

By Speed Post

No. J-11015/439/2007-IA.II(M)

Government of India

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Impact Assessment Division

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Dated: November 24, 2017

To

M/s Orissa Mining Corporation Limited,  
OMC House, Bhubneswar-751001  
E-mail: info@orissamining.com

**Sub.: Amendment of EC granted for Kodingamali Bauxite Mining Project of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Limited with production capacity of 3.0 MTPA Bauxite ore located at Kodingamali, Tehsil Koraput, District Koraput, Odisha (MLA: 428.075 Ha) - Amendment of Environment Clearance regarding.**

Sir,

Kindly refer to your proposal seeking amendment in the EC granted by the MoEFCC vide letter No. J-11015/439/2007-IA-II(M) dated 28.05.2008 for Kodingamali Bauxite Mining Project located at Kodingamali, Tahasil Koraput, District Koraput, Odisha in mininig lease area of 447.25 Ha. The project is for mining of Bauxite with production capacity of 3.0 million TPA. The Environmental Clearance to the project was granted vide no. J-11015/439/2007-IA.II(M) dated on 28.05.2008. The amendments are sought with respect to (1) Inclusion of Road transportation as a mode of mineral transport; (2) Incorporating correction in M.L. area from 447.15 Ha to 428.075 Ha; (3) Updating the land use pattern in line with the Stage 1 FC granted by MoEFCC; and (4) Incorporating supply of 400 KLD from the Water Resources Department, Govt. of Odisha as the source of water for the project.

2. The proposal for amendment of Environmental Clearance was considered by the Expert Appraisal Committee in its Meeting held during May 29-30, 2017; July 24, 2017 and August 29-30, 2017. The proposal was recommended for amendment of EC in August 29-30, 2017. The PP during project appraisal submitted that the EC granted by MoEFCC dated 28.05.2008 was for production of 3.0 MTPA Bauxite ore for supply to the proposed Alumina refinery of M/s. Hindalco Industries Ltd. located at Village Kansariguda in Rayagada District at a distance of about 3.00 Km from the ML wherein the transportation of mineral was mentioned through pipe conveyor; however, post the MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015, the JV with M/s Hindalco was cancelled by Govt. of Odisha on 18.02.2015 due to issues related to Joint Venture Companies.

3. During appraisal, PP submitted that 18.94 Ha of forest area of the M.L. was surrendered by OMC being non-mineral bearing and the land use plan was modified accordingly. The forest diversion proposal was revised to 434.395 Ha including 6.86 Ha of approach road connecting the ML area and submitted on 13.06.2016 under section 2 (ii) of FC Act, 1980. The proposal was approved by MoEF&CC under Section 2(iii) of FC Act, 1980 vide letter dated 06.01.2017. The Stage-I FC under section 2 (ii) of FC Act, 1980 of the said proposal including approach road has been granted by the Ministry on dated 17.04.2017. The EAC during May 29-30, 2017 meeting asked PP for the following:

- Conduct study to assess the environmental impact (air/ water/ noise/ soil etc.) of ore transportation by road
- Revise the timelines mentioned for undertaking ore transportation by Railway siding
- Conduct Carrying Capacity Study to assess adequacy of existing infrastructure to handle the traffic load that may be generated as a result of ore transportation by road.
- Furnishing permission details from concerned authority for meeting requirement of 400KLD water.

3. During the EAC meeting held on July 24, 2017, PP submitted and presented the information sought by the Committee during the earlier meeting. The EAC made observations as below:

- *Environmental Impact Assessment Study to Evaluate the Impact of Ore Transportation by Road from Kodingamali Bauxite Mining Project* – The Committee observed that the anticipated incremental concentration of air quality parameters is not realistic considering PP's submission that a minimum of 800 trucks are likely to ply in a day once the project gets operational. Hence, the modeling for anticipating impact due to transporting ore by road needs to be done on realistic basis considering an identical scenario. The Committee, accordingly, opined the PP to collect data from a representative road/ highway and use the same as an input for deriving incremental concentrations through modelling and predict Ground Level Concentrations (GLCs). Similarly, observations were made w.r.t. conducting Noise quality and Soil quality monitoring. The Committee asked the PP to highlight the anticipated Heavy Metal concentration in soil due to truck movement.
- *Permission to abstract ground water up to 400m<sup>3</sup>/day for Kodingamali Bauxite Mining Project* – The Committee noted the submission made by the PP.
- *Carrying Capacity Study for assessing adequacy of existing transport infrastructure to handle traffic load* – The Committee noted that the existing infrastructure can carry 1.26 Million TPA, after minor modifications which may require 2-3 months. It was also noted that further strengthening of carriageway to 7m width and 2.5m shoulder width may increase the carriage capacity to 3.7 Million TPA. The PP submitted that all the necessary modifications shall be carried out by State PWD department/ National Highways and the PP is already coordinating with them.
- *The PP also requested for reduction in M.L. area from 447.25 Ha to 428.075 Ha* - The Committee noted the submissions of the PP that Govt. of Odisha issued conditional grant order of ML over 715.075 ha of bauxite mine on dt. 01.02.1999 for a period of 30 years in accordance with the letter of Ministry of Mines, Govt. of India dt 11.01.1999. Mining operation in the ML area has never been carried out previously. Subsequently, OMC submitted a revised application over 447.25 ha deleting the non-mineralized area. Department of Steel and

Mines, Govt. of Odisha on dated 11.09.2015 further reduced the ML area from 447.25 ha to 428.31 ha which, after DGPS survey came to 428.075 Ha. The Committee noted the submissions made by the PP and asked the PP to submit M.L. deed indicating 428.075 Ha, Approved mining plan for the same area and a communication from Department of Steel and Mines, Government of Odisha stating 428.075 Ha mine lease area for the project.

4. During the EAC meeting held on August 29-30, 2017, PP submitted and presented the information sought by the Committee during the earlier meetings. The PP has mentioned that no mining activity has been started till date during EAC deliberations and hence, past production details were not sought for ascertaining violation. The EAC made observations as below:


- *Environmental Impact Assessment Study to Evaluate the Impact of Ore Transportation by Road from Kodingamali Bauxite Mining Project* – The Committee observed that the anticipated incremental concentration of air quality parameters have been calculated based on a similar/ representative transport route viz. Sambalpur – Sundargarh – Rourkela. The modeling carried out for anticipating impact due to ore transportation indicates that the cumulative concentrations of air quality parameters are within the NAAQS 2009. Similarly, the observations have been presented w.r.t. Noise quality and Soil quality monitoring. The Committee noted that the concentration of heavy metals in soil samples along the Sambalpur – Sundargarh – Rourkela route are higher due to vehicular movement which clearly indicates the projected trajectory of soil contamination in the instant case. However, the Committee asked the PP to ensure that the proposed transportation route be metalled/ concretized before being used for full capacity i.e. 3.6 Million TPA. The Committee also noted the anticipated noise levels and asked the PP to take required measures for containing noise pollution in consultation with State Pollution Control Board.
- *Carrying Capacity Study for assessing adequacy of existing transport infrastructure to handle traffic load* – The Committee deliberated on the study presented by the PP and noted that the existing infrastructure can carry 1.26 Million TPA, after minor modifications which may require 2-3 months. It was also noted that further strengthening of carriageway to 7m width and 2.5m shoulder width may increase the carriage capacity to 3.7 Million TPA. The PP submitted that all the necessary modifications shall be carried out by State PWD department/ National Highways and the PP is already coordinating with them. Based on the deliberations, the Committee recommended for the following:-
  - Amendment may be considered for transportation of 1.26 Million TPA of ore by road in the interim subject to required strengthening of carriageway.
  - For increasing the transportation of ore by road from 1.26 Million TPA to 3.7 Million TPA, a prior confirmation from the State PWD Department regarding preparedness of the 7 meter wide carriageway, may be sought.
  - Amendment for change in land use plan, in line with the Stage - I Forest clearance, may be considered subject to submission of Stage-1 FC by PP.

6. The matter was examined in the Ministry and based on the observations and recommendations of the EAC during May 29-30, 2017; July 24, 2017 and August 29-30, 2017, the following amendments are granted:

- i. The mining project shall use 400 KLD of water for its operations as per the permission granted by Water Supply department, Government of Odisha.
- ii. The land-use for the project shall be governed as per the Stage-1 FC granted by MoEFCC vide its letter dated 17.04.2017. The operations shall be started only after obtaining required approvals under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- iii. The PP shall carryout mineral transportation of only up to 1.26 Million TPA of Bauxite ore by road subject to required strengthening of carriageway at present. As the EC permits production of 3 Million TPA of Bauxite ore, transportation beyond 1.26 Million TPA by road shall be allowed only on prior confirmation from the State PWD Department regarding preparedness of the 7 meter wide carriageway. At present, the PP is allowed to carry out transportation limited to 1.26 Million TPA.
- iv. The M.L. area shall be read as 428.075 Ha in placed of 447.15 Ha, based on executed lease deed and approved mining plan submitted by PP.

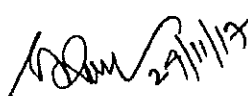
7. All other terms and conditions mentioned in this Ministry's letter of even no dated 28.05.2008 shall remain the same. The instant amendment shall be subject to orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/ High Court of Odisha and any other Court of Law.

8. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

  
(Surendra Kumar)  
Scientist 'G'

Copy to:

- (i) The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (ii) The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (iii) The Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (iv) The Secretary, Department of Forests, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar.
- (v) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032.
- (vi) The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office (EZ), A/3, Chandersekharpur, Bhubaneswar – 751023.
- (vii) The Chairman, Odisha State Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, A/118 Nilakantha Nagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneshwar-751012.
- (viii) The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indra Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
- (ix) The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, West Block-2, Wing-3, Sector-1, R. K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.
- (x) The District Collector, Koraput District, State of Odisha.
- (xi) Guard File/ MoEFCC website

  
(Surendra Kumar)  
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