



BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

EASTERN ZONE BENCH AT KOLKATA

APPEAL NO. 06/2020/EZ

Sanjay Chauhan **....Appellant**

Versus

Union of India & Ors **....Respondents**

**SUPPLEMENTARY COUNTER AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF
RESPONDENT NO 2, M/S CCL**

I, Samit Kumar Sinha, aged about 57 years, Son of Madan Mohan Prasad, Resident of A/8 Ashok Vihar, PO & PS – Bachra, Dist. - Chatra, Jharkhand, do hereby solemnly affirm and state as follows:

1. That I am working as Project Officer, Amrapali Project, M/s Central Coalfields Limited and as such well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case.
2. That I have been duly authorized to swear this Supplementary Counter Affidavit on behalf of Respondent No. 2 and otherwise competent to do so.
3. That during pendency of this Appeal the Respondent by its online application vide Proposal No. IA/JH/CMIN/513496/

Notarised Under Notaries Act-1956 (83) & Notaries Rules-1956 by Notary of Jharkhand, Ranchi (India)

28 APR 2025
733 Date
Ref. No



2024 dated 26.12.2024 along with CAF(Part A, B and C) sought for amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide Letter No. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M) dated 05.02.2024 under the provisions of EIA Notification 2006.

The proposal was considered by EAC (Coal) in its 20th Meeting held during January 20-23rd 2025 regarding amendment in the specific condition No. 1.2 of EC dated 05.02.2024 having capacity of 24.19 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA). The said condition stated "PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali Railway siding through belt conveyor before January 2025 and SPCB shall issue CTO accordingly". The Project Proponent sought amendment in the said condition seeking extension in timeline for construction of the said Railway Siding and Belt Conveyor till March 2027.

4. That the EAC deliberated on the reasons for delay in implementation of the said condition and observed that the total route length of Railway Line is 22 Km and some part of it falls within forest land (outside the Mining Lease Area) on which Stage I Forest Clearance has been accorded vide Letter dated 17.01.2024 while Stage II Forest Clearance is under process and the same is expected to be obtained by March 2025. The Project Proponent submitted Geo-tagged photographs of the construction done. The Committee deliberated on the progress done for the Railway Siding and the Belt Conveyor and observed that the construction work on

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Non-Forest Land has been completed and only 23% of the Forest Land is Forest Land on which Stage II Forest Clearance is yet to be accorded. It was also observed that Work Order for construction of Amrapali Railway Siding has been awarded to M/s RITES Ltd. on 22.05.2017 and Work Order for construction of CHP has been awarded to M/s S.K. Samanta and Co. Pvt. Ltd. on 07.02.2024. After detailed deliberation the Committee recommended the proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide Letter No. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M) dated 05.02.2024 stating that PP shall complete the construction of Amrapali Railway Siding, Belt Conveyor and CHP before February 2026 and till that time PP is permitted to transport coal through dedicated coal transportation road to Shivpur Siding and local consumers by adopting all mitigative measures to control pollution.

The recommendation of the EAC was placed before the MoEF&CC and the Ministry accepted the recommendation of EAC (Coal) for grant of amendment in EC dated 05.02.2024 as detailed in Paragraph 12 of the Ministry Letter dated 21.02.2025 subject to compliance of the additional terms and conditions.

Photocopy of Letter bearing File No. J-11015/109/2003-IA-II(M) dated 21.02.2025 is annexed and marked as SCA - A



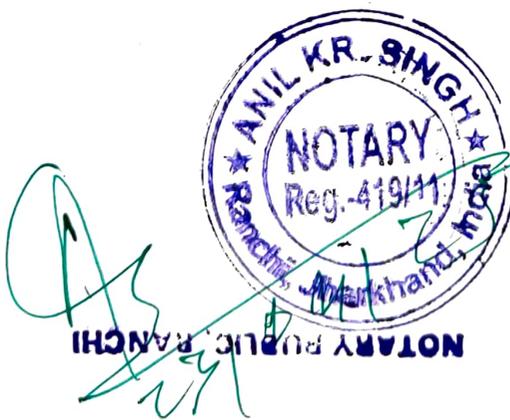
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5. That the Respondent CCL submits that from the facts stated above it is evident that transportation of coal through dedicated coal transportation road to Shivpur Siding and local consumers has been extended upto February 2026 by way of amendment.
6. That this Supplementary Counter Affidavit is being filed bonafide and in the interest of justice and also to inform this Hon'ble Tribunal regarding extension of Clause 1.2 of EC dated 05.02.2024.
7. That I have myself gone through the contents of this Supplementary Counter Affidavit and understood the same.
8. That the statements made in paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 are true to my knowledge, those made in paragraphs 3 to 6 are true to information derived from records of the case and rest are by way of submission before this Hon'ble Tribunal.

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Annexure is Photo/True Copy of its original

Sworn, signed and verified this affidavit on 23/04/2025 at Ranchi.



Deponat
Deponent
 Project Officer
 Amrapali OCP

BB Rai
Identified by
 23/04/2025

EM No 686/94

Signature Attested on Identification of Deponent

SCA-A

5



File No.: J-11015/109/2003-IA-II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
IA Division



Dated 21/02/2025



To,

Sh. Md. Akram
M/s Central Coalfields Limited
Darbhanga House, Kutchery Road, Chatra, Jharkhand, Office of Project officer, Amrapali OCP, 825321
E-mail: porajrappaoc@gmail.com

Subject: Amrapali Opencast Coal Mining Project (area 619.87 Ha having capacity 24.19 MTPA) by M/s Central Coalfields Limited, located at Villages: Binglal, Honhi, Kumarang Kalan, Kumarang Khurd and Ursu; District: Chatra; State: Jharkhand – Grant of amendment in EC for time extension for transportation of coal by road and installation of conveyor belt.

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to your online application vide proposal No. IA/JH/CMIN/513496/2024 dated 26/12/2024 along with CAF (Part A, B and C) for seeking amendment in Environment Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide letter no. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M) dated 05.02.2024, under the provisions of the EIA Notification, 2006 for the project mentioned above.

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC24A0101JH5477672A
(ii) File No.	J-11015/109/2003-IA-II(M)
(iii) Clearance Type	Amendment in EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Schedule No./ Project Activity	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vi) Sector	Coal Mining
(vii) Name of Project	Amrapali Opencast Coal Mining Project
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	CHATRA, JHARKHAND
(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) EC Date	05/02/2024
(xi) Applicability of General Conditions	NO
(xiii) Status of implementation of the project	

3. The proposal was considered by EAC (Coal) in its 20th meeting held during January 20-23rd, 2025. The project activity

is listed at schedule no. 1(a) - Mining of minerals under Category "A" of the schedule of the EIA Notification, 2006. The minutes of the meeting and all the project documents are available on PARIVESH portal which can be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in>.

4. The instant proposal is for amendment in Environment Clearance granted to M/s Central Coalfields Limited vide Letter No. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M) dated 05.02.2024, for Amrapali Opencast Coal Mining Project (area 619.87 Ha having capacity 24.19 MTPA), located at Villages: Binglal, Honhi, Kumarang Kalan, Kumarang Khurd and Ursu; District: Chatra; State: Jharkhand.

5. Details of all the prior ECs including the EC for which amendment is sought:

S. No	Details of Letter No.	EC/ Expansion in EC/ Validity extension/ Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (Ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
1	J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M)	EC	12 MTPA	1426.08 Ha.	03.01.2006	Implemented
2	J-11015/109/2003-IA (M)	EC Revalidation	12 MTPA	619.87 Ha.	28.02.2020	Implemented
3	J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M)	Expansion under clause 7(ii)	14.40 MTPA	619.87 Ha	20.03.2020	Implemented
4	J-11015/109/2003-IA (M)	Expansion	20.16 MTPA	619.87 Ha.	10.05.2021	Implemented
5	J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M)	EC Amendment (Timeline extension for Pit head CHP/railway siding upto Jan 2025)	20.16 MTPA	619.87 Ha.	12.05.2023	Implemented
6	J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M)	Expansion under clause 7(ii)	24.19 MTPA	619.87 Ha.	05.02.2024	Being implemented

6. Past production details: W.r.t the previous approvals, PP submitted the actual production details of the concerned mine and submitted that the mine became operational from FY 2013-14 onwards. CTO renewal has been obtained from the SPCB and is valid up to 28.02.2025. Details of the same are as follows:

Year	Actual Coal Production in MTPA	Planned Coal production in MTPA as per Environmental Clearance	Excess Production
2013-14	-	12.00	Nil
2014-15	2.55	12.00	Nil
2015-16	4.79	12.00	Nil
2016-17	6.23	12.00	Nil
2017-18	6.49	12.00	Nil
2018-19	10.20	12.00	Nil
2019-20	12.79	14.40	Nil
2020-21	14.39	14.40	Nil
2021-22	16.58	20.16	Nil
2022-23	18.00	20.16	Nil
2023-24	22.58	24.19	Nil
2024-25 (till 31.12.24)	16.73	24.19	Nil

7. Details regarding amendment sought in the dated 05.02.2024:

Condition Number of EC dated 05.02.2024	Condition as per Approved Amendment in EC	Proposed Condition	Justification

Specific Condition No. 1.2	PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali railway siding through belt conveyor before January 2025 and SPCB shall issue CTO accordingly.	PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali railway siding through belt conveyor by March 2027. Till the time, PP is permitted to transport coal through dedicated coal transportation road to Shivpur Siding and to local consumers (including NTPC Tandwa) by adopting all mitigative measure to control dust pollution.	The work of construction of Amrapali Railway Siding has been awarded to M/s RITES Ltd. The total route length for Railway Line is 22 KM. Work has been completed on the Non-Forest Land (~23%). Balance work is due on Forest Land for which Stage-II FC is expected by March-2025. Work-Order for construction of CHP has been awarded M/s S.K. Samanta & Co. Pvt. Ltd on 07.02.2024. The work of CHP & Conveyor falls within the Forest Land of Amrapali OCP (431.59 Ha). Stage-I FC of Amrapali OCP (431.59 Ha) is available and its Stage-II is expected by March-2025. In view of the above, the CHP-Silo-Siding construction is expected to be completed by March-2027.
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8. Traffic Assessment Study Report: The total length of coal transportation route from the stock yard of mine to Shivpur railway siding is 7 km, of which 3 km falls within the Mine lease area of Amrapali OCP and 4 km stretch falls outside the mine lease area. The ambient air quality in areas near the coal transportation route is regularly monitored to evaluate any potential impact from road transportation. The air quality is monitored at 3 locations, namely, Honhe Village, Shivpur Village and Koed Village at the distance of 250 m, 300 m and 1700 m respectively, from the coal transportation route.

The average PM10 at Honhe Village, Shivpur Village and Koed Village varied between 64-86 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 64-81 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and 63-75 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ respectively. Similarly, the average PM2.5 at Honhe Village, Shivpur Village and Koed Village varied between 32-48 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 31-56 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and 31-46 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ respectively.

The average SO₂ at Honhe Village, Shivpur Village and Koed Village varied between 18.9-28.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 17.6-29.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and 12.4-21.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ respectively. Similarly, Nox at Honhe Village, Shivpur Village and Koed Village varied between 13.2-25.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, 11.7-21.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and 13.2-24.2 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ respectively.

Based on the air quality monitoring data from March to May 2024 across three locations Honhe Village, Shivpur Village, and Koel Village—there is a noticeable trend of compliance with the applicable GSR standards for SO₂ and NO concentrations. In Honhe, Shivpur, and Koel Villages demonstrate SO₂ and NO concentrations well within the GSR 826(E) standard of 80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Based on the monitoring results, it can be concluded that road transportation has no significant impact on nearby habitations. This is attributed to the following reasons:

- The transportation routes are located away from existing habitations, with natural vegetation serving as a barrier between the roads and villages.
- Effective pollution control measures are in place, such as sprinklers, wind barriers, avenue plantations, wheel washing systems, and road sweeping machines.

Noise level monitoring was carried out during day and night at 4 locations, namely Amrapali Project Office, Amrapali Pit Office, Honhe Village and Primary School at Honhe Village. Out of these 4 locations, Amrapali Project Office and Amrapali Pit Office are industrial areas, Honhe Village is residential area and Primary school at Honhe village is silent zone.

The estimated noise levels in Amrapali Project Office and Amrapali Pit Office, during the day time were recorded to be between 61.8-64.1 dBA and 59.3-63.6 dBA respectively and during the night time were recorded to be between 55.8-58.1 dBA and 54.8-57.5 dBA respectively.

The estimated noise levels in Honhe village and Primary school at Honhe village, during the day time were recorded to be between 45.1-48.5 dBA and 39.6-43.1 dBA respectively and during the night time same was recorded to be between 38.2-40.6 dBA and 32.2-34.2 dBA respectively.

To assess the existing traffic patterns in the existing coal transportation road due to proposed project, classified volume count (CVC) at selected nodes/junctions is collected. The survey was conducted for 24 hours' duration and traffic (in both ways) count of each type of vehicle was recorded on hourly basis. Category-wise vehicle counting has been done continuously and recorded in the traffic volume count on hourly basis under respective categories. As the road is a dedicated coal transportation route, only coal trucks have been observed, no private passenger vehicles have been found. Maximum volume of PCU were observed as 614 PCU.

The traffic load observed during the environmental monitoring and traffic study period (March to May 2024) has been considered as the baseline traffic, with any increase treated as additional traffic for impact assessment and further analysis.

- The average monthly coal dispatch to Shivpur Siding during the pre-monsoon season of 2024 was 1.22 MT.
- The Environmental Clearance (EC) capacity of Amrapali OCP is 24.19 MTPA, with a proposed dispatch of 20.16 MTPA to Shivpur Siding for the next financial year, equivalent to 1.68 MT per month.
- Additionally, 2.80 MTPA is planned to be dispatched from Chandragupt OCP to Shivpur Siding, which translates to 0.24 MT per month.
- The baseline peak traffic density was derived as 614 PCU/hr for dispatching 1.23 MT/Month.
- The additional coal dispatch is estimated as 0.69 MT/ month, which translates to 23000 tonnes/day.
- The carrying capacity of vehicles deployed for transportation of coal is 42 tonnes/truck.
- The expected maximum traffic volume is 794 PCU/ hr. Level of service is expected to fall under the Category "Good".

Observation and conclusion:

1. The maximum incremental concentration of PM10 and PM2.5 have been estimated for two scenarios namely, considering existing pollution control measures and proposed control measures.
2. This project has already envisaged suitable control measures viz. PQC road, fixed and mobile sprinkling system, dust extraction system, wind breakers etc. that can help in preventing the generation of dust at source and control the transport of dust to nearby receptors.
3. In addition to the existing pollution control measures, following additional measures along with the timelines are proposed as given below for further controlling the impact of road transportation on ambient air quality.

Proposed additional pollution control measures on CTR

S. No.	Proposed Activity	Capital Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Recurring Cost / Year (Rs. Lakhs)	Timeline
1	Avenue Gap Plantation on CT Road (10,000 Saplings with tree guards)	100	50	June 2025
2	02 nos. road sweeping machines	0	132	March 2025
3	Extension of Windscreens on CT Road	600	0	June 2025
4	Automatic Wheel Washing System (02 nos.)	130	20	February 2025
5	Extension of Fixed sprinkling System on CT Road (1500 m)	250	40	June 2025
6	01 no. of truck mounted fog canon	0	60	June 2025
7	Extension of Fixed Sprinkling system on Shivpur Siding (1500m)	200	40	June 2025
8	Extension of Windscreen on Shivpur Siding (1500 m)	500	0	June 2025
9	04 nos. additional fixed fog canons on CTR	34	20	May 2025
10	01 Construction of CAAQMS at GM Office	60	3	June 2025

S. No.	Proposed Activity	Capital Cost (Rs. Lakhs)	Recurring Cost / Year (Rs. Lakhs)	Timeline
	Total Cost in Rs. Lakhs	1874	365	

9. **Justification for delay in construction of the Conveyor Belt:** The reasons for delay in the construction of Amrapali siding and CHP along with conveyor arrangement are as follows:

- The work of construction of Amrapali Railway Siding was awarded to M/s RITES Ltd on 22.05.2017. The total land required for Railway Siding & Railway Line is 160.10 Ha, of which 120.61 Ha land is forest land (~75%). Stage-I Forest Clearance (FC) for this Forest Land was issued on 17.01.2024.
- Similarly, for the construction of CHP, the first work-order was awarded to M/s Larsen & Toubro Limited on 31.12.2020. The proposed land for construction of CHP falls within the Forest Land of 431.59 Ha. Due to delays in the obtaining Forest Clearance, the contract had to be cancelled.
- Stage-I FC of 431.59 Ha was granted on 21.12.2023, and a fresh Work-Order for construction of CHP has been awarded M/s S.K. Samanta & Co. Pvt. Ltd on 07.02.2024.
- However, since Stage-II FC for both Railway Siding and CHP is still under progress, construction work could only proceed over non-forest and railway land.
- As of now, the physical progress against the on-going contract of Railway Siding is 22% and it is accordingly it is expected to be completed by March-2027.

Actual progress of Railway Siding

The said work has been allotted to RITES Ltd., the details of work order is given below:

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Date of Award of Work	22.05.2017
2	Original Completion Date	May' 2019
3	Estimated Cost	378.64 Crs.
4	Total Length	22 Rkm/30 Tkm
5	Total Area	160.61 Ha
6	Total Forest Land	120.61 Ha
7	Physical Progress	22.61%
8	Financial Progress	35.32% (Rails + Sleepers)
9	Likely Date of Completion	31.03.2027

- Total land required is 160.10 Ha., out of which 120.61 Ha. is in forest land. In Principle approval of Stage-I forest clearance accorded on 17.01.2024. Work permit is required from Forest dept./ CCL.
- Out of 16.6Km route length outside Railway area, work in 0.7 Km stretch in private land (in Honhe Village) is in progress. In this stretch, several GMK land & compensation related issue of land oustees still persist. Due to this, 4 bridges out of 8 bridges has been taken up for construction & Completed and construction in 01 bridge is completed except R/wall. Work in 2 bridges are in progress.
- At other private land location (Naudiha, Soparam, & sarendag village etc), work could not be taken up due to Job & compensation related issues from villagers with CCL.

In light of the delay being caused for construction of railway siding and CHP, it is proposed to continue road transportation of coal from shivpur siding through the dedicated coal transportation until March 2027.

10. **Details of Court Cases:** PP submitted that there are two court cases pending on the project. Details of the same are as follows:

Court Name	Bench	Case Category	Case Details	Present Status
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NGT	Eastern Bench	Appeal 06/EZ/2020	Appellant filed case against exemption of PH in expansion of Amrapali expansion (12 to 14.4 MTPA) relying on OM dtd 15.09.2017, stating that OM cannot circumvent EIA2006. IRO MoEF, Ranchi has submitted Counter Affidavit dated 07.10.2021, clarifying that Ministry's OM dated 15.09.2017 does not, in any way, circumvent or override the provisions of EIA 2006 para 7(ii).	Next hearing is scheduled on 29.04.2025
High Court	High Court of Jharkhand	WP(C)1785 of 2021, WP(C)1965 of 2021, WP(C)1987 of 2021	Writ petition was regarding tender for coal transportation published by CCL Transportation capacity of 25.50 MTPA mentioned in NIT against the EC of 20.16 MTPA. NIT condition that about 1.70 km of the proposed transport road is not built on CCL acquired land The reason for EAC to consider enhancement of production was the commitment of CCL to switch to conveyor transport within a period of 2 years. CCL has come out with tender for 4 years, violating the EAC terms. In reply PP has submitted that, Amrapali has never exceeded the EC capacity. Also, MoEF in its Counter Affidavit submitted that as long as physical activities are within the limits prescribed in the EC, NIT per se does not imply violation. Furthermore, Issue relates to execution of the contract, hence is not related to environment related matter.	Next Date is not given

Observations and deliberation of the Committee:

11. The EAC noted the following:

i. The instant proposal is for grant of amendment in EC granted to M/s Central Coalfields Limited vide letter no. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M), dated 05.02.2024 for Amrapali Opencast Coal Mining Project (area 619.87 Ha having capacity 24.19 MTPA), located at Villages: Binglal, Honhi, Kumarang Kalan, Kumarang Khurd and Ursu; District: Chatra; State: Jharkhand.

ii. The project involves 531.64 ha of forestland, on which PP has accorded Stage – II forest clearance vide letter dated 12.10.2010.

iii. The instant proposal is now placed before the EAC to seek amendment in the Specific Condition No. 1.2, of EC dated 05.02.2024. The said condition stated, "PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali railway siding through belt conveyor before January 2025 and SPCB shall issue CTO accordingly."

PP sought amendment in the said condition, seeking extension in timeline for construction of the said railway siding and belt conveyor, till March 2027.

iv. Committee deliberated on the reasons for delay in implementation of the said condition and observed that, the total route length of railway line is 22 km. Some part of it falls within the forestland (which is outside the ML area), on which Stage – I forest clearance has been accorded vide letter dated 17.01.2024, while Stage – II forest clearance is under process and the same is expected to be obtained by March 2025. PP submitted the geo-tagged photographs of the construction done till date.

v. Committee deliberated on the progress done till date for the said railway siding and belt conveyor and observed that the construction work on non-forest land has been completed. Out of the total land involved for the same, only 23% of the land is non-forest land and rest is forestland, on which Stage – II forest clearance is yet to be accorded (expected to be obtained by March 2025).

Committee observed that work order for construction of Amrapali Railway Siding has been awarded to M/s RITES Ltd on 22.05.2017 and Work-Order for construction of CHP has been awarded M/s S.K. Samanta & Co. Pvt. Ltd on 07.02.2024. Accordingly PP sought the timeline extension for construction of railway siding and conveyor belt up to March 2027.

vi. Committee deliberated on the Traffic Assessment Study Report submitted by the proponent and observed that the existing CTR is a dedicated coal transportation route and does not pass through any of the villages/ habitations. Total length of this road is 7 km out of which 3 km is within the ML boundary. No habitation lies within 200 m from the road. The AAQ and noise monitoring parameters are found to be within limits, however in some cases on the higher side. Committee deliberated on the control measures being currently undertaken by the proponent and proposed further by the proponent. Committee opined that vehicles to be used for coal transportation shall not be older than 5 years and all the additional control measures proposed shall be complied with.

vii. Committee deliberated on the plantation activities done by the proponent and observed that good plantation has been developed by the PP over the OB dump of the Amrapali OCP and proponent has awarded work order to IFP-ICFRE on 28.08.2024 for carrying out miyawaki plantation at Amrapali OCP for a period of 4 years. Plantation has also been developed on the periphery of the coal transportation road, however, this plantation is mostly of Eucalyptus species. Committee opined plantation on the road side shall be improved and native species shall be planted by March 2025 itself. Committee also opined that, school premises in the nearby villages shall also be planted and provision to supply water for these plants shall also be done by the proponent.

viii. During the deliberation, the Committee observed that, as per the EC letter dated 05.02.2024, life of mine is mentioned as 2 years only. Accordingly, the EC is valid up to 04.02.2026. PP submitted that an application for environment clearance will be submitted this year itself for expansion of this project.

Committee took this aspect into cognizance and opined that the amendment shall be given only till the validity of the existing EC and will be further taken into cognizance at the time of EC expansion project, which is supposed to be submitted by the proponent.

Recommendations of the Committee:

12. After deliberations, the Committee **recommended** the instant proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/109/2003-IA.II(M) dated 05.02.2024, as detailed below subject to stipulation of additional specific conditions (**Annexure-I**).

Reference in EC letter dated	Description as per approved EC letter dated	Amendment sought in EC	Recommendation of EAC
05.02.2024	05.02.2024		
Specific Condition No. 1.2	PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali railway siding through belt conveyor before January 2025 and SPCB shall issue CTO accordingly.	PP should complete the coal transportation from Amrapali railway siding through belt conveyor by March 2027. Till the time, PP is permitted to transport coal through dedicated coal transportation road to Shivpur Siding and to local consumers (including NTPC Tandwa) by adopting all mitigative measure to control dust pollution.	Recommended Concerning the changes in specific condition no. 1.2 of EC dated 05.02.2024, Committee recommended to amend specific condition no. 1.2 as follows: <i>“PP shall complete the construction of Amrapali railway siding, belt conveyor and CHP before February 2026. Till the time, PP is permitted to transport coal through dedicated coal transportation road to Shivpur siding and local consumers by adopting all the mitigative</i>

Reference in EC letter dated	Description as per approved EC letter dated	Amendment sought in EC	Recommendation of EAC
05.02.2024	05.02.2024		
			<i>measures to control pollution."</i>

Decision of MoEF&CC

13. The undersigned is directed to inform that Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (Coal) hereby decided for grant of amendment in the EC dated 05.02.2024 as detailed in **para 12** above subject to the compliance of the additional terms & conditions / specific conditions at **Annexure-I**.

14. All other terms and conditions prescribed in EC letter dated 05.02.2024 shall remain unchanged.

15. The project proponent shall obtain fresh Environment Clearance in case of change in scope of the project, if any.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Sundar Ramanathan)
Scientist 'F'
Tel: 011- 20819378
Email- r.sundar@nic.in

Copy To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Department of Environment & Forests, Government of Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
3. Deputy Director General of Forests (C), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Regional Office, 2nd Floor, Headquarter- Jharkhand State Housing Board, Harmu Chowk, Ranchi, Jharkhand – 834 002.
4. The Chairman, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board, TA building, HEC complex, PO Dhurwa, Ranchi.
5. The Member Secretary, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi – 32.
6. The Chairman, Central Ground Water Authority, Ministry of Water Resources, Curzon Road Barracks, A-2, W-3 Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi
7. The Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board, Mid-Eastern Region, 6th& 7th Floor, Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Bhawan, Frazer Road, Dak Banglow, Patna- 800011, Bihar.
8. The District Collector, Chatra, Government of Jharkhand.
9. PARIVESH Portal.

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Additional Specific Conditions

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	Green house emission from the mine operations shall be evaluated and corresponding carbon absorption plan shall be submitted to the concerned RO, MoEF&CC by March, 2025.
1.2	Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) and Noise quality data along the entire coal transportation route shall be monitored and the data shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office and also kept on the web portal of the company.
1.3	All the recommendations made in the Traffic Assessment Study Report regarding coal transportation by road shall be strictly adhered with.
1.4	Additional air pollution control measures should be taken along roads being used for transport of coal including e-/CNG/LNG vehicles.
1.5	PP shall adopt wildlife protection measures including creating awareness among the drivers, sensitizing the drivers about prevention of road kills and handling of wildlife encounters while driving through forest areas and speed governors must be installed in the coal transporting trucks/dumpers.
1.6	Project proponent shall carry out three tier plantation along the coal transportation route by March 2025. Compliance in this regard shall be submitted along with the six monthly compliance to the concerned Regional Office and also kept on the web portal of the company. In addition to this, PP shall provide 50,000 plant saplings with 4 feet tall fruit bearing plants to farmers for plantation in barren and agriculture lands in the study area every year for 5 years with incentive to improve the green cover in and around the mine lease area.
1.7	Proponent shall align its activities to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), for which Present status inter-alia distribution of solar lights to near by villages and an action plan shall be submitted to the concerned RO, MoEF&CC by February, 2025.
1.8	The project proponent shall abide by all orders and judicial pronouncements, made from time to time by the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand in WP(C) 1785 of 2021, WP(C)1965 of 2021, WP(C)1987 of 2021 and Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone in Appeal No. 6 of 2020.