

No. J-11015/453/2008-IA.II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests
IA Division

Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi-110 003
Dated the 25th March, 2013

To
M/s Steel Authority of India Limited
Raw Materials Division,
10 Camac Street (5th Floor),
Kolkata-700 017

Subject: Integrated Durgaiburu Iron Ore Mining, Beneficiation and Pelletisation Plant Project of M/s Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), located in Ghatkuri Reserve Forest, Tehsil Gua, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand - environmental clearance - regarding.

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No. RMD/K/E&L/2010-724 dated 23.11.2010 and subsequent letters dated 18.02.2011 and 26.02.2011 on the subject mentioned above, as well as your Board resolution dated 11.08.2011 stating that violation will not be repeated in the future. The State Pollution Control Board, Jharkhand vide their letter 29.12.2011 have mentioned that a petition in the court of chief Judicial Magistrate, Chaibasa has been filed. The project was earlier prescribed Terms of Reference (TORs) by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 05.02.2009 for undertaking detailed EIA study for the purpose of obtaining environmental clearance. The proposal is for renewal of mine lease, which fell due in February, 2009 and enhancement of production of iron ore to 10million TPA (ROM) and installation of a new beneficiation plant of 12.5million TPA and installation of a new pellet plant of 4million TPA capacity. Besides, 10million TPA of ROM to be produced from the mine, 2.5million TPA of fines from existing fines dumps will be utilized in the beneficiation plant.

2. The total mine lease area of the project is 1443.756ha, which is a forest land. Stage – I forest clearance for diversion of broken up area of 274.691ha of forest land, out of the total applied area of 635.986 ha for iron ore mining has been obtained vide letter no. 8-251/1986-FC dated 14th August, 2012 subject to certain conditions. The Karo River (1km), the Koina River(4.5km) and the Sarako River (6.5km) are reported to be located in the buffer zone of the mine. A number of seasonal drainage channels reported to flow down of the core zone escarpment on either side towards SE or NW. Modification/diversion in the existing natural drainage pattern at any stage has not been envisaged.

3. It has been stated that no National Park/ wildlife sanctuary/biosphere reserve/tiger reserve etc. are reported to be located in the core and buffer zone of the mine and that the area does not report to form corridor for Schedule-I fauna. However, the entire mine lease area falls within the core zone of Singhbhum Elephant Reserve. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Biodiversity Conservation cum Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand