



File No.: J-11015/435/2006-IA.II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate
Change
IA Division



Dated 03/09/2026



To,

Sh. Prashant M. Lokhande
M/s. Western Coalfields Limited
Coal Estate Civil lines, Nagpur-440 001, Maharashtra
E-mail: gmenvironment.wcl@coalindia.in

Subject: Sasti Expansion OC (for reduction in the ML area from 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha, having production capacity of 2.50 MTPA), by M/s Western Coalfields Limited, located at villages: Sasti, Mathra, Gauri & Dhuptala; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra – Amendment in Environment Clearance - Regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is with reference to your online application vide proposal no. IA/MH/CMIN/583592/2026 dated 10.07.2026 seeking for Amendment in Environmental Clearance accorded by the Ministry vide letter dated 13.09.2023 and amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025 under the provision of EIA notification 2006 and as amended therein for the project mentioned above

2. The particulars of the proposal are as below :

(i) EC Identification No.	EC26A0101MH5351028A
(ii) File No.	J-11015/435/2006-IA.II(M)
(iii) Clearance Type	Amendment in EC
(iv) Category	A
(v) Schedule No./ Project Activity	1(a) Mining of minerals
(vi) Sector	Coal Mining
(vii) Name of Project	Sasti Expansion OC (for reduction in the ML area from 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha, having production capacity of 2.50 MTPA)
(viii) Location of Project (District, State)	Chandrapur, Maharashtra
(ix) Issuing Authority	MoEF&CC
(x) EC Date	13/09/2023
(xi) Applicability of General Conditions	NO

(xii) Status of implementation of the project

3. The instant proposal pertains to amendment of the Environmental Clearance granted to M/s Western Coalfields Limited for Sasti Expansion OC (having ML area 1120.48 ha and the production capacity of 2.50 MTPA), located at villages: Sasti, Mathra, Gauri & Dhuptala; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra. The project was accorded Environmental Clearance vide letter no. J-11015/435/2006-IA.II(M) dated. 13.09.2023 and amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025. Application for the said amendment was submitted by the PP on the Parivesh portal on 10.07.2026.

Details submitted by the PP

4. Details of all the prior ECs including the EC for which amendment is sought:

S. No.	Details of Letter no.	EC/ Expansion EC/ Amendment in EC/ validity extension/ Transfer of EC	Capacity (MTPA)	Area (ha)	Date of issuance	Status of implementation
1	No. J-11015/24/88- IA	EC	1.0	674.09	03.04.1989	Implemented
2	No. J- 11015/97/2003- IA.II(M)	EC	1.6	714.09	19.05.2005	Implemented
3	No. J- 11015/435/2006- IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	2.5	919.69	17.05.2007	Implemented
4	No. J- 11015/435/2006- IA.II(M)	Expansion EC	2.5	1120.48	13.09.2023	Being Implemented
5	No. J- 11015/435/2006- IA.II(M)	EC amendment	2.5	1120.48	27.10.2025	Being Implemented

W.r.t the previous approvals, PP submitted that the actual production details of the Sasti Expansion OC mine, from the commencement of operations in 1985 onwards are detailed below. CTO renewal has been obtained from Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide letter dated 11.09.2025, valid up to 31.03.2027.

The excess production has been addressed in EAC meeting held for EC dated.19.05.2005. The same has also been appraised and deliberated in the EC dated 13.09.2023.

Year	EC Sanctioned capacity (MTPA)	Actual Production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
1985-86	-	-	-
1986-87	-	0.05	-
1987-88	-	0.40	-
1988-89	-	0.75	-
1989-90	1.00	1.25	0.25
1990-91	1.00	1.47	0.47
1991-92	1.00	1.91	0.91
1992-93	1.00	1.80	0.80
1993-94	1.00	1.76	0.76
1994-95	1.00	1.86	0.86
1995-96	1.00	2.02	1.02
1996-97	1.00	1.91	0.91
1997-98	1.00	1.80	0.80
1998-99	1.00	1.20	0.20

Year	EC Sanctioned capacity (MTPA)	Actual Production (MTPA)	Excess production beyond the EC sanctioned capacity
1999-00	1.00	1.42	0.42
2000-01	1.00	1.41	0.41
2001-02	1.00	1.29	0.29
2002-03	1.00	1.41	0.41
2003-04	1.00	1.42	0.42
2004-05	1.00	1.41	0.41
2005-06	1.60	1.51	Nil
2006-07	1.60	1.46	Nil
2007-08	2.50	1.46	Nil
2008-09	2.50	1.67	Nil
2009-10	2.50	1.70	Nil
2010-11	2.50	1.59	Nil
2011-12	2.50	1.64	Nil
2012-13	2.50	1.55	Nil
2013-14	2.50	1.58	Nil
2014-15	2.50	1.74	Nil
2015-16	2.50	1.73	Nil
2016-17	2.50	1.61	Nil
2017-18	2.50	1.56	Nil
2018-19	2.50	1.62	Nil
2019-20	2.50	1.68	Nil
2020-21	2.50	1.79	Nil
2021-22	2.50	1.36	Nil
2022-23	2.50	2.45	Nil
2023-24	2.50	1.88	Nil
2024-25	2.50	2.06	Nil
2025-26	2.50	1.95	Nil

5. The details of the condition/ para for which amendment is sought and justification for the same is as follows:

Para/ Specific/ General Condition no.	Details as per EC dated 13.09.2023	Amendment sought
Subject of EC letter vide dated.13.09.2023 & 27.10.2025	“Sasti expansion OC (having capacity 2.5 MTPA within ML area of 1120.48 ha) by M/s Western coalfields limited , located at villages: Sasti & Mathra; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra”	“Sasti expansion OC (having capacity 2.5 MTPA within ML area of 1093.79 ha) by M/s Western coalfields limited , located at villages: Sasti, Mathra, Gauri and Dhuptala; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra”
Details of the project	Pre mining land use details-	
	Land particulars	Total land (ha)
	Tenancy Land	1085.98
	Forest Land	0.0
	Govt. Land	34.50
	Total	1120.48
	Amendment sought	
	Pre mining land use details-	
	Land particulars	Total land (ha)
	Tenancy Land	1045.20
	Forest Land	0.0
	Govt. Land	48.59

Para/ Specific/ General Condition no.	Details as per EC dated 13.09.2023		Amendment sought			
	Total		1093.79			
Details of the project	Post mining land use details –					
	Description	Land use (Post closure) in ha				
		Plantation	Water body	Public/ Company use	Undisturbed	Total
	External OB dump	149.54	-	-	-	149.54
	Top soil dump	52.98	-	-	-	52.98
	Excavation	275.89	268.90	-	-	544.79
	Roads	5.0	-	15.00	-	20.0
	Built-up area (Infrastructure)	20.00	-	39.52	-	59.52
	Undisturbed area	172.00	-	-	67.25	239.25
	Embankment around quarry	10.00	-	27.80	-	37.80
	Outside ML area	1.00	-	15.60	-	16.60
	Total	686.41	268.90	97.92	67.25	1120.48
	Amendment sought Post mining land use details –					
	Description	Revised Land use (Post closure) in ha				
		Plantation	Water body	Public/ Company use	Undisturbed	Total
	External OB dump	149.54	-	-	-	149.54
	Top soil dump	52.98	-	-	-	52.98
	Excavation	275.89	268.90	-	-	544.79
	Roads	5.00	-	15.00	-	20.00
	Nallah	-	25.0	-	-	25.00
Built-up area (Infrastructure)	20.00	-	39.52	-	59.52	
Area needed for rationalisation including safety and blasting zone	204.16	-	-	-	204.16	
Embankment around quarry	-	-	37.80	-	37.8	
Total	707.57	293.9	92.32	0.0	1093.79	
Para 3(10)	Total mining lease area as per block allotment is 1120.48 ha. The present proposal is for EC with production capacity of 2.5 MTPA with increase in land area 919.69 ha to 1120.48 ha. The mining plan along with mine closure plan for sasti OC was approved by competent authority (i.e WCL board)		Total mining lease area as per block allotment is 1093.79 ha. The present proposal is for EC amendment with production capacity of 2.5 MTPA with reduction in land area 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha. An addendum to the approved mining plan by WCL board vide resolution			

Para/ Specific/ General Condition no.	Details as per EC dated 13.09.2023	Amendment sought
	for production capacity of 2.5 MTPA with increase in mine lease area from 919.69 ha to 1120.48 ha area in its 345 th meeting held on 19.09.2022 and communicated vide resolution no. WCL/Office of CS/BM-345/2022-23/499, dt.27.09.2022.	dt.27.09.2022 was approved by WCL board vide resolution 09.07.2026.
Para 3(11)	Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 117.31 MT with 25.39 MT mineable reserve. Out of the total mineable reserve of 25.39 MT, 24.12 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 95%.	Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 117.31 MT with 25.39 MT mineable reserve. Out of the total mineable reserve of 25.39 MT, 16.00 MT are available for extraction as on 01.04.2026. Percent of extraction is 100%.
Para 3(14)	Life of mine is 11 years	The life of the mine is 12 years (i.e 7 years of production life + 3 Years Mine Closure +2 Years Post Closure Monitoring) as on 01.04.2026 i.e up to 2032-2033.

6. Justification for seeking amendment:

- The Project Proponent submitted that the Mine Lease area of the Sasti Expansion Opencast Project was originally considered as 1120.48 ha in the Environmental Clearance dated 13.09.2023.
- During the land acquisition process, based on the actual 7/12 revenue records and after excluding the land situated outside the ML area earmarked for the railway track, the total land area has been revised from 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha (reduction of 10.09 ha in the area based on the actual land acquisition requirement and exclusion of 16.60 ha of land earmarked for the railway track located outside the Mining Lease boundary). The land measuring 1093.79 ha, pertaining to the existing Sasti expansion OC, was acquired under the CBA Act, 1957, LA, MLRC & direct purchase.
- Other changes, such as changes in the reserves and mine life etc are envisaged as per the revised mining plan and mine closure plan.
- The proposed amendment does not involve any change in the approved production capacity of 2.50 MTPA, mining technology, mining method or any other operational parameters of the project. The amendment is limited to revision of the Mining Lease area and the consequential changes required in the Environmental Clearance.

7. Details of Court Cases: PP reported that there is no legal issue/ violation w.r.t i) Environment (Protection) Act, ii) Air (P&CP) Act, Water (P&CP), Act, Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, Wildlife Protection Act, MMDR Act, Factories Act. Further, there is no court case on the project.

Deliberations and Observation of the Committee:

8. The Committee noted the following:

i. The instant proposal pertains to amendment of the Environmental Clearance granted to M/s Western Coalfields Limited for Sasti Expansion OC, having a mine lease area of 1120.48 ha and production capacity of 2.50 MTPA, located in villages Sasti, Mathra, Gauri and Dhuptala, District Chandrapur, Maharashtra. The project was accorded Environmental Clearance vide letter No. J-11015/435/2006-IA.II(M) dated 13.09.2023, which was subsequently amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025.

ii. The Committee noted that the project has been accorded successive Environmental Clearances, including the initial EC dated 03.04.1989 for 1.00 MTPA, subsequent EC dated 19.05.2005 for 1.60 MTPA, Expansion EC dated 17.05.2007 for 2.50 MTPA over 919.69 ha, and Expansion EC dated 13.09.2023 for 2.50 MTPA over 1120.48 ha, which was subsequently amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025.

iii. The Committee noted that the Project Proponent has submitted the production details from 1986-87 onwards. The Committee further noted that excess production during the period prior to the subsequent EC approvals had been addressed and appraised by the EAC during consideration of the EC dated 19.05.2005, and the matter was subsequently deliberated upon while considering the EC dated 13.09.2023. For the period from 2005-06 onwards, the reported production remained within the respective EC-sanctioned capacity, with no excess production reported.

iv. The Committee deliberated on the proposed amendments and noted that the mine lease area is proposed to be reduced from 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha, with no change in the production capacity of 2.50 MTPA. The Committee further noted that the revised land use incorporates 25.00 ha of nallah as water body and 204.16 ha for rationalisation, including safety and blasting zone, while the revised post-closure plan provides for plantation over 707.57 ha and water bodies over 293.90 ha. The Committee also noted that, consequent to the revised Mining Plan, the extractable reserve has been revised to 16.00 MT as on 01.04.2026 and the mine life has been revised to 12 years, comprising 7 years of production, 3 years of mine closure and 2 years of post-closure monitoring.

v. The Committee noted the justification furnished by the Project Proponent that the proposed reduction in mine lease area is based on the actual land acquisition records 7/12 revenue records and exclusion of 16.60 ha of land earmarked for the railway track located outside the mine lease boundary. The Committee further noted that the proposed amendment does not involve any change in the approved production capacity of 2.50 MTPA, mining technology, mining method or other operational parameters, and that the consequential changes in reserves and mine life are as per the revised Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan.

vi. The EAC deliberated on the plantation activities being undertaken under the project and observed that the Project Proponent shall undertake grass seeding over the OB dumps to ensure proper stabilization and vegetation cover of the dump slopes.

Recommendations of the Committee:

9. In view of the foregoing and after the detailed deliberations, the Committee recommended the instant proposal for grant of amendment in the EC granted vide letter no. J-11015/435/2006-IA.II(M) dated. 13.09.2023 and subsequently amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025, as detailed below, subject to stipulation of additional specific conditions (**Annexure-I**):

Para/ Conditions as per EC dated 13.09.2023 and its amendment dated 27.10.2025	Description as per approved EC dated 13.09.2023 and 27.10.2025	Recommendation of EAC
Subject of EC letter vide dated.13.09.2023 & 27.10.2025	“Sasti expansion OC (having capacity 2.5 MTPA within ML area of 1120.48 ha) by M/s Western coalfields limited, located at villages: Sasti & Mathra; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra”	Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: <i>“Sasti expansion OC (having capacity 2.5 MTPA within ML area of 1093.79 ha) by M/s Western coalfields limited, located at villages: Sasti, Mathra, Gauri and Dhuptala; Tehsil: Rajura; District: Chandrapur; State: Maharashtra”</i>
Details of the project	Pre mining land use details-	
	Land particulars	Total land (ha)
	Tenancy Land	1085.98
	Forest Land	0.0
	Govt. Land	34.50
	Total	1120.48
	Recommendation of EAC Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: Pre mining land use details-	
	Land particulars	Total land (ha)
	Tenancy Land	1045.20
	Forest Land	0.0
	Govt. Land	48.59
	Total	1093.79
Details of the project	Post mining land use details –	

	Description	Land use (Post closure) in ha				
		Plantation	Water body	Public/ Company use	Undisturbed	Total
	External OB dump	149.54	-	-	-	149.54
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	Outside ML area	1.00	-	15.60	-	16.60
	Total	686.41	268.90	97.92	67.25	1120.48
Recommendation of EAC Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: Post mining land use details –						
	Description	Revised Land use (Post closure) in ha				
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	Total	707.57	293.9	92.32	0.0	1093.79
Para 3(10)	Total mining lease area as per block allotment is 1120.48 ha. The present proposal is for EC with production capacity of 2.5 MTPA with increase in land area 919.69 ha to 1120.48 ha. The mining plan along with mine closure plan for sasti OC was approved by competent authority (i.e WCL board) for production capacity of 2.5 MTPA with increase in mine lease area from 919.69 ha to 1120.48 ha area in its 345 th meeting held on 19.09.2022 and communicated vide resolution no. WCL/Office of CS/BM-345/2022-23/499, dt.27.09.2022.	Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: <i>“Total mine lease area as per block allotment is 1093.79 ha. The present proposal is for amendment in Environmental Clearance with a production capacity of 2.50 MTPA and reduction in mine lease area from 1120.48 ha to 1093.79 ha. An Addendum to the approved Mining Plan and Mine Closure Plan was approved by the WCL Board vide resolution dated 09.07.2026.”</i>				
Para 3(11)	Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 117.31 MT with 25.39 MT mineable reserve. Out of the total mineable reserve of 25.39 MT, 24.12 MT are available for extraction. Percent of extraction is 95%.	Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: <i>“Total geological reserve reported in the mine lease area is 117.31 MT with 25.39 MT mineable reserve. Out of the total mineable reserve of 25.39 MT, 16.00 MT are available for extraction as on 01.04.2026. Percent of extraction is 100%.”</i>				
Para 3(14)	Life of mine is 11 years	Agreed. With regard to the changes in the said para, EAC agreed to amend the same as follows: <i>“The life of the mine is 12 years (i.e 7 years of production</i>				

		life + 3 Years Mine Closure +2 Years Post Closure Monitoring) as on 01.04.2026 i.e up to 2032-2033.”
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Decision of MoEF&CC:

10. The undersigned is directed to inform that Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has examined the proposal in accordance with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 & further amendments thereto and after accepting the recommendations of the Expert Appraisal Committee (Coal) hereby decided for grant of amendment in the EC letter dated 13.09.2023 and amended vide letter dated 27.10.2025 as mentioned in table of above **Para 9**, under the provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006.

11. All Other terms and conditions prescribed in EC dated 13.09.2023 and its subsequent amendment dated 27.10.2025 shall remain unchanged.

12. The project proponent shall obtain fresh Environment Clearance in case of change in scope of the project, if any.

13. This issue with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,
(Sundar Ramanathan)
Scientist 'F'
Tel: 011- 20819378
Email- r.sundar@nic.in

Copy To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shashtri Bhawan New Delhi., New Delhi, Delhi, secy.moc@nic.in
2. The Member Secretary, CGWA, 18/11 Jamnagar House Man Singh Road, Central, Delhi, cgwa@nic.in
3. The Member Secretary, CPCB, Parivesh Bhawan Cbd-Cum-Office Complex East Arjun Nagar, East, Delhi, mscb.cpcb@nic.in
4. The Monitoring Cell MoEFCC, Compliance & Monitoring Division, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jor Bagh Road New Delhi, South, Delhi, moefcc-monitoring@gov.in
5. The District Collector, DC Office, Chandrapur, Chandrapur, Maharashtra, dcchandrapurDC@gmailcom-notprovided
6. The Deputy Director General, Regional Office, Deputy Director General Of Forests (C) Ministry Of Environment Forest And Climate Change Integrated Regional Office Ground Floor East Wing New Secretariat Building Civil Lines Nagpur-440001., N/A, N/A, apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in
7. The Member Secretary, SPCB/PCC, Kalptaru Point 2nd - 4th Floor Opp. Cine Planet Sion Circle Sion (E), Mumbai, Maharashtra, mpcbparivesh@mpcb.gov.in

Annexure 1

Specific EC Conditions for (Mining Of Minerals)

1. Additional Specific Conditions

S. No	EC Conditions
1.1	The Project Proponent shall undertake grass seeding over the OB dumps during the current year itself to ensure proper stabilization and dust mitigation, and shall report the compliance thereof to the Regional Office of the Ministry along with the six-monthly compliance report.