F.No.8-113/2000 75 Government of India BhuBANI SWAR.*

Ministry of Environment & Forests

(F.C. Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003. New Delhi, the 26th December, 2003.

The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar.

Sub: Diversion of 50.802 ha.(only 28.802 ha. broken up area approved) of forest land for Iron Ore mining in Village Uskuda, Saraikela, Tilkuda and Khandadhar RF (Kurmitar Mines) of M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited in Bonai Forest Division, Sundergarh District, Orissa.

Sir.

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 10F (Cons)98/2000/17145/F&E dated:27-10-2000 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the aforesaid Act.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and on the basis of the recommendation of the above mentioned Advisory Committee, the Central Government hereby conveys its approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 28.802 ha. of broken up forest land for mining lease of Iron Ore mining in Village Uskuda, Saraikela, Tilkuda and Khandadhar RF (Kurmitar Mines) of M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited in Bonai Forest Division, Sundergarh District, Orissa, subject to fulfillment of following conditions:

1. Legal status of the forest shall remain unchanged.

2. Penal compensatory afforestation shall be raised over degraded forest land twice in extent to the forest land used in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 (57.604 ha.) and shall be maintained at the project cost (revised as on date to incorporate the existing wage structure).

3. State Forest Department will raise and maintain a Safety Zone and also raise and maintain a plantation over an area one and half times in extent of the safety zone over degraded forest land at the project cost.

4. Current lease will be valid for 20 years w.e.f. 29.04.1985 co-terminus with the lease granted under MMRD Act, 1957.

5. No tree shall be felled.

6. Phased reclamation and afforestation plan shall be implemented under strict supervision of State Forest Department and shall be monitored by the Regional CCF (Central).

7. Mining plan approved by IBM shall be followed strictly.

8. No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.

- 9. Sufficient firewood shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourers at the project cost after purchase from the State Forest Department/Forest Development Corporation.
- 10. The User Agency shall ensure that there should be no damage to the available wildlife.
- 11. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to the clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- 12. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- 13. Any other condition that the State Government as well as CCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar may impose from time to time for the protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area.

Yours faithfully,

(ANURAG BAJPAI)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

Forest and environment Department

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Copy forwarded to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Crisse for information and necessary action.

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