

EAC Coal to consider 7.57 MTPA coal capacity addition

Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) for Coal of MoEF&CC in its meeting on 24-25 April 2019 will consider 21 proposals. As per the agenda, there are 4 proposals for Environmental Clearance (EC), 3 proposals for Amendment in EC, 3 proposals for Terms of Reference (ToR) and 11 proposals for Revalidation of EC.

Four proposals for Environmental Clearance (EC) involve total coal mining addition of 7.57 MTPA.

New/Expansion Proposals (quantity in MTPA)					
Proposal		Madhya Pradesh	Maharashtra	Telangana	West Bengal
For EC	Dhankasa UG Mine	1.25			
	Kistaram Opencast Project			2	
	Singhori Opencast		0.32		
	Tara (East)&Tara (West) Coal Mine				4

Kistaram Opencast Project

Kistaram Coal Mine proposal for Environmental Clearance in Telangana has been considered several times before¹ and deferred in view of non-compliance of the condition stipulated in the stage-I forest clearance, submission of very generic and inappropriate report which lack details information related to impact of mining operations on air and water quality, ground water, stability of residential structures, source of livelihood for the locals of Sathupalli town, their dependency on the forest, flora and fauna, methodology for health survey, etc.

Amrapali and North Urimari Opencast Coal Mines

Amrapali Opencast Coal Mine 12 MTPA in total project area of 1426.08 ha and the North Urimari OCP with capacity 3 MTPA were granted EC previously vide letter dated 3 January 2006 and 08 February 2006 respectively as per EIA Notification, 1994.²

¹ http://environmentclearance.nic.in/timelineA.aspx?pid=IA/CMIN/TG/23509/2014&type=EC&proposal_id=4829

² <http://environmentclearance.nic.in/writereaddata/Form-1A/Minutes/31072018WLBH77BTApprovedMOM34EACcoal.pdf>

MoEF&CC through Notification S.O 1530 (E) dated 16.04.2018 has directed that “The mining projects which were granted EC under EIA notification 1994 and but not obtained EC for expansion/ modernization/ amendment under the EIA notification 2006 shall make an application in Form I within six months from the date of issue of this notification for grant of EC under the provisions of the EIA notification, 2006”

However, both the proponents instead of applying for Revalidation of EC, have applied for grant of ToR under EIA notification 2006, with the same capacity of 3 MTPA and project area of 523.06 ha in case of North Urimari OCP and for 12 MTPA capacity in an area of 619.87 ha in case of Amrapali Opencast Coal Mine.

Generally, EAC Coal has been prescribing TOR along with a dozen of other conditions for proposals appearing for Revalidation of EC.

Review by

Pushp Jain & Subhrajit Goswami
 EIA Resource and Response Centre (ERC)
 Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment
 N-71, Lower Ground Floor, G K I, New Delhi - 110 048
 Ph: 91-11-49537774, 49536656 Web: ercindia.org;
 Email: pushp@ercindia.org

Annexure

Overview of all the Proposals ³					
Stage	Proposal Name	Propone nt	State	New/ Expn. Capacit y (MTPA)	Lease area (ha)
For EC	Kistaram OC Project	SCCL	Telangana	2	435.68
For EC	Tara (East)&Tara (West) Coal Mine	WBPDCCL	West Bengal	4	937.44
Amdt. in EC	Cluster No. 3 (3 mines)	ECL	West Bengal	3.97	1628
Amdt. in EC	Cluster X (6 mines) & Coal Washery of 2.08 MTPA capacity	BCCL	Jharkhand	2.289	2057.95
Amdt. in EC	Dulanga OC Coal Mining Project	NTPC	Orissa	7	785.37
For ToR (EC Reval.)	North Urimari OCP	CCL	Jharkhand	3	535.82
For ToR (EC Reval.)	Amrapali OCP	CCL	Jharkhand	12	619.87
For ToR	North-West (NW) Quarry of Pakri Barwadih Coal Mine Block	NTPC	Jharkhand	3	485.159
For EC	Singhori OC mine	WCL	Maharashtra	0.32	426

³ <http://environmentclearance.nic.in/writereaddata/Form-A/Agenda/10042019NE85397D44thEACAgenda.pdf>

For EC	Dhankasa UG Mine	WCL	Madhya Pradesh	1.25	582.65
EC Reval.	Amlai/New Amlai UG mine	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.45	724
EC Reval.	Rajendra UG project	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.625	590
EC Reval.	Nawapara UG Coal Mine	SECL	Chhattisgarh	0.18	451.4
EC Reval.	Singhali UG Mine	SECL	Chhattisgarh	0.42	862.226
EC Reval.	Expansion of Bijuri UG coal mine	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.6	216.146
EC Reval.	Rajnagar OC Coal Mine Project	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	1.7	727.134
EC Reval.	West Jhagrakhand UG mine	SECL	Chhattisgarh	0.33	762.611
EC Reval.	Jhirira UG coal mining project	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.33	557
EC Reval.	Umaria UG Mine	SECL	Madhya Pradesh	0.35	512.54
EC Reval.	Mahan OC coal mine	SECL	Chhattisgarh	0.36	201.34
EC Reval.	Gayatri UG Mine	SECL	Chhattisgarh	0.3	507.472