CIRCULAR

Sub: Consideration of projects of thermal power, steel sector etc for environmental clearance with sourcing of coal from dedicated coal blocks / Coal India Ltd – Clarification - Regarding.

Ministry of Environment & Forests had issued a circular of even no. dated 1st November, 2010 on the above mentioned subject, which required that all such projects which are largely dependent on availability of coal as raw material shall be considered only after the firm coal linkage is available and status of environment and forestry clearance of the coal source i.e. the linked coal mine / coal block is known. In this regard, it has been brought to the notice of this Ministry that some of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committees (SEACs) are insisting on firm coal linkage even at the stage of TOR.

The matter has been considered in the Ministry. It is clarified that firm coal linkage is required to be ensured at the stage of consideration of grant of Environmental Clearance and not at the stage of TOR.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(S.K. Aggarwal)
Director

To
1. All the Officers of IA Division
2. Chairpersons / Member Secretaries of all the SEIAAs/SEACs
3. Member Secretaries of all SPCBs / UTPCCs

Copy to:-
1. PS to MEF
2. PPS to Secretary (E&F)
3. PPS to AS (JMM)
4. Advisor (NB)
5. Website, MoEF
6. Guard File