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CA3-13016/6/2016-CA3

Government of India

Ministry of Coal

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,

Dated : the 26th July, 2017

MEETING NOTICE

Subject : Meeting to review the status of development of coal/ lignite blocks and associated end use plants allotted under the provisions of the Mines & Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 – reg.

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The undersigned directed to refer to this Ministry's Meeting Notice of even number dated 12.07.2017 on the subject mentioned above and to forward herewith the approved minutes of the Review Meeting held on 20.07.2017 for your information and necessary action.



[RISHAN RYNTATHIANG]

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tel : 23073936

To,

1. The CMD, NTPC Ltd., NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
2. The CMD, CMPDIL, Kanke Road, Gondwana Place, Ranchi-834031.
3. The Coal Controller, No.1, Council House Street, Kolkata-700001.
4. The CMD, M/s. Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd., Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur-302005.
5. The CMD, M/s. Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Ltd., 3rd Floor, Setu Bhawan, OBCC Building, Nayapally, Bhubaneswar, Pin-751012.
6. The CMD, M/s. Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Ltd., Block No.9, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
7. The CMD, M/s. Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation Ltd., Exhibition Grounds (Opposite High Court), Srinagar-190001
8. The CMD, M/s. Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd., 10th floor, NPKRR Maaligai, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai – 600002.
9. The CMD, M/s. Maharashtra State Power Generation Co. Ltd., PRAKASHGAD, 2nd Floor, Prof. Anant Kanekar Marg, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.
10. The CMD, M/s. Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corp. Ltd., Vidyut Souda, Khairatabad, Hyderabad-500082.
11. The CMD, M/s. Haryana Power Generation Corp. Ltd., Room No.411,

- 3rd Floor, Urja Bhawan, C-7, Sector-6, HPGCL Panchkula.
12. The CMD, M/s. Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd., R.No.928, 9th Floor, Shakti Bhawan Extension, 14, Ashok Marg, Lucknow-226001, Uttar Pradesh.
 13. The CMD, M/s. Orissa Minerals Development Company Ltd., AG-104, "Sourav Abasan", 2nd Floor, Salt Lake City, Sector-II, Kolkata-700091.
 14. The CMD, M/s. Kerwa Coal Limited, Sonakhan Bhawan, Ring Road No.1, Purena, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
 15. The CMD, M/s. Gujarat Mineral Development Corp. Ltd., Khanij Bhawan, 132 Ft. Ring Road, Nr. University Ground, Vastrapur, Ahmedabad-380052.
 16. The CMD, M/s. Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd., P.O. Petrochemical – 391346, Dist.: Vadodara, Gujarat.

Copy for information to:-

- (i) PSO to Secretary (Coal) / PPS to AS (C) / PPS to JS (VB) / Director (CBA-I)
- ✓(ii) Technical Director (NIC) with the request to upload this OM on the website of MoC.

Minutes of the meeting to review the status of development of coal / lignite blocks and associated end use plants allotted under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 under the Chairmanship of Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal held on 20.07.2017.

List of participants is enclosed at Annexure.

2. Welcoming all the allottee of coal/ lignite blocks, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal informed that this meeting has been called to review the status of development of coal / lignite blocks and associated end use plants allotted under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. Accordingly, the block allottees of coal / lignite blocks were instructed to inform the status of development of their respective coal/ lignite blocks. The deliberations held in the meeting are as under :-

(i) Kente Extension Coal block allotted to M/s. Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (RRVUNL)

It was noted that previous approval of the Central Government to State Government for granting Prospecting license in favour of RRVUNL was issued by MoC on 16.03.2017. Accordingly, the status of exploration was asked from the representative of RRVUNL. The representative of RRVUNL informed that exploration will be carried out by M/s. Adani Enterprises Ltd. However, exploration could not be started so far due to non-grant of Forest Clearance. RRVUNL was advised to expedite Forest Clearance for starting exploration. No other issue was raised by the representative of RRVUNL regarding Kente Extension coal block.

(ii) Banai and Bhalumuda coal blocks allotted to M/s. NTPC Ltd.

Representative of NTPC Ltd. informed that Geological Reports (GR) in respect of Banai and Bhalumuda coal blocks have been prepared and submitted to MoC for approval. It was noted that MoC has forwarded the GR of Bhalumuda coal block to MECL for vetting and recommending its approval to MoC. However, MECL has informed that the task of preparation of GR was given by CMPDIL to MECL and it had prepared the GR and submitted to CMPDIL.

CMPDIL had duly vetted the said GR before handing it over to NTPC Ltd. Representatives of CMPDIL stated that CMPDIL also vets GRs and Mining Plans

prepared for other entities by CMPDIL . Accordingly, CMPDIL duly vets these GRs and Mining Plans and suggests modifications, if any. As such, all the GRs and Mining Plans are vetted by CMPDIL.

The representative of NTPC Ltd. stated that Banai and Bhalumuda blocks are adjacent to each other and they are facing difficulty in dumping of over burden as all the areas surrounding the said blocks are coal bearing. The stripping ratio of these blocks is also very high, i.e. 7.5 to 8 CuM/T. NTPC Ltd. was advised to examine the feasibility of the said blocks in detail. It was informed to NTPC that if the blocks are found economically and technically unviable, then there is provision in the CBDPA to surrender the blocks after the exploration period is over. The representative of NPTC Ltd. informed that they are consulting CMPDIL for the same and shall inform their decision to MoC very soon.

(iii) Kerwa coal block allotted to Joint Venture of Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (CMDC) and Madhya Pradesh State Mining Corporation Ltd. (MPSMCL).

The representative of CMDC informed that Coal Block Development and Production Agreement (CBDPA) for the Kerwa coal block has not been signed so far. It was informed to CMDC that the CBDPA for commercial mining was under finalization in MoC in accordance with the Coal Blocks Allocation Rules, 2017. The Coal Blocks Allocation Rules, 2017 have been notified on 13.07.2017 and now the CBDPA for commercial mining will be finalized and signed shortly. The representative of CMDC expressed apprehension about the situation in case the block was found uneconomical or technically unviable after detailed exploration and preparation of mining plan. It was informed to CMDC that there will be provision in the CBDPA to surrender the block after exploration period.

(iv) Tentuloi coal block allotted to M/s. Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (OTPCL)

It was noted that OTPCL vide letter dated 18.07.2017 had informed that they have already submitted before MoC to surrender the Tentuloi coal block and there is no further development in this regard. Hence, they will not be attending the meeting.

(v) Kudanali-Luburi coal block allotted to M/s. Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation Ltd. (JKSPDCL) and M/s. NTPC Ltd.

It was noted that the joint venture company has not been formed so far between the two allottees. The representative of JKSPDCL informed that joint venture agreement has been signed between the allottees, however, as per the recent directives of D/o Public Enterprises, CPSEs have to take permission from NITI Aayog before forming any joint venture companies. The representative of NTPC Ltd. informed that initially NITI Aayog advised NTPC Ltd. to explore the option of an unincorporated joint venture with JKSPDCL. NTPC has taken legal advice in the matter and found that Joint Venture company has to be a registered entity and provisions of the CBDPA are also very clear in this regard. Accordingly, NTPC has requested Ministry of Power for concurrence from NITI Aayog for formation of JVC with JKSPDCL. NPTC Ltd. was advised to expedite the matter.

(vi) Chandrabila coal block allotted to Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Ltd. (TANGEDCO)

The representative of TANGEDCO stated that they are facing difficulties in dumping of overburden and have requested MoC to accord permission for dumping of over burden temporarily on adjacent Chhelia coal block. He also intimated that TANGEDCO is pursuing hard for getting the Forest Clearance from State Government to explore the 3.64 Kms of forest area of Chandrabila coal block. JS (VB) enquired from the representative of CMPDIL about the solution to TANGEDCO's over burden dumping problem. The representative of CMPDIL stated that they will examine the issue taking into account the Master Plan of Talcher Coalfields. The representative of TANGEDCO further requested that they may be given some other explored block in lieu of Chandrabila block which is outside the boundaries of MCL coal bearing areas. It was decided that a Sub-Committee comprising of representatives of TANGEDCO, CMPDIL and MCL should be formed to explore all the possibilities regarding the requests of TANGEDCO..

It was informed to TANGEDCO that there is provision in the CBDPA to surrender the block after exploration period in case the same is found economically or technically unviable. If such a request is received, the same will be examined by MoC. In the meanwhile, TANGEDCO was advised to expedite the Forest Clearance from State Government.

(vii) Sarapal-Nuapara coal block allotted to Andhra Pradesh Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (APGENCO).

The representative of APGENCO requested to swap Sarapal-Nuapara coal block with Gopal Prasad and Utkal-A coal block. It was informed to APGENCO that the request for the same was received in MoC from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and it was informed to him that Gopal Prasad block has already been acquired under CBA Act by MCL and Utkal-A block has been decided to be clubbed with Gopal Prasad block for MCL's future expansion plans. Moreover, Sarapal-Nuapara coal block has been allotted under the provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 whereas Utkal-A coal block can be allocated under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015. Hence, it is not legally possible to swap the said coal blocks.

The representative of APGENCO further informed that they are acquiring land under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957 [CBA Act] and by August 2017 they will apply to MoC for obtaining Notification under Section 4 of CBA Act whereby they will not be required to obtain previous approval of Central Government for grant of prospecting license by State Government in their favour.

The representative of APGENCO also enquired for substitution of end use plant (EUP) in case the EUP linked with Sarapal Nuapara coal block does not come into existence. It was informed to APGENCO that they should submit their request, which will be examined by MoC.

(viii) Brahmani coal block allotted to M/s. Orissa Minerals Development Company (OMDC)

The representative of OMDC informed that Coal Block Development and Production Agreement (CBDPA) for Brahmani coal block has not been signed so far. It was informed to OMDC that the CBDPA for commercial mining was under finalization in MoC. The Coal Blocks Allocation Rules, 2017 have been notified on 13.07.2017 and now the CBDPA for commercial mining will be finalized and signed shortly.

(xi) Mahajanwadi coal block allotted to Maharashtra State Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (MAHAGENCO)

The representative of MAHAGENCO informed that they have already requested MoC for surrender of Mahajanwadi coal block as the same is situated near Nagpur City and it is not possible to explore the said block. It was noted that MAHAGENCO's request for surrender of block is under consideration of the MoC.

(xii) Gondbahera Ujheni coal block allotted to M/s. Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Ltd. (MPPGCL)

The representative of MPPGCL informed that they have already requested MoC for surrender of Gondbahera Ujheni coal block as they have found, after preparation of mine plan and DPR, that the cost of extraction of coal is very high. It was noted that MPPGCL's request for surrender of block is under consideration of the MoC.

(xiii) Kalyanpur-Badalpara coal block allotted to M/s. Haryana Power Generation Corporation Ltd. (HPGCL)

The representative of HPGCL informed that recently they have requested MoC for exchange of Kalyanpur-Badalpara coal block as it is very difficult to explore the said block due to Naxalite problem. No agency is coming up to explore the block due to Naxalite activity in the area. It was noted that recently request from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana has been received in MoC for exchange of Kalyanpur-Badalpara coal block with a detailed explored coal block close to Haryana and the same will be duly examined by MoC.

(ix) Pachwara South coal block allotted to M/s. Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd. (NUPPL) [JV of NLC India Ltd. and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.]

The representative of NUPPL Ltd. informed that CBDPA for the block was signed on 22.02.2017 and they have obtained the permission from Government of India through Gazette Notification dated 10.06.2016 under sub-Section 1 of Section 4 of CBA (A&D) Act, 1957 for undertaking exploration in Pachwara South block. For area covered under forest land, NUPPL is pursuing the matter with MoEF&CC. DFO, Dumka has desired some additional details which have been submitted and the proposal is under process at office of DFO, Dumka. NUPPL is in the process of engaging MDO for taking up works from exploration to mining operation. It was noted that the development of Pachwara South coal block is satisfactory.

(ix) Panandhro Extension, Bharkandam and Ghala lignite blocks allotted to M/s. Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDC)

It was noted that previous approval of the Central Government to State

Government for granting Prospecting license in favour of GMDC in respect of Panandhro Extension block was issued by MoC on 24.02.2017. Accordingly, the status of exploration was sought from the representative of GMDC. The representative of GMDC informed that exploration has not started as MoC has directed that the final area for exploration will be finalized by NLC India Ltd. NLCIL has deleted some area recommended by State Government. Accordingly, a fresh proposal from State Government will again be forwarded to MoC for previous approval. NLCIL was directed to expedite the process of finalisation of the area and convey the same within a month's time.

In respect of Bharkandam and Ghala lignite blocks, the representative of GMDC stated that LBDPA for the said blocks has not been signed yet. It was informed to GMDC that the LBDPA for commercial mining was under finalization in MoC. The Coal Blocks Allocation Rules, 2017 have been notified on 13.07.2017 and now the CBDPA for commercial mining will be finalized and signed shortly.

(x) Vastan lignite block allotted in-principle to Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd. (GIPCL)

The representative of GIPCL stated that they wish to withdraw from the allocated Vastan UCG Block and the proposed Pilot Project to be developed jointly with ONGC. This decision was taken in view of the fact that GIPCL, being a small sized company, is not well placed to take this kind of initiative and fund such R&D/ Pilot Project expenditures which may not even culminate into commercially viable proposition and that GIPCL does not have any experience in Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) or its end use plant technology using low GCV Syn-Gas for Power Generation or for production of chemicals. The statement of GIPCL was taken on record.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

S. No.	Name & Designation (S/Shri/Smt./Dr.)	Ministry / Department/ Organization/Company
1	Shri Vivek Bharadwaj, Joint Secretary	In the Chair (MoC)
2	Shri Anurag Kapil, Director (CBA-I)	Ministry of Coal
3	Shri Rishan Ryntathieng, Under Secretary	Ministry of Coal
4	Ms. Sanskriti Jain, Assistant Secretary	Ministry of Coal
5	Shri N.S. Mandal, Director	Central Electricity Authority
6	Dr. Sujoy Majumder, OSD (M)	Coal Controller Organization, Kolkata
7	Shri A.K. Bhanali, GM (M)	Coal India Limited, Kolkata
8	Shri A.K. Rana, GM (UMD)	CMPDIL
9	Shri Ch. Vijaya Rao	SCCL
10	Shri Partha Mazumder, GM (Coal Mining)	NTPC, Ltd
11	Shri P.S. Saxena, SE (Fuel)	RRVUNL, Jaipur
12	Shri Atul Tiwari, (MGR)	RRVUNL, Jaipur
13	Shri Pramod Kumar	RRVUNL, Jaipur
14	Shri P.S Yadav, GM (Mines)	CMDC, Raipur
15	Shri Raju Burde, Executive Director (Fuel & Coal)	MAHAGENCO
16	Shri Shyam Wardhane, Director (Mining)	MAHAGENCO, Maharashtra
17	Shri M. Asok Kumar, Chief Engineer/ Mines/ TANGEDCO	Tamil Nadu Generation & Distribution Corporation Limited
18	P. Srinivas	APGENCO
19	Shri A.K Sidhwani, S.E	MPPGCL Camp Delhi
20	Shri R.K. Kuchhal, Director/Tech.	HPGCL, Panchkula
21	Shri S.K. Hait, DGM (Technical)	Orissa Minerals Dev. Co. Ltd.
22	Shri Sunil Gupta, Company Secretary	J&K State Power Development Corporation
23	Shri A. Rajavecchava Reddy	Pachwara South block NLC India/NUPPL
24	Shri Piyush Shah, Sr. Manager (Geology)	GMDC, Ahmedabad
25	Shri A.K Makadia, GM	GMDC, Ahmedabad
26	Shri N.K Purohit, GM (Mines)	GIPCL, Vadodara
