minimum 25T trucks and shall be mechanically covered
- (x) 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.
- (xi) A progressive afforestation plan shall be implemented which includes reclaimed external OB dump and embankment area, backfilled area, along ML boundary, along roads and infrastructure, embankment and within vacant land 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 avenue plantation along the main approach roads to the mine.


- (xii) No groundwater shall be used for the mining operations.
- (xiii) Regular monitoring of groundwater level and quality shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and construction of new piezometers. 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 and to the Central Pollution Control Board quarterly within one month of monitoring.
- (xiv) 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.
- (xv) 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 and its Regional office at Bhopal.
- (xvi) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years before mine closure for approval, in case the dip side extension project is not planned/implemented.
- (xvii) The project authorities shall in consultation with the panchayat of the local villages identify socio-economic and welfare measures under CSR to be carried out over the balance life of the mine. A budgetary provision of Rs 5 per tonne of coal shall be earmarked for CSR activities. The budget and expenditure thereon village-wise and activity-wise for CSR shall be displayed on WCL website and also included as part of the Annual Plan.
- (xxi) The company shall have a well laid down Corporate Environmental Policy approved by the Board of Directors. The Environment Policy shall prescribe for standard operating process/procedures to bring into focus any infringement/deviation/violation of the environmental norms/conditions. To provide for checks and balances the company should have a well laid out system of reporting on 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 and Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral coal and waste 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.





- (iv) Fugitive dust emissions ( $PM_{10}$  and  $PM_{2.5}$ ) from all the sources shall be controlled regularly monitored and data recorded properly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading/transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.
- (v) Data on ambient air quality ( $PM_{10}$ ,  $PM_{2.5}$ ,  $SO_2$  and  $NO_x$ ) shall be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office at Bhopal and to the State Pollution Control Board and the Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Industrial wastewater (workshop and wastewater from the mine) shall be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) 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.
- (viii) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Vehicles used for transporting the mineral shall be covered with tarpaulins and optimally loaded till the mechanically converted trucks introduced by company.
- (ix) Environmental laboratory shall be established with adequate number and type of pollution monitoring and analysis equipment in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (x) 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.  
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.
- (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 Regional Office at Bhopal.
- (xiii) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal 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.
- (xiv) A copy of the will be marked to concerned Panchayat/ local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestion/representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- (xv) State Pollution Control Board shall display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industry Centre and Collectors Office/Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xvi) 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 at <http://envfor.nic.in>.
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3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

4. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

5. 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.

  
(Dr. T. Chandini)  
Director

**Copy to:**

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, 15<sup>th</sup> 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. 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 ? 400002.
5. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi -110032.
6. Member-Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi.
7. Dr. R. K. Garg, Advisor. Coal India Limited, SCOPE Minar, New Delhi
8. District Collector, Yavatmal, Government of Maharashtra.
9. Monitoring File    10.    Guard File    11.    Record File.



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No.J-11015/27/2004-IA.II (M)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment and Forests  
I.A. Division

Paryavaran Bhavan  
C.G.O. Complex,  
Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003

Dated the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2005

To

Chief General Manager (Civil/ENV/L&R)  
M/s Western Coalfields Ltd.,  
Coal Estate,  
Civil Lines,  
Nagpur-440001

Subject: Ghonsa open cast coal mine of M/s Western Coalfields Limited located in Village(s) Ghonsa/ Kumbarkhani, Tehsil Wani, District Yavatmal, Maharashtra environmental clearance req.

Sir,

This has reference to Coal India Ltd. letter No. CIL/DLI/ENV/2004/12 dated 21.05.2004 and subsequent letters dated 02.08.2004 and 03.12.2004 on the subject mentioned above. The project was accorded site clearance by the Ministry on 05.01.2004. The Ministry of Environment & Forests has considered the environmental clearance application. It has been noted that the total lease area of the project is 128.0 ha which is an agricultural land. No forestland is involved. Area proposed for mining is 38.05 ha and 29.35 ha area is kept for external OB dumps, 10.0 ha for infrastructure, 15.0 ha for embankment and 35.60 ha for roads and miscellaneous uses. In addition, it is proposed that 1.0 ha will be acquired for colony outside the mine lease area. No National Park/Wildlife Sanctuary/ Biosphere reserve is located within core & buffer zone of the mine lease area. There is no population in the core zone as such no R&R is involved. The annual targeted production capacity of the mine is 0.30 million tonnes. Working is open cast by Semi-mechanised method involving blasting. Ultimate working depth will be 46 m bgl. Peak water requirement is 190m<sup>3</sup>/day, out of which 140m<sup>3</sup>/day for mine site will be met from ground water (mine discharge) and 50 m<sup>3</sup>/day for township will be met from existing tube well based water supply scheme of Kumbarkhani UG project colony. The project involves removal of 8.54 million m<sup>3</sup> of total OB, out of which 1.17 million m<sup>3</sup> will be backfilled simultaneously within the decoaled void during the mine life, 5.62 million m<sup>3</sup> will be kept as external OB dump and 1.75 million m<sup>3</sup> will be used for construction of embankment. NOC from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board obtained on 10.05.2004. Public hearing held on 24.06.2002. Project report has been approved by WCL Board on 19.10.2001 for annual targeted capacity of 0.30 MTY. Capital cost of the project is Rs.699.49 lakh.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests hereby accords environmental clearance to the above mentioned coal mining project of M/s Western Coalfields Limited for 0.3 MTY production by opencast method involving total lease area of 128.0 ha under the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994 as amended on 04.05.1994 and 10.04.1997 subject to strict compliance of the terms and conditions mentioned below:

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**A. Specific conditions**

- (i) The environmental clearance is subject to approval of the State Landuse Department, Government of Maharashtra for diversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural use.
- (ii) Top soil should be stacked with proper slope at earmarked site(s) only with adequate measures and should be used for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out areas.
- (iii) OB dumps should be stacked at earmarked dump site(s) only and should not be kept active for long period. Proper terracing of OB dump should be carried out so that the overall slope will come down to 28 degree. The excavated area should be backfilled simultaneously with the mining operation from seventh year onwards. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas should continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests on yearly basis.
- (iv) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from soil, OB and mineral dumps. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains should be regularly desilted and maintained properly.

Garland drains of appropriate size should be constructed, to collect surface run-off from the OB and waste dump site(s) and taken to settling pond before discharge.

- (v) Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of dumps and OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation should be based on the rain fall data.
- (vi) Green belt should be raised in an area of 63.35 ha by planting the native species around the MI area, Coal Handling Plants, roads, OB dump sites etc. in consultation with the local DFO / Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2000 plants per ha.
- (vii) The project authority should implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Chhattisgarh region.
- (viii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality should be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The monitoring should be carried out four times in a year - pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to MOEF and to the Central Ground Water Authority.
- (ix) The project authorities should obtain prior approval of the competent authority for drawal of requisite quantity of ground water for the project.



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- (x) The project authorities should undertake sample survey to generate data on pre-project community health status within a radius of 1 km from proposed mine.
- (xi) The project authorities should meet the water requirement of nearby village(s) in case the village wells go dry due to de-watering of the mine.
- (xii) Coal handling plant should be provided with adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- (xiii) Consent to operate should be obtained from SPCB before starting mining activities.
- (xiv) Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored.
- (xv) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund should be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

#### B. General Conditions

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral coal and waste should be made.
- (iii) Atleast four ambient air quality monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as the buffer zone for RPM, SPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and CO monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board. Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>x</sub>, and CO) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office at Bhopal and to the State Pollution Control Board/Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- (iv) Drills should either be wet operated or with dust extractors.
- (v) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly monitored and data recorded properly. Water spraying arrangements on haul roads, wagon loading, dumps, loading & unloading points should be provided and properly maintained.
- (vi) Adequate measures should be taken for control of noise levels within prescribed standards. Workers engaged in blasting and drilling operations, operations of HEMM, etc., should be provided with ear plugs/muffs.



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(vii) Industrial wastewater (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422(F) dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1993 and 31<sup>st</sup> December 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed before discharge of effluents from workshop.

(viii) Acid mine water, if any has to be treated and disposed of after conforming to the standard prescribed the competent authority.

(ix) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.

Occupational health surveillance programme of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to coal dust and take corrective measures, if needed.

(x) Environmental laboratory should be established with adequate number and type of pollution monitoring and analysis equipment in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.

(xi) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set up under the control of a senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the organization.

(xii) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purposes. Year-wise expenditure should be reported to the Regional Office, Bhopal of the MOEF and to the Ministry.

(xiii) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhopal shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The Project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing requisite data/information/monitoring reports.

(xiv) A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to the concerned Panchayat /local NGO, if any, from whom any suggestions/representation has been received while processing the proposal.

(xv) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bhopal regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.

(xvi) State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industry Centre and Collector's/Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.

(xvii) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7 days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance

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letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in>.

3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.

4. 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.

5. 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.

(Dr. I. Chandini)  
Additional Director

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Maharashtra, Secretariat, Mumbai.
3. Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, E-2/240 Arera Colony, Bhopal-462016.
4. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.
5. Chairman, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Municipal Market Building, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Road, Mumbai-400001834004 with a request to take action on General Condition no. (xvi).
6. Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, 1103 Ansal Bhavan, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001.
7. District Collector Yavatmal, Maharashtra.
8. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi.
9. Monitoring File. 12. Guard File. 13. Record File.