

No. J-11013/41/2006-IA.II (I)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment and Forests

Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110 003
Dated: 30th December, 2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

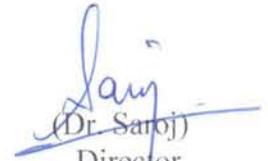
Subject: Consideration of Environment Clearance (EC) for UMPPs Linked to Captive Coal Blocks.

The matter regarding consideration of Environment Clearance (EC) for UMPPs linked to captive coal blocks has been raised by the Ministry of Power with this Ministry on several occasions and the same has been under the consideration of this Ministry.

2. As regards Forest Clearance for a coal block involving forest land, linked to a UMPP, the Forest Clearance will be required to be obtained as per the provisions under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 and rules and guidelines framed there under. MoEF had constituted a Committee in March 2012 under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary, MoEF to formulate parameters for identification of inviolate forest areas. The Committee has since submitted its recommendations which are now in the public domain. Till a final view is taken on these recommendations, MoEF would review the details of such linked coal blocks using the criteria suggested in the report.

3. Based on such a review, if the coal blocks in question do not fall under the category of inviolate areas, MoEF would consider granting environment clearance for UMPP, without linking it with the issue of EC and Stage-I Forestry Clearance of the linked coal block. To that extent, the provisions under Para 7 of the O.M. dated 19.04.2012 on the subject "Consideration of projects of Thermal Power, Steel Sector, etc. for Environmental Clearance with sourcing of Coal from dedicated Coal Blocks / Coal India Ltd. – regarding" stand amended for UMPPs linked to captive coal blocks. Notwithstanding the above, grant of environment and forest clearances for the linked coal blocks would be decided only on the basis of merits of individual cases.

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


(Dr. Saroj)
Director
Telefax:011-24364067

To
All officers of IA Division.

Copy to:

- (i) PS to MEF
- (ii) PPS to Secretary(E&F)
- (iii) PPS to JS(AT)
- (iv) PS to JS(SPSP)
- (v) All SEIAAs/SEACs
- (vi) Website of MoEF
- (vii) Guard File