



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment
Authority(SEIAA), TELANGANA)

To,

The Director (Planning & Projects)
THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES CO LTD
Kothagudem P.O -507101 Bhadradri Kothagudem District -507101

Subject: Grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed Project Activity under the provision of EIA Notification 2006-regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Environmental Clearance (EC) in respect of project submitted to the SEIAA vide proposal number SIA/TG/CMIN/425742/2023 dated 19 Apr 2023. The particulars of the environmental clearance granted to the project are as below.

1. EC Identification No.	EC23B001TG178263
2. File No.	SIA/TG/CMIN/425742/2023
3. Project Type	Expansion
4. Category	B
5. Project/Activity including Schedule No.	1(a) Mining of minerals
6. Name of Project	Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project
7. Name of Company/Organization	THE SINGARENI COLLIERIES CO LTD
8. Location of Project	TELANGANA
9. TOR Date	N/A

The project details along with terms and conditions are appended herewith from page no 2 onwards.

Date: 05/06/2023

(e-signed)
Smt. Sunita M Bhagwat, IFS
Member Secretary
SEIAA - (TELANGANA)

Note: A valid environmental clearance shall be one that has EC identification number & E-Sign generated from PARIVESH. Please quote identification number in all future correspondence.

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- (1) This has reference to your online proposal No.SIA/TG/CMIN/425742/2023, dated 19thApril, 2023 for grant of Environmental Clearance (Up to 20% Capacity Expansion as per the provisions of MoEF&CC O.M. dated 11th April, 2022) accepted on 29.04.2023 seeking Environment Clearance in terms of the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for Expansion of existing Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project from 2.00 to 2.40 MTPA within the same project area of 435.68 ha by M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited located near Kistaram Village, Sathupalli Mandal, Khammam District of Telangana State.
- (2) The project/activity is covered under category 'B' of item 1(a) 'Mining of Minerals' the schedule to the EIA Notification, 2006 and its subsequent amendments.
- (3) The proposal was considered by the State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) in its 229th Meeting held on 08th May, 2023. The details of the proposal, as ascertained from the proposal documents and as revealed from the discussions held during the meetings are given as under:
 - (i) The project area is covered under Survey of India Topo Sheet No 65C/16 and is bounded by the geographical coordinates ranging from 17°13'14" to 17°13'57" N and Longitudes 80°46'55" and 80°47'28" E
 - (ii) Coal linkage of the project is as per the fuel supply agreement-to thermal power plants, other industries etc
 - (iii) Project does not fall in the Critically Polluted Area (CPA), where the MoEF&CC's vide its O.M. dated 13thJanuary, 2010 has imposed moratorium on grant of environment clearance
 - (iv) Employment generated: Permanent 130 persons and contractual 500 persons
 - (v) Joint venture : No joint venture
 - (vi) The project is reported to be beneficial in terms of socio-economic and improving living standards.
 - (vii) Earlier, the environment clearances to the mine was obtained from MoEF&CC under EIA Notification, 2006 vide Ministry's File.No.11015/212/2014-IA-II (M) dated 12thJune, 2019 for 2.00 MTPA in mine lease area of 453.68 Ha.

(viii) Total mining lease area is 435.68 ha. Mining Plan (Including Mine Closure Plan) was approved by the Ministry of Coal on 21st March, 2014.

(ix) The land usage pattern of the project is as follows

Pre-mining land use details:

Sl.No.	LandUse	Area (ha)
1.	Agricultural land	
	a. Single Crop land	59.22
	b. Fallow Land	38.20
	c. Plantation	26.59
2.	Sub Total	124.01
3.	Forest land	285.44
4.	Wasteland	13.38
5.	Grazing land	0
6.	Surface water bodies	10.65
7.	Settlements	2.20
8.	Others(specify)	0
	TOTAL	435.68

Post Mining land use details

Sl.No.	Description	Land Use Details (ha)			Total
		Plantation	Water Body	Public Use	
1.	External OB Dump	142.76	0.00	9.22	151.98
2.	Top Soil Dump	12.94	0.00	1.82	14.76
3.	Excavation				
	a) Back Filled Area	89.95	0.00	7.56	97.51
	b) Void Area	0.00	130.51	0.00	130.51
4.	Built Up Area/Infrastructure	2.35	0.00	2.01	4.36
5.	CHP & Coal Stock Yard	7.45	0.00	1.20	8.65
6.	Safety Zone	24.02	3.03	0.86	27.91
	GRAND TOTAL	279.47	133.54	22.67	435.68

(x) Total geological reserves reported in the mine lease area are 24.05 MT with 21.61 MT extractable reserves. Reserved already extracted are 3.57 Mt up to 31.03.2022 and balance reserves are 18.04 Mt as on 01.04.2022. Percent of extraction is 63.26%.

- (xi) 7 seams with thickness ranging from 0.29-8.72 m are workable. Grade of coal is G7 & G1; average stripping ratio is 6 m³ of OB per tonne of coal, while gradient is 1 in 3.9 to 1 in 12.
- (xii) Method of mining operations envisages by opencast method
- (xiii) Balance Life of mine is 7 Years from 2023-24
- (xiv) The project has one external OB dumps in an area of 131.41 ha with 120 m height and 74.32 Mm³ of OB (Hard OB 73.58 Mm³ and Topsoil 0.74 Mm³). Existing OB dumps will be re-handled and backfilled after Final stage
- (xv) The project has one Internal OB dump in total area of 113.86 ha with 55.26 Mm³ (Hard OB 54.99 Mm³ and Top Soil 0.27 Mm³) of OB is envisaged in the project. Backfilling is already started in the project.
- (xvi) Total quarry area is 228.02 ha out of which backfilling will be done in 89.95 ha while final mine void will be created in an area of 130.51 ha with a depth of 35m. Backfilled quarry area of 89.95 ha shall be reclaimed with plantation. Final mine void will be converted into water body.
- (xvii) Transportation of coal is by dumpers/trucks up to pit head, from surface to railway siding by trucks and from siding to end use by rail.
- (xviii) Reclamation Plan in an area of 279.47 ha, comprising of 142.76 ha of external dump, 89.95 ha of internal dump, 24.02 ha of safety zone and 22.74 ha in other area (undisturbed area etc.) has been proposed for green belt development.
- (xix) Total forest land involved under the project is 285.44 ha. The required approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 285.44 ha of forest land for non forestry purposes have been obtained vide MoEF&CC letter No.8-55/2014-FC dated 11th September, 2018
- (xx) No National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Eco-Sensitive Zones have been reported within 10 km boundary of the project.
- (xxi) The ground water level has been reported to be varying between 3.69-12.41 m during pre-monsoon and between 0.40 m – 11.50 m during post-monsoon. Total water requirement for the project is 2150 KLD.

- (xxii) Earlier Public hearing for the project of 2.00 MTPA capacity in an area of 435.68 ha was conducted on 19.11.2015 near Mandal Parishad Primary School, Jagannadhapuram Village, Sathupalli Mandal. Present proposal is to obtain EC for 20% increase of production capacity in the same project area as per OM dt. 11th April, 2022. As such, fresh public consultation is exempted as per MoEF&CC guidelines.
- (xxiii) No court cases, violation cases are pending against the project of the PP
- (xxiv) The project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendment issued there under. The coal production from the mine was started from the year 2019-20 onwards. No excess production of coal from the sanctioned capacity has been realized since the commencement of mining operations.
- (xxv) No R&R is involved in the present expansion proposal.
- (xxvi) Total cost of the project is Rs.164.04 Crores. Additional capital cost: Nil. CSR cost is 2% of average net profits of the company during last three years which will be allocated for CSR at company level. Environmental capital cost is Rs.9.15 Crores and Recurring cost is Rs. 17.51 Rs./Tonne (Rs.350 lakhs / annum).
- (xxvii) In addition, Rs.143.06 Crores (2015-16 to Oct, 2022) were deposited with District Collector, Khammam District, as District Mineral fund (DMF) for taking up CSR works
- (xxviii) Consent to Operate for the existing capacity was obtained from the State PCB on 18th October, 2019 and is valid till 30th June, 2024
- (xxix) No River/nalla is flowing within the boundary of lease. No diversion of nallah is involved in the project
- (xxx) Regular monitoring of ambient air quality is being carried out on fortnightly basis. The documented report is being submitted to State Pollution Control Board and also to MoEF& CC along with half yearly EC compliance report. In general, the results of ambient air quality monitoring data were found within prescribed limits except few aberrations which can be attributed the specific local conditions during the day of sampling.

- (xxxi) The Project does not involve violation of the EIA Notification, 2006 and amendment issued there under.
- (xxxii) The coal production from the mine was started from the year 2019-20 onwards. No excess production of coal from the sanctioned capacity has been realized since the commencement of mining operations.
- (xxxiii) The State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) in its 229th meeting held on 08th May, 2023. M/s. EPTRI, Hyderabad attended and made a presentation before the SEAC
- (xxxiv) During presentation, the proponent informed the following

The Kistaram Opencast Project is located near Kistaram Village, Sathupalli Mandal, Khammam District of Telangana State. The MoEF&CC granted EC on dt.12.06.2019 for a capacity of 2.00 Mtpa in a project area of 435.68 ha. Mining operations commenced on 18th October, 2019. Present proposal is to obtain EC for 20% increase of production capacity from 2.00 Mtpa to 2.40 Mtpa within the same project area of 435.68 ha as per the provisions of O.M. dated 11.04.2022. MP and MCP was approved by MoC on 21st March, 2014. Forest Land of 285.44 ha was diverted by MoEF&CC on 12th Apr, 2019. EC was granted by MoEF&CC on 12th June, 2019 for 2.00 MTPA. Mining Lease was granted by State Govt. on 05th July, 2019 for a period of 30 years up to 08th December, 2049. CFE was issued by TSPCB on 20th July, 2019. CFO was granted by TSPCB on 18th Oct, 2019 valid up to 30th June, 2024. It is noted that production during 2019-20 to 2022 – 23 is within permissible capacity. GWC was issued by State Ground water department on 17th August, 2015. Balance life of the mine is 7 years from 2023-24. Total Plantation area is 279.47 Ha. Environmental Public Hearing was conducted by TSPCB on 19.11.2015. As per the O.M dt.11.04.2022 upto 50% production expansion within the same project area hence public hearing is not required.

Now, the proponent informed that the present proposal is for expansion of 20 % increase of production capacity within the same project area. Earlier, EC was obtained for the project under Category 'A'. However, the project area being less than 500 ha., Kistaram OCP falls under the Category 'B' as per S.O.1886 (E) dt.20.04.2022.

The SEAC noted that Kistaram Village is adjacent to the site in Western direction. It was informed by the project proponent that the core area covered in Kattaleru river catchment. The drainage in the project area is developed with 1st to 3rd order streams.

The drainage is of dendritic type with a density of 2.25 km/sq.km. There are two seasonal tanks in adjacent to the project viz., Jagannadhapuram tank located in northeast and the Kistaram tank in the southwest.

The proponent submitted Certified Compliance Report dt. 23.02.2023 issued by the Integrated Regional office of MoEF&CC, Gol, Hyderabad. Project cost is Rs. 164.04 Crores; EMP Cost – Capital cost is Rs. 9.15 Crores and Recurring Cost is Rs. 350.17 Lakhs/annum. The proponent informed that they have collected the baseline data from October – December 2022. The SEAC noted that the production was carried out within the permitted capacity i.e 2.0 MTPA from 2019-20 to 2022-23. After detailed discussions, the SEAC recommended for issue of EC for Expansion.

The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) in its meeting held on 29.05.2023 examined the proposal and recommendations of SEAC, Telangana and noted that the proposal is for obtaining EC for 20 % increase in the existing EC as per the provisions of MoEF&CC O.M. dated 11th April, 2022 and SEIAA accords Environmental Clearance to the Expansion of Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project from Project from 2.00 to 2.40 MTPA within the same project area of 435.68 ha by M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited located near Kistaram Village under the provisions of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments issued under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 subject implementation of the specific and general conditions:

- (i). Compliance of all non/partial compliance observed by Ministry's Regional Office in Certified Compliance Report of the existing EC conditions shall be complied within 2 years.
- (ii). Top soil should be stored separately at marked area
- (iii). To control the production of dust at source, the crusher and belt conveyors shall be provided with mist type sprinklers.
- (iv). Mitigating measures shall be undertaken to control dust and other fugitive emissions all along the roads by providing sufficient fixed type water sprinklers. Adequate corrective measures shall be undertaken to control dust emissions, which would include mechanized sweeping, water sprinkling/mist spraying on haul roads and loading sites, long range misting/fogging arrangement(5 no's), green belt, dust suppression arrangement at loading and unloading points, etc.
- (v). All approach roads to mine and all other roads which are in regular use shall be black topped.

- (vi). Continuous monitoring of occupational safety and other health hazards, and the corrective actions need to be ensured.
- (vii). Persons of nearby villages shall be given training on livelihood and skill development to make them employable.
- (viii). Progressive backfilling of the mine and progressive reclamation of OB dump shall be done.
- (ix). Active OB Dump should not be kept barren/open and should be covered by temporary grass to avoid air born of particles.
- (x). Project Proponent shall obtain blasting permission from DGMS for conducting mining operation near villages and ensure that there shall be no damages caused to habitation/structures due to blasting activity.
- (xi). The Project Proponent shall complies with all the statutory requirements and judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors State Government shall ensure that the entire compensation levied, if any, for illegal mining paid by the Project Proponent through their respective Department in strict compliance of judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court dated the 2nd August 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 114 of 2014 in the matter of Common Cause versus Union of India and Ors.
- (xii). The illumination and sound at night at project sites disturb the villages in respect of both human and animal population. Consequent sleeping disorders and stress may affect the health in the villages located close to mining operations. Habitations have a right for darkness and minimal noise levels at night. PPs must ensure that the biological clock of the villages is not disturbed; by orienting the floodlights/ masks away from the villagers and keeping the noise levels well within the prescribed limits for day light/night hours.
- (xiii). Hon' ble Supreme Court in an Writ Petition(s) Civil No. 114/2014, Common Cause vs Union of India & Ors vide its judgement dated 8th January, 2020 has directed the Union of India to impose a condition in the mining lease and a similar condition in the environmental clearance and the mining plan to the effect that the mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc. Compliance of this condition after the mining activity is over at the cost of the mining lease holders/Project Proponent". The implementation report of the above said condition shall be sent to the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC.

Standard Conditions: -

(a) Statutory compliance

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
- (ii) The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- (iii) The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan and shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. (In case of the presence of schedule-I species in the study area).
- (iv) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish/Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/ Committee.
- (v) The project proponent shall obtain the necessary permission from the Central Ground Water Authority.
- (vi) The project proponent shall obtain the necessary permission from the State Ground Water Authority.
- (vii) Continuous monitoring of occupational safety and other health hazards, and the corrective actions need to be ensured.
- (viii) Solid/hazardous waste generated in the mines needs to be addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016/Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016.

(b) Air quality monitoring and preservation

- (i) Adequate ambient air quality monitoring stations as prescribed in the statute be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for monitoring of pollutants, namely PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂ and NO_x. 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. Online ambient air quality monitoring station may also be installed in addition to the regular monitoring stations as per the requirement and/or in consultation with the SPCB. Monitoring of heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr, etc to be carried out at least once in six months.

- (ii) The Ambient Air Quality monitoring in the core zone shall be carried out to ensure the Coal Industry Standards notified vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25th September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board. Data on ambient air quality and heavy metals such as Hg, As, Ni, Cd, Cr and other monitoring data shall be regularly reported to the Ministry/Regional Office and to the CPCB/SPCB.
- (iii) Transportation of coal, to the extent permitted by road, shall be carried out by covered trucks. Effective control measures such as regular water/mist sprinkling/rain gun etc shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution (with higher values of PM₁₀/PM_{2.5}) such as haul road, loading/unloading and transfer points. Fugitive dust emissions from all 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.
- (iv) The transportation of coal shall be carried out as per the provisions and route envisaged in the approved Mining Plan or environment monitoring plan. Transportation of the coal through the existing road passing through any village shall be avoided. In case, it is proposed to construct a 'bypass' road, it should be so constructed so that the impact of sound, dust and accidents could be appropriately mitigated.
- (v) Major approach roads shall be black topped and properly maintained.
- (vi) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. All the vehicles engaged in mining and allied activities shall operate only after obtaining 'PUC' certificate from the authorized pollution testing centers.
- (vii) Coal stock yard/crushers/feeder breakers and transfer points shall invariably be provided with dust suppression system. Belt-conveyors shall be fully covered to avoid air borne dust. Side cladding all along the conveyor gantry should be made to avoid air borne dust. Drills shall be wet operated or fitted with dust extractors.
- (viii) Coal handling plant shall be operated with effective control measures w.r.t. various environmental parameters. Environmental friendly sustainable technology should be implemented for mitigating such parameters.

(c) Water quality monitoring and preservation

- (i) The effluent discharge (mine waste water, workshop effluent) shall be monitored in terms of the parameters notified under the Water Act, 1974 Coal Industry Standards vide GSR 742 (E) dated 25th September, 2000 and as amended from time to time by the Central Pollution Control Board.
- (ii) The monitoring data shall be uploaded on the company's website and displayed at the project site at a suitable location. The circular No.J-20012/I/2006-IA.II(M) dated 27th May, 2009 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change shall also be referred in this regard for its compliance.
- (iii) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease area by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operations. The monitoring of ground water levels shall be carried out four times a year i.e. pre-monsoon, monsoon, post-monsoon and winter. The ground water quality shall be monitored once a year, and the data thus collected shall be sent regularly to MoEF&CC/RO.
- (iv) Monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies shall be carried out once in six months and record of monitoring data shall be maintained and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/Regional Office.
- (v) Ground water, excluding mine water, shall not be used for mining operations. Rainwater harvesting shall be implemented for conservation and augmentation of ground water resources.
- (vi) Catch and/or garland drains and siltation ponds in adequate numbers and appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, coal heaps & OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the water bodies. Further, dump material shall be properly consolidated/ compacted and accumulation of water over dumps shall be avoided by providing adequate channels for flow of silt into the drains. The drains / ponds so constructed shall be regularly de-silted particularly before onset of monsoon and maintained properly. Sump capacity should provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. The water so collected in the sump shall be utilized for dust suppression and green belt development and other industrial use. Dimension of the retaining wall constructed, if any, at the toe of the OB dumps within the mine to check run off and siltation should be based on the rainfall data. The plantation of native species to be made between toe of the dump and adjacent field/habitation /water bodies.

- (vii) Adequate groundwater recharge measures shall be taken up for augmentation of ground water. The project authorities shall meet water requirement of nearby village(s) after due treatment conforming to the specific requirement (standards).
- (viii) Industrial waste water generated from CHP, workshop and other waste water, shall be properly collected and treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under the standards prescribed under Water Act 1974 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Rules made there under, and as amended from time to time. Adequate ETP needs to be provided.
- (ix) The water pumped out from the mine, after siltation, shall be utilized for industrial purpose viz. watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly.
- (x) The surface drainage plan including surface water conservation plan for the area of influence affected by the said mining operations, considering the presence of any river/rivulet/pond/lake etc, shall be prepared and implemented by the project proponent. The surface drainage plan and/or any diversion of natural water courses shall be as per the approved Mining Plan/EIA /EMP report and with due approval of the concerned State/Gol Authority. The construction of embankment (if, any) to prevent any danger against inrush of surface water into the mine should be as per the approved Mining Plan and as per the permission of DGMS or any other authority as prescribed by the law.
- (xi) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures to ensure riverine/riparian ecosystem in and around the coal mine up to a distance of 5 km. A rivarine/riparian ecosystem conservation and management plan should be prepared and implemented in consultation with the irrigation / water resource department in the state government.

(d) Noise and Vibration monitoring and prevention

- (i) Adequate measures shall be taken for control of noise levels as per Noise Pollution Rules, 2016 in the work environment. Workers engaged in drilling and blasting operations, operation of HEMM, etc shall be provided with personal protective equipments (PPE) like ear plugs/muffs in conformity with the prescribed norms and guidelines in this regard. Adequate awareness programme for users to be conducted. Progress in usage of such accessories to be monitored.
- (ii) Controlled blasting techniques shall be practiced in order to mitigate blast induced ground vibrations, fly rocks, noise and air blast etc., as per the guidelines prescribed by the DGMS.

The noise level survey shall be carried out as per the prescribed guidelines to assess noise exposure of the workmen at vulnerable points in the mine premises, and report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry/RO on six-monthly basis.

(e) Mining Plan

- (i) Mining shall be carried out under strict adherence to provisions of the Mines Act 1952 and subordinate legislations made there-under as applicable.
- (ii) Mining shall be carried out as per the approved mining plan (including Mine Closure Plan) abiding by mining laws related to coal mining and the relevant circulars issued by Directorate General Mines Safety (DGMS).
- (iii) No mining shall be carried out in forest land without obtaining Forestry Clearance as per Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- (iv) Efforts should be made to reduce energy and fuel consumption by conservation, efficiency improvements and use of renewable energy.

(f) Land reclamation

- (i) Digital Survey of entire lease hold area/core zone using Satellite Remote Sensing survey shall be carried out at least once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report in 1 :50,000 scale or as notified by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change(MOEF&CC) from time to time shall be submitted to MOEF&CC/Regional Office (RO).
- (ii) The final mine void depth should preferably be as per the approved Mine Closure Plan, and in case it exceeds 40 m, adequate engineering interventions shall be provided for sustenance of aquatic life therein. The remaining area shall be backfilled and covered with thick and alive top soil. Post-mining land be rendered usable for agricultural/forestry purposes and shall be diverted. Further action will be treated as specified in the guidelines for Preparation of Mine Closure Plan issued by the Ministry of Coal dated 27thAugust, 2009 and subsequent amendments.
- (iii) The entire excavated area, backfilling, external OB dumping (including top soil) and afforestation plan shall be in conformity with the "during mining"/" post mining" land-use pattern, which is an integral part of the approved Mining Plan and the EIA/EMP submitted to this Ministry. Progressive compliance status vis-a-vis the post mining land use pattern shall be submitted to the MoEF&CC/RO.

- (iv) Fly ash shall be used for external dump of overburden , backfilling or stowing of mine as per provisions contained in clause (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (8) of fly ash notification issued vide SO 2804 (E) dated 3rd November, 2009 as amended from time to time. Efforts shall be made to utilize gypsum generated from Flue Gas Desulfurization (FGD), if any, along with fly ash for external dump of overburden, backfilling of mines. Compliance report shall be submitted to Regional Office of MoEF&CC, CPCB and SPCB.
- (v) Further, it may be ensured that as per the time schedule specified in mine closure plan it should remain live till the point of utilization. The topsoil shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site (s) only and shall not be kept unutilized. The top soil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation purposes. Active OB dumps shall be stabilised with native grass species to prevent erosion and surface run off. The other overburden dumps shall be vegetated with native flora species. The excavated area shall be backfilled and afforested in line with the approved Mine Closure Plan. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/ Regional Office.
- (vi) The project proponent shall make necessary alternative arrangements, if grazing land is involved in core zone, in consultation with the State government to provide alternate areas for livestock grazing, if any. In this context, the project proponent shall implement the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to acquiring grazing land.

(g) Green Belt

- (i) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered/endemic flora/fauna, if any, spotted/reported in the study area. The Action plan in this regard, if any, shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department.
- (ii) Greenbelt consisting of 3-tier plantation of width not less than 7.5 m shall be developed all along the mine lease area as soon as possible. The green belt comprising a mix of native species (endemic species should be given priority) shall be developed all along the major approach/ coal transportation roads.

(h) Public hearing and Human health issues

- (i) Adequate illumination shall be ensured in all mine locations (as per DGMS standards) and monitored weekly. The report on the same shall be submitted to this ministry & it's RO on six-monthly basis.

- (ii) The project proponent shall undertake occupational health survey for initial and periodical medical examination of the personnel engaged in the project and maintain records accordingly as per the provisions of the Mines Rules, 1955 and DGMS circulars. Besides regular periodic health check-up, 20% of the personnel identified from workforce engaged in active mining operations shall be subjected to health check-up for occupational diseases and hearing impairment, if any, as amended time to time.
- (iii) Personnel (including outsourced employees) working in core zone shall wear protective respiratory devices and shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- (iv) Implementation of the action plan on the issues raised during the public hearing shall be ensured. The project proponent shall undertake all the tasks/measures as per the action plan submitted with budgetary provisions during the public hearing. Land oustees shall be compensated as per the norms laid down in the R&R policy of the company /State Government/Central Government, as applicable.
- (v) The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this Ministry's OM No.Z-110 13/5712014-IA.I I (M) dated 29th October, 2014, titled 'Impact of mining activities on habitations-issues related to the mining projects wherein habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area'.

(i) Corporate Environment Responsibility

- (i) The company shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors. The environmental policy should prescribe for standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements /deviation/violation of the environmental/ forest/wildlife norms/conditions.
- (ii) The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental/forest/wildlife norms /conditions and/or shareholders/stake holders.
- (iii) A separate Environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly report to the head of the organization.
- (iv) Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority.

The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry /Regional Office along with the Six Monthly Compliance Report.

- (v) Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.

(j) Miscellaneous

- (i) The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safeguards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.
- (ii) The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
- (iii) The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same.
- (iv) The project proponent shall monitor the criteria pollutants level namely; PM10, SO₂, NO_x (ambient levels) or critical sectoral parameters, indicated for the projects and display the same at a convenient location for disclosure to the public and put on the website of the company.
- (v) The project proponent shall submit six -monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal
- (vi) The project proponent shall follow the mitigation measures provided in this Ministry's OM No.Z- 11013 /5712014- IA.J I (M) dated 29th October, 2014, titled ' Impact of mining activities on habitations issues related to the mining projects wherein habitations and villages are the part of mine lease areas or habitations and villages are surrounded by the mine lease area'.
- (vii) The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and put on the website of the company.

- (viii) The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MOEF&CC regarding commencement of mining operations.
- (ix) The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control Board and the State Government.
- (x) The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert Appraisal Committee.
- (xi) No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- (xii) Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (xiii) The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is not satisfactory.
- (xiv) The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.
- (xv) 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.
- (xvi) The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1986, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Trans-boundary Movement) Rules, 2016 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.
- (4) The proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report and also that during presentation to the SEAC. All the commitments made on the issues raised during public hearing shall also be implemented in letter and spirit.
- (5) The 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. The Ministry or any other competent authority may stipulate any further condition for environmental protection.

- (6) 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.
- (7) The coal company /project proponent shall be liable to pay the compensation against the illegal mining, if any, and as raised by the respective State Governments at any point of time, in terms of the orders dated 2nd August, 2017 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No.114/2014 in the matter of ' Common Cause Vs Union of India & others.
- (8) The concerned State Government shall ensure no mining operations to commence till the entire compensation for illegal mining, if any, is paid by the project proponent through their respective Department of Mining & Geology, in strict compliance of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- (9) This environmental clearance shall not be operational till such time the project proponent complies with the above said judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court, as applicable, and other statutory requirements.
- (10) The proponent shall comply with Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 & also comply with MoEF & CC Notification No: G.S.R. 571 (E), dated: 12.08.2021 which mandated banning of usage of identified Single Use Plastic items with effect from 01.07.2022.
- (11) Grant of EC is also subject to Circulars issued under the EIA Notification 2006, which are available on the MOEF website: www.parivesh.nic.in.

Sd/-
MEMBER SECRETARY
SEIAA, T.S.

Sd/-
MEMBER
SEIAA, T.S.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN,
SEIAA, T.S.

To,
Shri G Venkateswara Reddy, Director (Planning & Projects),
M/s The Singareni Collieries Company Limited
(Kistaram Opencast Coal Mining Project from 2.00 to 2.40 MTPA),
PO: Kothagudem Collieries,
Dist: Khammam, T.S - 507 101
Phone No: +91 94911 44338
Email: gm_env@scclmines.com

Copy to:

1. Prof. Ch. Krishna Reddy, Chairman, SEAC, T.S. for kind information.
2. The Member Secretary, TSPCB for kind information.
3. The EE, RO:Kothagudem, TSPCB for information.
4. The IRO, MoEF&CC, GOI, Hyderabad for kind information.
5. The Secretary, MoEF&CC, GOI, New Delhi for kind information.
6. The Director of Mines & Geology Dept., Hyderabad for kind information.

//T.C.F.B.O.//


JOINT CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER