OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub.: Additional Environment Clearance condition for mining projects – reg.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has issued the standard EC conditions for coal and non coal mining sectors vide OM no 22-34/2018-IA.III dated 9th August 2018 and 8th January 2019.

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 08.01.2020 in W.P. (Civil) No.114/2014 in the matter of Common Cause vs. Union of India has directed that the area which has been mined should be restored so that grass and other vegetation including trees can grow in the mining area for the benefit of animals.

3. In view of the above, as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, an additional condition as stipulated in the order be included in all the Environmental Clearances already granted to mining projects and to be granted henceforth.

“The mining lease holders shall, after ceasing mining operations, undertake re-grassing the mining area and any other area which may have been disturbed due to their mining activities and restore the land to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna etc.”

3.1 Necessary communication may be issued to the project proponents under intimation to respective regulatory authorities.

4. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(Sharath Kumar Pallerla)
Director (IA-Policy)

To

1. Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).
2. Chairman of all the Expert Appraisal Committees
3. Chairperson/Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
4. All the Officers of I.A. Division
5. Chairpersons/Member Secretaries of all SPCBs/UTPCCs

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change
2. PS to Hon'ble MoS (EF&CC)
3. PPS to Secretary(EF&CC)
4. PPS to AS (RSP) / AS (RA)
5. PS to JS (GM)/ JS (AKN)/JS (SKB)
6. Website, MoEF&CC

(Sharath Kumar Pallerla)
Director (IA-Policy)