

Proposal for setting up a 4x60 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Cement Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery at Churk Village, Roberstganj Tehsil, District Sonebhadra, near Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, UP

Site visit report

Wildlife Institute of India

August 2011

1. Background

In response to the decision taken in the 22nd meeting of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL) held on 25th April 2011, the Ministry of Environment and Forests requested Wildlife Institute of India to conduct site visit to *proposed 4x60 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Cement Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery at Churk Village, Roberstganj Tehsil, District Sonebhadra, UP and the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, UP* located in close proximity. Accordingly, the Institute nominated a team of experts to conduct the aforesaid site visit. The team was also accompanied by representatives from the Regional Office of MoE&F at Lucknow. Site visit was conducted from 17th - 19th July, 2011.

The team undertook desktop review of EIA report of the proposed project provided by MoE&F and organised consultations with local forest officials and the project authorities. The list of persons associated with the site visit is appended as **Annexure I**.

2. Brief Profile of the Project

The proposed project site falls within the bounded area of the erstwhile Churk Cement Factory which was established as Govt. Cement Factory during the period 1952-54. Churk Cement Factory became a part of UP State Cement Corporation Ltd. (UPSCCL) w.e.f 01.04.1972. Churk Cement Factory continued to run till Dec. 1999 when UPSCCL (in liquidation) was wound-up on 08.12.1999 by an order of the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, after sustaining losses for years and being declared 'sick' under Sick Industries Companies Act by Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction on 07.10.1992. In response to the call for 'Expression of interest' in the matter of sale of cement plant and other assets of M/s UP State Cement Corporation Limited (in liquidation) globally, Jaiprakash Associate Limited (JAL) was declared successful bidder who is the project proponent for the said project.

The integrated project involves construction of 4x60 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Cement Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery at Churk, Roberstganj Tehsil, District Sonebhadra, UP. As per the details provided in the EIA report the salient features of the project are:

4x60 MW Captive Thermal Power Plant

- 4 Nos. Coal based 60 MW Captive Power Generating Units designed to use high ash content coal.
- Power generated will be used by the various units of Jaiprakash Associates Ltd. (JAL)
- The Captive Power Plant is designed to have the stack emission of 50 mg per NM3 (max). The Power Plant is also uses Air Cooled Condensers to conserve water, thereby reducing the water requirement to only about 10% of that required in conventional Water Cooled Condensers.

- Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion (CFBC) technology will be used in the boilers for generating captive power.
- Total Flyash generation from Power Plant will be about - 0.65 MTPA
- 1 million ton of flyash that will generated would be used in Cement Grinding Unit - 0.30 MTPA and the balance to be consumed in Chunar Cement Factory - 0.35 MTPA
- Flyash from the Power Plant will be transported pneumatically in a closed pipeline to the Cement Grinding Plant. Transportation of Flyash to Chunar Plant will be carried out in closed bulkers.

1.0 MTPA Cement Grinding Unit

- The proposed cement grinding unit of 1.0 MPTA capacity will produce Portland Pozzolona cement by utilizing fly ash generated from the proposed captive thermal power plant at Churk village.
- The required Clinker for the proposed grinding plant is proposed to be brought from JAL's Dalla cement plant. The clinker will be transported by railway wagons/roadway to the plant site and unloaded with the help of wagon tippler/tucks. The clinker will be stored in R.C.C storage silos.
- The entire fly ash generated from proposed captive thermal power plant will be utilized as raw material at the proposed cement grinding unit. And the same is transported by means of pneumatic conveying system from the ESP hopper to storage silos.
- Bag House (High efficient pollution control equipment installed in the system) would ensure collection of fine cement dust, which is coming out from the cyclones and discharges into the stream of final product and would thus ensure a dust free environment. Besides Bag House, jet pulse filters will be provided at all transfer points to improve working environment/minimize air pollution.
- Bag house stack will be provided with online stack monitoring equipment. High volume dust samplers will be installed inside the plant and nearby villages for continuous monitoring as per the guidelines of PCB.

1 Million Ton per annum coal washery

- Coal Washery will use coal supplied from coal Supply Company, which is expected to be in E/E Grade. The Washed Coal (low in ash content) will be used in cement manufacture at Dalla Cement Factory (DCF) and the high ash content coal will be used for power generation in the proposed Captive Power Plants. The coal washery shall not have any effluent or reject waster for disposal.
- The complex is designed as 'Zero Discharge Unit'

3. Ecological Profile of the Area

The proposed project at Churk is situated at the northern edge of rocky plateau of the Kaimur range of the Central Highlands biotic province that falls in Deccan Peninsula Biographic Zone -6A of India ((Rodgers et al. 2002). The areas north and east of the site are flat plains with

agriculture as the main land use. To the immediate south of the project site are the forests of Raunp Forest Block of Robertsganj range of Sonebhadra Forest Division (**Plate 1**).

Further to the south of the Raunp forests lies the eastern part of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary (WLS) of Uttar Pradesh. This wildlife sanctuary was notified in 1982 by Govt. of UP encompassing an area of 500.74 sq km (**Annexure II**). Much of the area of the sanctuary is under varying stages in the process of reservation of forests under Indian Forest Act (IFA), 1927 (from section 4 to section 20). This Sanctuary is known for many threatened animals like Blackbuck, Sloth Bear, Leopard, Chinkara and Four-horned Antelope. Striped Hyena, Golden Jackal, Nilgai, Indian Wild Boar, Chital, and Sambhar are other important large mammals of the Sanctuary.

4. Observations of the WII team

The following are the observations based on document review, site visit and consultations with Representatives of the Regional Office of the MoEF.

4.1 Observations on the EIA report

From the perusal of the EIA report, following factual errors were noted:

1. On page C3-36 section 3.8.3, the report states that there is no forest is present in 10km radius. This is however not factually correct as the boundary of the Raunp forest block is separated from the boundary of the project site just by a road.
2. On page C3-45, it is stated that “as per forest records and review of literature, there are no sanctuaries or NPs in 25 km radius from the plant site”. This is also factually incorrect as the nearest boundary of the Kaimur WLS is located approximately 1.5 km from the boundary of the project site.
3. Cl-3 at serial no 16 and 17 of the Table-1.1 that presents the Environmental setting of the site the distance from protected areas as per WL protection Act, 1972 also ignores the existence of Kaimur WLS and Reserved/Protected forest within 15/10 km whereas these areas are located within a distance of approximately 1.5 km (**Fig. 1**).
4. The faunal checklist generated through primary survey is incomplete as many of the important species namely black buck, leopard, chinkara and sloth bear which are all listed under schedule I of WPA are found missing.
5. Checklist of birds includes White-headed Babbler, White-browed Bulbul, Loten’s Sunbird and Lorikeets which are not reported from this region.

6. Review of the meteorological information presented for the project site indicates that the wind rose diagram for the project site has been presented only for one season i.e. Oct-Dec 2009. Wind roses for Varanasi provided by IMD data are available for all three seasons.

4.2 Observations based on the site visit

4.2.1 Proposed project site

As the proposed plant is housed within the property of JAL, no additional land is required for setting up of the plant. As per the information provided by project authorities the Sale Certificate for the land admeasuring 128 ha. was registered in favour of JAL on 21.07.2009. Out of this, 60 ha. will be used for setting up of the Plant and remaining land will be used for development of green belt, township and other infrastructure facilities. As per the details provided in the site plan (**Fig.2**), JAL proposes to undertake new construction work within their property and also utilize some of the infrastructure /facilities that were earlier developed by the UP State Cement Corporation Limited.

DFO Sonebhadra was also consulted on the status of the land of the proposed plant and he confirmed that the land of the proposed plant has not been notified under section 4 of Indian Forest Act 1927. A letter confirming the same is annexed (**Annexure III**). A letter from DFO, Kaimur Wildlife Division, Mirzapur further reconfirms that the site is not a part of Reserved Forest (**Annexure IV**).

4.2.2 Status of on-site Project related activities/construction

The site plan annexed provides the details of construction related tasks to be taken afresh and also of the existing infrastructure to be used (**Fig.2**). It is understood that the environmental clearance (EC) is yet to be accorded to the project as this site appraisal is a part of the process of decision making with respect to this project. Despite this, during the site visit to the premises of the project, it was observed that substantial constructional activities have progressed on site. The most obvious and conspicuous of these included the construction of two 125 m tall stacks (chimneys) silo, boilers and electrostatic precipitators. Similar observations were supported by DFO Kaimur Wildlife Division, Mirzapur in his letter (**Annexure IV**) and acknowledged by JAL authorities.

4.2.3 The forests adjacent to proposed project site

As mentioned earlier, the forest in immediate south of the project site are the forests of Raunp Forest Block of Robertsganj Range of Sonebhadra Forest Division (**Fig. 3**). These forests

are open scrub with signs of heavy dependence in the form of grazing and small wood collection by nearby villages. The forest is highly fragmented owing to presence of several linear developments namely roads, tracks, railway line and a lift canal.

4.2.4 Kaimur WLS

Contiguous with the Raunp Forest Block to its south lies the area of Kaimur WLS. The nearest forest block of the sanctuary is Markundi Block and the compartments 1 and 2 of this block are the closest to the proposed project (**Fig.4**). These compartment boundaries are approximately 1.5 to 2 km from the boundary of the project site. Based on the quick reconnaissance of all of the above areas, following observations were made: The Markundi Block Comptt 1 and 2 is in the form of a narrow strip which makes the north-eastern edge of the Kaimur WLS. Their topography involves rocky escarpment gently sloping down into the Ghaggar valley. These compartments have dry deciduous forests on the slopes and their contiguity is being broken up by a large village enclave which according to the DFO, Kaimur Wildlife Division has been allocated as *pattas* to the villagers under the Forest Rights Act, 2006). The integrity of the area is further broken by a railway line on which certain express trains also run. A ropeway used to cut through these forests until recent past to carry limestone from Gurma mines to Churk when UP cement corporation's plant was functional at Churk.

Further to the west, the busy the highway linking Varanasi with Obra, Renukoot, Singrauli and further to Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh and Bihar cuts through the escarpment representing compartments 2 and 3 of Markundi block. The highway splits into two parts to negotiate this escarpment-one for movement of heavy traffic and the other for light traffic. The high traffic volume and vehicular emissions has greatly deteriorated the ambient air quality and has significantly degraded the wildlife values of this habitat.

Observations on the other forest blocks adjacent to Markundi block largely representing areas under Gurma block reveal that this part of the sanctuary has large enclaves with non-forest activities. The forests of Ghurma block in the WLS just south of Markundi compartments 1 and 2 present a further complex land tenure since parts of the forest areas were leased out for limestone mining in the past which was executed here till the 1990s by UP Cement corporation and the mined out material was transported to Churk through the ropeway. The old overburden of past mining also covers part of this area. The status and tenure of the area still remains contentious.

According to the report submitted by the Regional Office of MoE&F under subheading 'Brief facts about the projects and WLS' para 7 & 8, the Forest Settlement Officer in settlement case No. 398/400 order dated 25.01.2008 excluded 253.176 ha forest land from the Kaimur WLS against the Hon'ble Apex Court order in IA No.2 of 337/1995 dated 13.11.2000. The officers of Revenue, Mining Department and J.P. Associates Limited demarcated this excluded

area of 253.176 ha and erected stone pillars. Some of these pillars were also noticed on the ground during the site inspection of joint team of WII and Regional Office (Central). The demarcation of the area was confirmed by Divisional Forest Officer, Kaimur WLS vide letter No. 5103/23-1-2 dated 27.05.2010 (**Annexure - V**).

Adjacent to this forest, within the bounds of the sanctuary are also located large conspicuous buildings such as a jail, infrastructure for the ropeway and settlements that add to challenges of managing the area as a wildlife habitat.

It is also noteworthy that the settlement of rights within Kaimur WLS under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 is still pending.

5. Perceived impacts of the proposed project on Kaimur WLS

The perceived impacts of the proposed project were evaluated on the following criteria:

5.1 *Impacts of the project on the terrestrial ecosystem including Forests and Wildlife Sanctuary*

Parts of the Kaimur WLS and the Raunp Forests of Sonebhadra Forest Division are the two terrestrial natural ecosystems that fall within 2 km radius of the project site.

The Raunp Forests of Sonebhadra Forest Division are separated from the proposed project site by a road and form the most accessible source of small wood and fodder for the villages living on its edge in the small township of Churk.

The Kaimur WLS is buffered by the Raunp Forests of Sonebhadra Forest Division on its north and thus the project is not likely to induce any direct spatial impact on the Kaimur WLS on account of additional infrastructure requirements (road, conveyer belts, and transmission lines).

Based on the information indicated in section 2.5.2.1 of the EIA report, a rail line is proposed to be drawn for transporting coal to the plant site. As the route of the proposed rail line has not been provided in the report, it needs to be ascertained if this new line is likely to affect the contiguity of the forest areas or WLS or pose physical and noise disturbance.

5.2 *Impacts of the project on aquatic ecosystems*

Considering that the Project proposed at Churk is in line with the existing project in terms of technology and the processes to be adopted, the WII team also visited the working unit of JAL at Chunar on 19th July 2011 with an objective to appreciate the impacts of various processes involved in the generation of thermal power and cement production.

As the plant at Churk has also been designed for zero discharge, no effluents are anticipated to be discharged into water courses outside the plant. The fly ash from the bottom of the ESP will be collected in dry form and pneumatically conveyed to fly ash silos. This would eliminate the need of construction of fly ash ponds and the possibility of contamination of water bodies due to wet storage of fly ash. Also, most of the water requirements for running the project will be met from the treated waste water from different processes envisaged in the project design.

One specific concern relates to requirement of water for the project from Ghagghar river. As per section 2.5.3 of the EIA report the total requirements of the water for the integrated project at Churk would require about 5513 m³/day of fresh water which would be met from the upstreams of Ghagghar Barrage and downstream of Dhanrol dam about 4.5 km from site. Since Ghagghar flows into the Kaimur WLS after the barrage, any diversion of water from it may lead to changes in water flow and water table that may have a bearing on the ecology of the area. Considering that the area supports essentially dry forests, small oscillations in the water regimes could critically affect the wildlife values.

5.3 Impacts of the project on physical environment (ambient air quality and noise)

Although the ambient air quality predictions (incremental values) of SO₂ are somewhat underestimated, the resultant values (AAQ + incremental) are within limits prescribed by CPCB provided no other sources of pollution (other industries) are located around the plant. Wind roses submitted by the project proponent represent the wind pattern of the area. As per the wind rose provided in the report, the predominant wind direction is west and, west-southwest. The Sanctuary is situated in the south, west, south-east and south-west direction of the proposed unit and is thus likely to be in the receiving direction of air pollutants.

Although loads of dispersed air pollutants from the project have been predicted to be within acceptable limits as confirmed by sources from IMD owing to the option of adopting Circulating Fluidised Bed Combustion (CFBC) technology as indicated in the EIA report, the issue requires to be further examined by an environmental expert in the light of concerns raised in the report submitted by the Officials of the Regional Office of MoEF under the sub heading- Observations para no. 3 and 4 (Report annexed as **Annexure - V**)

It is relevant here to also draw reference to recent guidelines issued by CPCB that has made it mandatory for all industrial establishments across the country to provide online access of the hourly averages (based on every 15 minute data) on Suspended Particulate Matter, SO_x and NO_x parameters for monitoring of stack emissions and Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (AAQ) at site and its immediate surroundings. The onus is therefore, both, on the project authorities to abide by these guidelines and on CPCB to alert the authorities in case of deviations.

6.0 End note

From the foregone description of the status of the adjoining forests and parts of the Kaimur WLS falling in close proximity of the project location, it becomes amply evident (**Plate 2 and 3**) that these areas have been receptors of the impacts of (i) past developments (e.g. ropeways, mining); (ii) presently operating civic infrastructure (e.g. highway, lift canal, transmission and railway lines passing through Kaimur WLS), existing establishments (such as jail) and incompatible land-use (e.g. mining overburdens, village settlements and agricultural landholdings under FRA, 2006).

Future impacts on the wildlife habitats are also likely to be compounded by subsequent expansion of civic infrastructure to cater to the needs of urbanization, rising population and increasing dependence on natural resources (timber, fuel and fodder) from the shrunken forests. Cumulative impacts of unplanned developments around Churk, Robertsganj may further threaten the biodiversity conservation prospects of the Kaimur WLS and the forest outside.

For fulfilling the objectives of conserving wildlife within the Kaimur WLS, it is extremely vital that anomalies with respect to status of the land falling within the bounds of the notified sanctuary be resolved and that boundaries of the Kaimur WLS are rationalised and clearly delineated. This should be taken up on priority to formulate the conservation goals and strategies of the Kaimur WLS based on ground realities so that this area can be more effectively managed for better conservation outcome on ground.

Given the present state of affairs, this assessment does not merit adopting a piecemeal approach of evaluating the impacts of an isolated development proposal on wildlife when several externalities are contributing to the already decimating factors for wildlife, and, when the status of land within the Kaimur WLS is itself fraught with uncertainties.

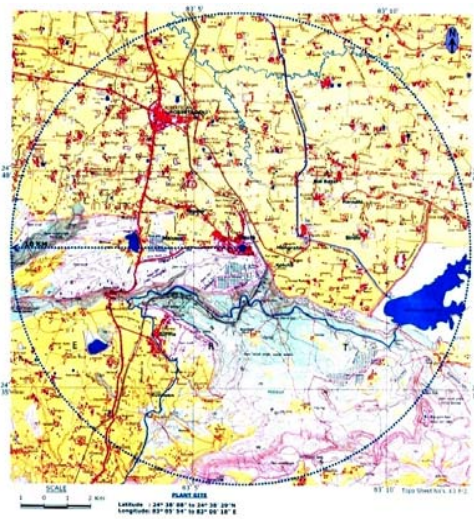


Fig. 1. Location map of the project site with respect to Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary.

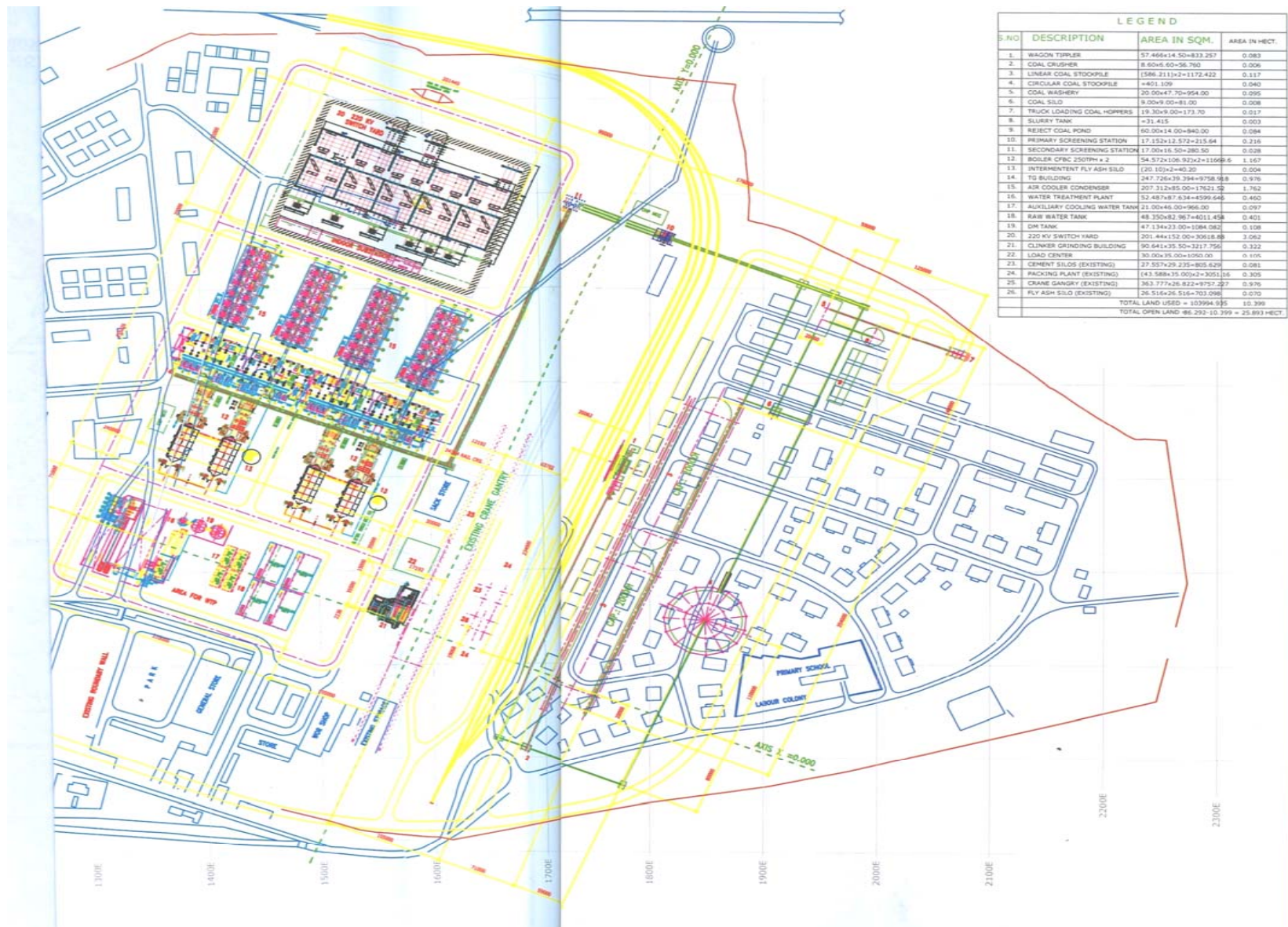
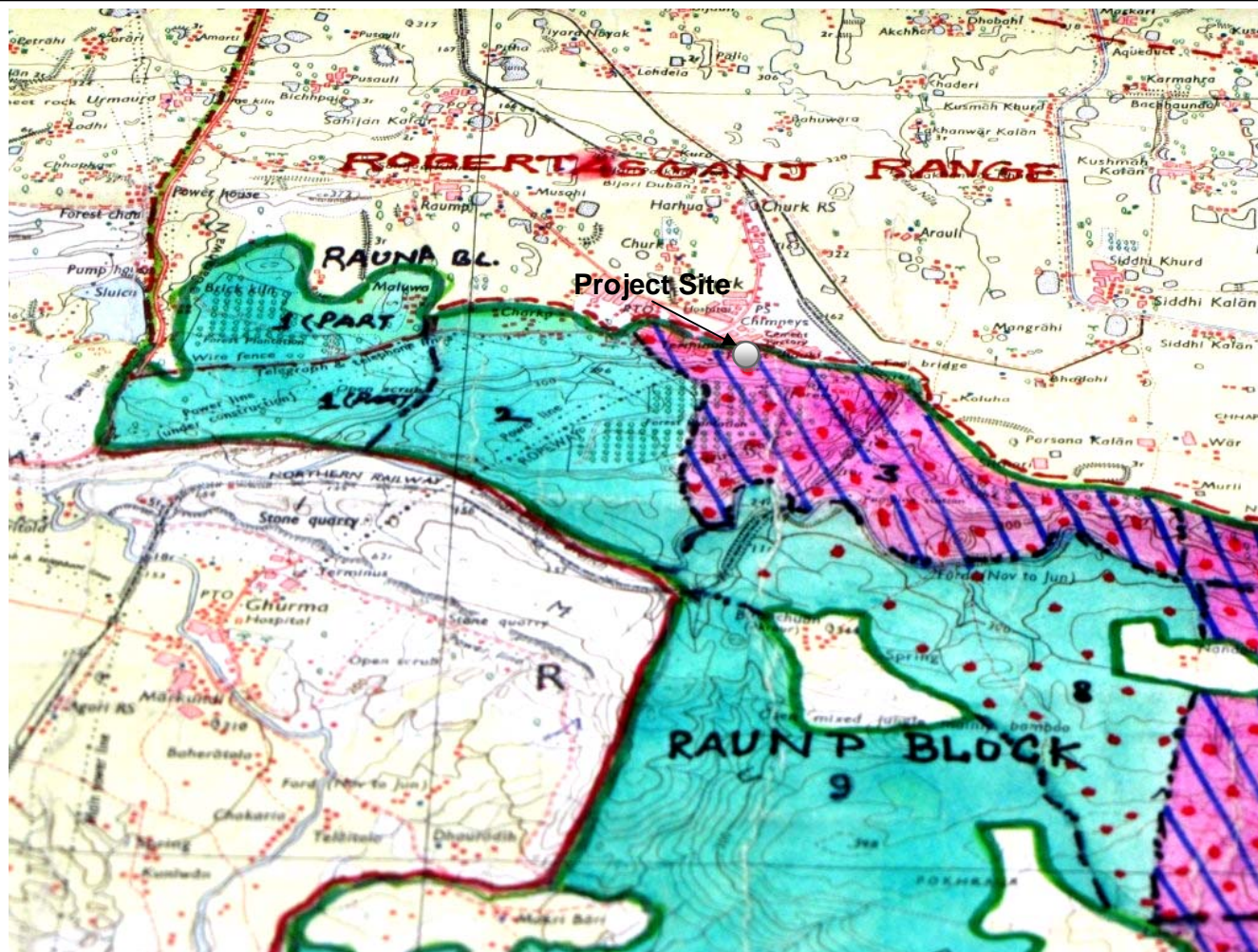
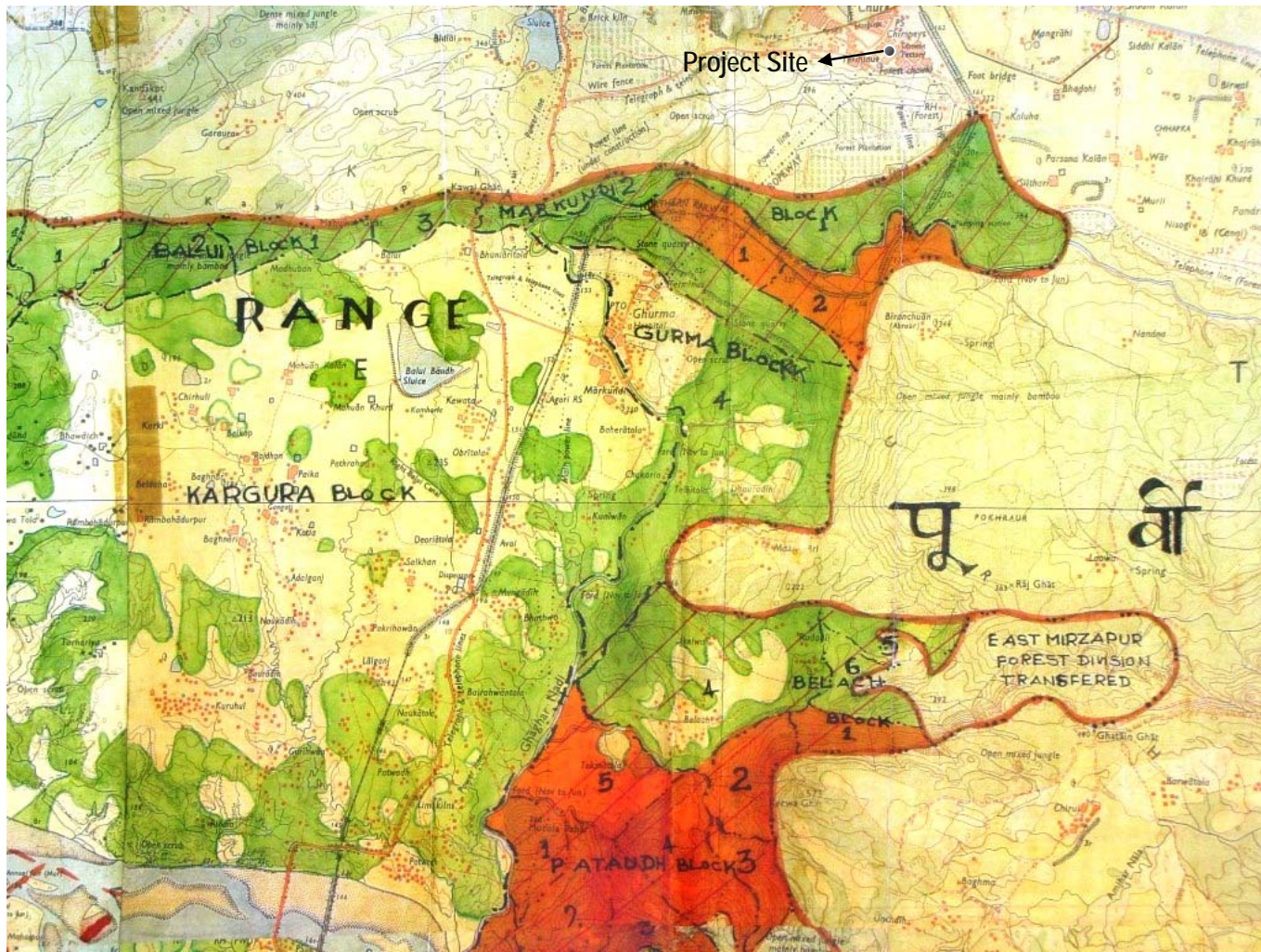


Fig. 2. Plant layout showing various existing facilities and proposed construction activities.



(Source: DFO, Sonebhadra Forest Division)

Fig. 3. Area of the forest of Sonebhadra Division in close proximity of the proposed project site



(Source: DFO, Kaimur Wildlife Division)

Fig. 4. Areas of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary in close proximity of the proposed project site



Plate 1. View of the proposed power project in the backdrop and the forests of Robertsganj Range of Sonbhadra Forest Division falling within the closest proximity.



Transmission line through KWLS



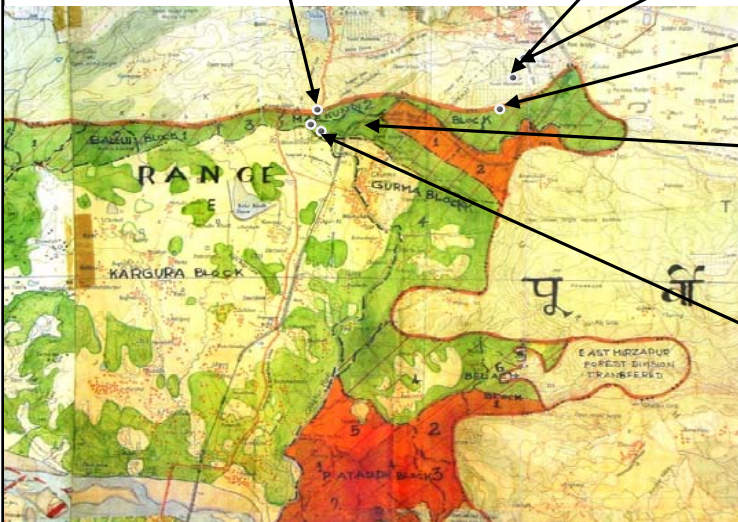
Lift canal through KWLS



Raunp forest



Village 'patta' under FRA 2006 within KWLS

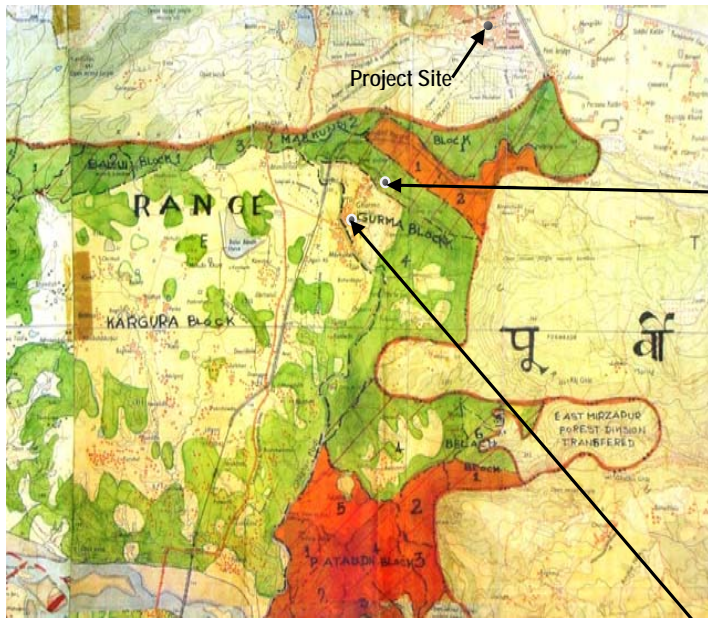


Forest next to highway

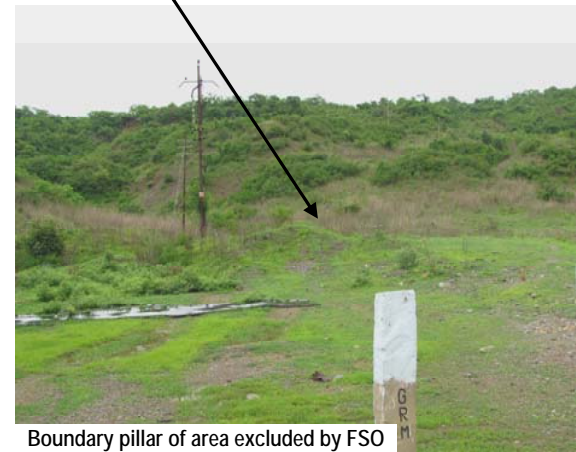


Highway within KWLS

Plate 2. Site features of the forests of Markundi Block of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary (KWLS) and the existing developments in the area.



Old mined site



Boundary pillar of area excluded by FSO



Jail

Plate 3. Site characteristics of Gurma Block of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary and the past and existing developments in the area.

List of officials associated with the site visit

1. Dr. Asha Rajvanshi, Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
2. Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
3. Sh. Y.K. Singh Chauhan, IFS, CF (Central), MoEF, RO, Lucknow
4. Dr. Amit Kumar Gupta, Dy. Director, MoEF, RO, Lucknow
5. Sh. Ashok Dixit, DFO, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Sonebhadra
6. Sh. Shiv Pal Singh, IFS, DFO, Sonebhadra FD, Sonebhadra
7. Sh. V.S. Bajaj, President (Corp. Affairs), Jaiprakash Associates Limited
8. Sh. Ajay Sharma, Executive President, Jaiprakash Associates Limited

उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार
वन विभाग

अनुभाग - 3

अधिसूचना

संख्या 908 / 14-3-44-78

10 अगस्त, 1982 ई०

चूंकि राज्य सरकार की राय है कि पर्याप्त पारिस्थितिक, प्राणि जात, पादप जाति, प्राकृतिक और प्राणितत्विय महत्व के ऐसे क्षेत्र की जिसका व्योरा नीचे अनुसूची में दिया गया है उक्त वन्य जीवों और पर्यावरण के संरक्षण, संवर्धन और विकास के प्रयोजनार्थ वन्यजीव विहार के रूप में घोषित करने की आवश्यकता है।

अतएव अब वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1972 (अधिनियम संख्या- 53, 1972) की धारा 111 के अधीन शक्ति का प्रयोग करके राज्यपाल उक्त क्षेत्र को वन्य जीव विहार के रूप में घोषित करते हैं। जिसका नाम "कैमूर वन्य जीव विहार" होगा।

अनुसूची

कैमूर वन्य जीव विहार में सम्मिलित किये जाने वाले क्षेत्र का व्योरा -

वन इलाक़ का नाम	रेंज का नाम	वन ब्लाक का नाम	क्षेत्रफल हेक्टेयर में	सीमा का विवरण
कैमूर	1-हलिया	1. सगरा	3,000.2	1-उत्तर-बेलन नदी, मोहरी ब्लाक, बंजारी ब्लाक, लेदुकी ब्लाक, परसौना ब्लाक, धोरावल ब्लाक तथा रावर्टसगंज तहसील के निम्नलिखित ग्राम सोमरा खुर्द, परसौना, बर, विदिया, देवगढ हिनौती, पड़वनिया, लिलवाही, धिंगोरी
		2. हलिया	4,150.0	
		3. हरा	3,541.7	
		4. परसिया	2,625.9	
		5. चौरा	1,333.5	
		6. मतवार	1,341.5	
		योग :	15,992.8	
	2-धोरावल	1. तेन्दुहार	3,113.6	वन्धी, जमखरी, रैंकरा, गडगा, खजुरौल, मुरारधारा, डोमहर, केवटा, तेन्दुई, दुगौलिया, वडागांव, ओगौली, जुडौली प्रधानी, जुडौली कोलानी, रैपुरा, रौंदुरी, रधुनाथपुर, बहुआर, बसौली, अमौली, बधुआरी, तिलौली, सोमरा, लोढी इत्यादि
		2. सोमरा	3,137.9	
		3. परसौना	2,471.3	
		4. शिवद्वार	2,149.8	
		5. डोमखरी	3,659.4	
		6. राजपुर	2,608.3	
		7. रावर्टसगंज	2,234.9	
योग :	19,375.2			
				2- पूर्व-रावर्टसगंज-पिपरी सड़क मार्ग, कैमूर की पहाड़ी और तरिया रेंज का ससनाई ब्लाक

2-अगोरी	3-गुरमा	1. शिल्पी	1,271.9	3-दक्षिण-सोनढी, गुरमा रोक का करगरा ब्लाक सोनढी कैमूर की पहाडी बेलन नदी और कैमूर की पहाडी । 4-पश्चिम-बजारी घन बरक और मिर्जापुर सदर तहसील निम्नलिखित ग्राम - चौक, पिडरिया, ब्योगना, बरवा, पटपरा, तीता, देवरी, फुलवरी, गजरिया, सिलहटा, धरब, कवलझर, खम्हरिया कला, अदवा जलाशय, बरहुला, गुनी, अहुगी जलाशय, अहुगी खुर्द, बड़ौही, मधोर, दिधिया, हरिया, वसुहरा, मवईखुर्द, देवधटा, खरिहट खुर्द आदि
		2. जमुना	2,521.6	
		3. बेलवा	880.6	
		4. अलउर	686.0	
		5. गुरदह	925.5	
		6. बलुई	291.0	
		7. मारकुन्डी	495.3	
		8. गुरमा	942.5	
		9. बेलच	1,063.0	
		10. पटवध	1,002.8	
		11. कनच	921.8	
		12. पकडी	1,406.7	
		13. मंगेश्वर	1,325.0	
		14. कन्हौरा	972.0	
			योग:	
	या वर्ग किमी०	500.74		
	या वर्ग किमी०	501.00		

आज्ञा से
जगदीश चन्द्र पन्त
सचिव

कार्यालय प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, सोनभद्र वन प्रभाग, रावर्टसगंज सोनभद्र ।

पत्र संख्या- 131 / सोनभद्र / 33 रावर्टसगंज दिनांक- 22/2/11

सेवा में,

अधिसासी अध्यक्ष
ने0 जयप्रकाश एसोसियेट
जेपी चूर्क इण्डस्ट्रियल कॉम्प्लेक्स,
सोनभद्र ।

विषय- 4x60 M W कोयला आधारित पावर प्लान्ट के स्थापना में प्रभावित भूमि के सत्यापन के सम्बन्ध में।

संदर्भ:- आपका पत्र दिनांक-18.02.2011.

महोदय

संदर्भित पत्र द्वारा वांछित सूचना के सम्बन्ध में अवगत कराना है कि ग्राम चूर्क परगना बड़हर तहसील रावर्टसगंज की जिल्द बन्दोवस्ती 1369 फ0 में दर्ज निम्नलिखित गाटे/खसरा प्लॉट भारतीय वन अधिनियम 1927 की धारा-4 के अधीन विज्ञापित नहीं है।

क्रम संख्या	गाटा संख्या
1	398
2	399
3	400
4	408
5	435
6	609 क

शुभदीय

(शिव पाल सिंह)

प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी,
सोनभद्र वन प्रभाग, सोनभद्र ।

22/2/11

कार्यालय प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, कैमूर वन्य जीव प्रभाग, मिर्जापुर ।

पत्र संख्या-
सेवा में,

3343

/33-1

दिनांक, मिर्जापुर, अप्रैल 20,

2011.

प्रमुख वन संरक्षक (वन्य जीव)

उत्तर प्रदेश, लखनऊ ।

विषय:- जय प्रकाश एसोसिएट द्वारा जनपद सोनभद्र में 4x60 मेगावाट कोल आधारित कैपिटिव पावर प्लांट व 1 एम.टी.पी.ए. सीमेंट ग्राइडिंग यूनिट तथा 1 एम.टी.पी.ए. कोल वाशरी यूनिट की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में ।

संदर्भ:- शासन का पत्र संख्या-858/14-4-2010-148/2010 दिनांक 19-4-2011.

नहादय.

आपके उपरोक्त संदर्भित पत्र के साथ संलग्न महानिरीक्षक वन (वन्य जीव) पर्यावरण वन मंत्रालय भारत सरकार का पत्र संख्या-6-16/2011 WL-1 दिनांक 18-4-2011 पर पृच्छा के उत्तर की तत्काल अपेक्षा की गयी थी । इस विषय में दिनांक 20-4-2011 को तहसील राबर्टसगंज, जनपद सोनभद्र के अन्तर्गत स्थित चुर्क में जे0पी0 एसोसिएट के कैपिटिव पावर प्लांट व अन्य इकाई का निरीक्षण किया गया, निरीक्षण में पाया गया कि स्थल पर निम्न संरचनाएं उनके सम्मुख स्थित, विवरण के अनुरूप स्थित में उपलब्ध हैं :-

क्र0स0	संरचना	स्थिति
1	ब्यायलर-2 अदद, (प्रत्येक में एक इलेक्ट्रोस्टैटिक प्रेसिपिटेट व एक चिमनी)	आंशिक निर्मित
2	सीमेंट ग्राइडिंग संयंत्र, कंक्रीट कालम की संरचना,	आंशिक निर्मित
3	कोलवाशरी इकाई	फाउंडेशन स्तर तक निर्मित / आंशिक निर्मित
4	कोल हैंडलिंग प्लांट, (क्रशर आदि)	जमीन के नीचे से स्टील कंक्रीट फाउंडेशन लेबल तक निर्मित, कन्वेयर बेल्ट लगी है।

उपरोक्त के अतिरिक्त पुरानी चुर्क सीमेंट फैक्टरी की अवधि के कई निर्माण जैसे गैन्डीभवन, पैकिंग प्लांट, सीमेंट साइलो, कार्यशाला, भण्डार व अन्य कई भवन वर्तमान में खड़े हैं।

- वर्तमान में विद्यमान संरचनाओं को देखने से यह स्पष्ट होता है कि जो भी निर्माण की स्थिति मौजूद है, वह सभी निर्माण 6-7 माह पूर्व या पुराने राज्य सीमेंट कारपोरेशन की अवधि के हैं। तथा आज निरीक्षण के समय भी कोई निर्माण कार्य चालू नहीं था।
- प्रश्नगत इकाई की भूमि आरक्षित वन नहीं थी तथा तत्कालीन सीमेंट कारपोरेशन को राजस्व विभाग द्वारा दी गयी थी व नीलामी में मे0 जे0पी0एसोसिएट को प्राप्त हुई ।
- प्रश्नगत क्षेत्र सोनभद्र वन प्रभाग के क्षेत्राधिकार में आता है।
- चूंकि उक्त स्थल पर भूमि का स्वामित्व मे0 जे0पी0एसोसिएट का है। अतः उस पर कोई निर्माण कार्य रोकने के अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी/ वन विभाग के पास नहीं हैं।

वन महानिरीक्षक के उपरोक्त संदर्भित पत्र के अन्तिम प्रस्तर में निर्देश दिये गये हैं कि यह सुनिश्चित किया जाय कि इस स्थल पर कोई निर्माण कार्य न होने पाये । इस स्तर पर इसका ध्यान रखा जायेगा । चूंकि प्रश्नगत क्षेत्र का क्षेत्रीय नियंत्रण प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी, सोनभद्र वन प्रभाग का है, अतः उचित होगा कि उन्हें भी इस विषय में निर्देश प्रदान किया जाय ।

भवदीय

(अशोक दीक्षित)

प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी

कैमूर वन्य जीव प्रभाग, मिर्जापुर।

संख्या-

समदिनांक।

प्रतिलिपि निम्न को शासन के उपरोक्त संदर्भित पत्र के क्रम में सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित:-

1- विशेष सचिव, वन अनुभाग-4, उ0प्र0 शासन बापू भवन, लखनऊ ।

2- प्रमुख वन संरक्षक, उत्तर प्रदेश लखनऊ ।

30/4/2011
(अशोक दीक्षित)
प्रभागीय वनाधिकारी
कैमूर वन्य जीव प्रभाग
मिर्जापुर

Important facts from the Regional office team on the proposed 4x60 MW Captive Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery at village Churk, Tehsil Robertsganj, District Sonbhadra, U.P. and its possible impact on Biodiversity of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary

Direction – In 22nd meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 25.04.2011 required a detailed study report from experts of Wildlife Institute of India. The Ministry of Environment & Forests (WL Division) vide letter dated 08.07.2011 requested to the Director, Wildlife Institute of India to conduct site visit of project site and Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary along with the representatives of Regional Office (Central).

Presence –

1. Dr. Asha Rajvanshi, Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
2. Dr. Dhananjai Mohan, Professor, Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun
3. Sh. Y.K. Singh Chauhan, IFS, CF (Central), MoEF, RO, Lucknow
4. Dr. Amit Kumar Gupta, Dy. Director, MoEF, RO, Lucknow
5. Sh. Ashok Dixit, DFO, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary, Sonbhadra
6. Sh. Shiv Pal Singh, IFS, DFO, Sonbhadra FD, Sonbhadra
7. Sh. V.S. Bajaj, President (Corp. Affairs), Jaiprakash Associates Limited
8. Sh. Ajay Sharma, Executive President, Jaiprakash Associates Limited

Date of site visit – 18th July, 2011

Brief facts about the project and WL Sanctuary –

1. After abolition of Zamindari in U.P. Govt. vide notification No. 617/14 dated 11.10.1952, the forests were transferred to State Forest Department for management.
2. Government Cement Factory at Churk came up in 1954, subsequently two kilns of 350 TPD established at Churk in 1962. Afterward, the UP State Cement Corporation Limited (UPSCCL) was created on 01.04.1972 and all assets owned by the Govt. factory were transferred to UPSCCL. The UPSCCL after 1997-98 became ill and the assets of Churk Cement factory was purchased by Jaiprakash Associates Limited in January, 2006.
3. The Jaiprakash Associates Limited decided to establish 4x60 MW Captive Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery in old Churk factory campus in the year 2009 and applied for Environmental Clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India.

4. The State Govt. of U.P. notified vide Notification No. 908/14-3-44-78 dated 10.08.1982 declared with an area of 50073.8 ha as Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary from the Reserved Forest of Obra and Sonebhadra Forest Division (Photocopy of the notification attached as **Annexure-A**).
5. Adjacent to proposed 4x60 MW Captive Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery unit is situated Raunp Reserved Forest of Sonbhadra Forest Division and it was notified vide Notification No. 3638/14-Kha(6)S-72 dated 22.07.1972 with an area 984.0 acre or 398.38 ha.
6. It is observed that the nearest Forest Block of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary is Markundi (Gurma) with an area of 1437.8 ha in South-East direction of proposed Churk unit. The forest of Markundi village was notified as Reserved Forest under Section-4 of Indian Forest Act vide Notification No. 51/14-Kh-4(91)/69 dated 01.05.1969 (Photocopy of the notification is attached as **Annexure-B**).
7. The Forest Settlement Officer in settlement case No. 398/400 order dated 25.01.2008 excluded 253.176 ha forest land from the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary against the Hon'ble Apex Court order in IA No.2 of 337/1995 dated 13.11.2000 (Photocopy of the order dated 25.01.2008 is attached as **Annexure-C**).
8. The officers of Revenue, Mining Department and J.P. Associates Limited demarcated this excluded area of 253.176 ha and erected stone pillars and taken possession by the J.P. Associates. About 300 pillars were found by the Regional Conservator of Forests (Central) during the site visit on 26.05.2010 and the same pillars were also noticed on the ground during the site inspection of joint team of WII and Regional Office (Central). The demarcation of the area was confirmed by Divisional Forest Officer, Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary vide letter No. 5103/23-1-2 dated 27.05.2010 (Photocopy of the letter dated 27.05.2010 is attached as **Annexure-D**).
9. The M/s Jaiprakash Associates Limited has proposed 2.5 MTPA J.P. Super Cement Plant at village Kota, district Sonbhadra, U.P. and submitted proposal which was discussed in the National Board of Wildlife meeting held on 24.01.2011 where it was decided that the site inspection would be conducted by Ms. Prema Bindra, Member, Standing Committee of NBWL and Shri A.K. Srivastava, Inspector General of Forests (WL). This committee has inspected the site on 16.04.2011 and on the basis of site inspection wrote a letter No. 6-98/2010 WL-I dated 18.04.2011 to the Principal Secretary (Forests), U.P. why this

proposed JP Super Cement Plant has been constructed on plot No.3200 of Kota Reserved Forest. Inspector General of Forests (WL) has also wrote a letter No.6-16/2011 WL-I dated 18.04.2011 to the Principal Secretary (Forests), U.P. and stated that the project proponent has already been taken up the construction work of 4x60 MW Captive Power Plant with 1.0 MTPA Grinding Unit and 1.0 MTPA Coal Washery at village Churk by Jaiprakash Associates Limited without obtaining statutory clearances (Photocopy of the letters are attached as **Annexure-E & F**).

Observations:

1. It has been observed that the proposed captive power plant is very close to the Sanctuary and Reserved Forest (RF) boundaries i.e., 1.5 km and 7.00 meter respectively, whereas in his EIA report it has been mentioned that the distance of the unit is 15 Km from the Sanctuary and 10 km from the Reserved Forest (page 3rd of the EIA report).
2. It has been observed that the construction of the proposed unit is going on rapid pace. Till the date of inspection project authorities have constructed or in process of construction of the number of equipments such as two stacks (about 40 meter height), four ESP, ETP, Coal washery unit, belt conveyors, milling plant, compressors, boiler etc. In general more than 50-60% construction work has been completed.
3. It is well known that the incomplete combustion of coal, carbon is released in other forms, including methane, nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide and non-methane hydrocarbons. These compounds are referred to as products of incomplete combustion (PICs) and have much higher global warming potential than carbon dioxide. According to the IPCC (2007), the 100-year global-warming potentials of methane and nitrous oxide are 25 and 298 times that of carbon, respectively. Because of the incomplete combustion of coal, between 10 and 20 percent of the carbon released is in the form of PICs. Emission of theses green house gases certainly increase the local temperature, however, affect the flora and fauna of the sanctuary.
4. It has been observed that the proposed unit will also emit number of gases along with the particulate matter from the two stacks. According to his EIA report the direction of wind is towards the west followed by west and south west directions. The Sanctuary is situated south east-west direction of the proposed unit. The movement of wind direction will also move the gasses parcel and particulate matter emitted from proposed unit, towards the

Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary and the Reserved Forest. This will certainly affect the flora and fauna of the Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary as well as Reserved Forest.

5. Proposed plant also have noisy equipments such as crushers, belt conveyors, fans, pumps, milling plant, compressors, boiler, turbine etc. The generation of noise from proposed unit will be also affected the local habitat subsequently flora and fauna of Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary.
6. The Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary is well known for its animal diversity as per census of various plant and animal in 2011. According to this census the total numbers of counted animals are 6862. Some of the important species viz. Chital (*Axis axis*), Blackbuck (*Antelope cervicapra*), Chinkara (*Gazella bennettii*), Barasingha (*Rucervus duvaucelii*), *Gallus gallus*, *Galloperdix spadicea*, *Pavo cristatus*, *Perdicula asiatica*, *coturnix coturnix*, fox, jungle cat, wild pig etc (Photocopy of census report attached as **Annexure-G**).
7. The Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary as well as other Reserved Forest out of sanctuary have rich vegetation and major type of forest are 5B/C-2 (Northern Dry Mixed Deciduous Forest) 5B/C1(C) and important species are *Shorea Robusta*, *Acacia Catechue*, *Anogesus latifolia*, *Lagerstromia parviflora* *Lannea coromandelica*, *Bauhinia lengal*, *Madhuca indica*, *Ambalica officinalies*, *Butea monosperma*, *Dyosperrus exculpate*, *Holorlia and dystriea*, *Terminlia Arjema*, *Azaderacta indica*, *Bombaxcieba*, *Dendro clamus strictus*, *Ficus Benglensis*, *Aegle marmelos*, *Holoptelea integrifelea*, *Adina cordifalia* *Terminlia chelula* *Tamarindus indica*, *Ficus religiosa*.
8. The photographs taken during inspection of proposed unit along with Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary and Reserved Forest are enclosed as **Annexure-H**.
9. The vediodiograph of the site inspection of proposed unit with Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary and Reserved Forest area are enclosed as **Annexure-I**.

(Dr. Amit Kumar Gupta)
Deputy Director

(Y.K. Singh Chauhan)
Conservator of Forests (Central)