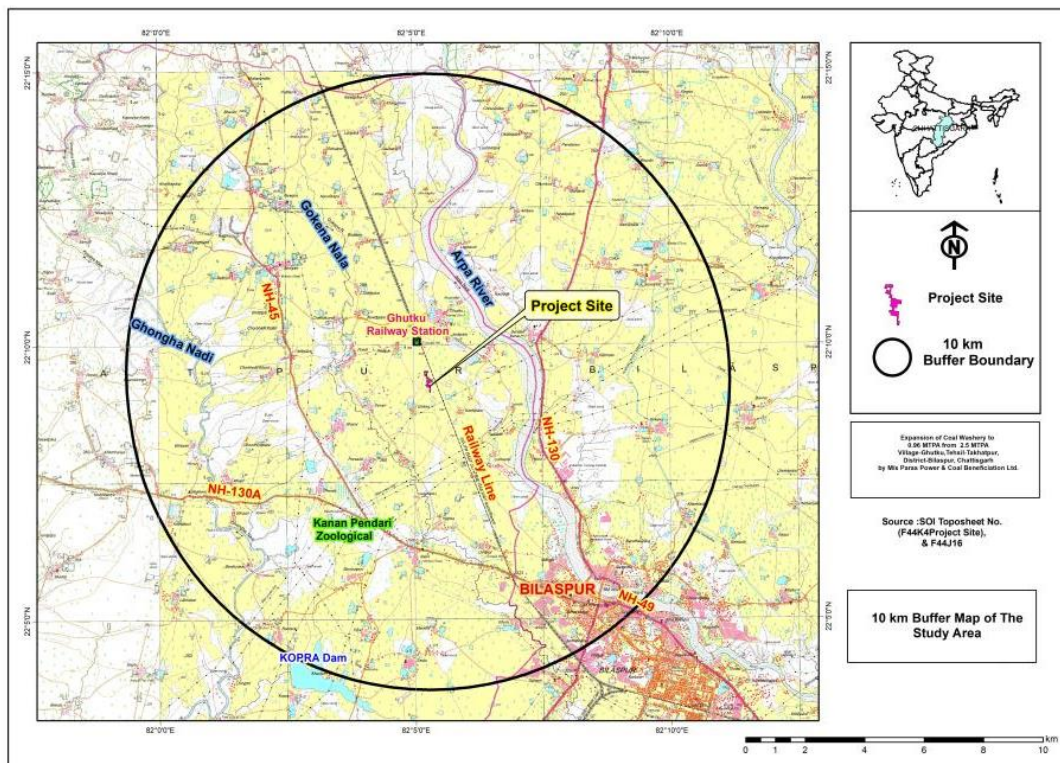


**SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT
FOR PUBLIC HEARING
EXPANSION OF WET TYPE COAL WASHERY PROJECT FROM 0.96
MTPA TO 2.5 MTPA**

**At
Village-Ghutku, Tehsil-Takhatpur, District-Bilaspur,
Chhattisgarh**



**By
M/s Paras Power & Coal Beneficiation Limited
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1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

M/s Paras Power & Coal Beneficiation Limited has proposed expansion in existing Coal Washery from 0.96 MTPA to 2.5 MTPA at Village-Ghutku, Tehsil-Takhatpur, District-Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. The project site is located at the distance of about 3.7 km towards East from NH-130, NH-45 is at 4.8 km towards SSW direction, NH-130A is at 4.2 km towards SSW direction and NH-49 is at 9.1 km towards SE direction. The nearest village is Ghanapur Ghutku, which is located about 0.65 km South-West direction. The nearest railway station is Ghutku which is located at about 0.85 km in North direction and nearest Air Port is Swami Vivekananda Airport Raipur, which is situated at about 113 km in SSW. The site and study area falls in the survey of India, Topo Sheet No-F44K4. Arpa river is flowing about 2.35 km in ENE direction, Ghongha Nadi is at 7.1 km towards west direction and Kopra Dam is at 9.5 km towards SSW direction from the project boundary. There are no Wildlife sanctuaries & National Park within 15 km radius. Application was submitted for TOR vide proposal no. IA/CG/CMIN/279598/2022 dated 24th June, 2022 and subsequently standard ToR has been granted by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) vide File No. No.J-11015/214/2014-IA-II(M) dated 10.07.2022 Draft EIA/EMP is being prepared and will be submitted to SPCB to conduct public hearing as per the norms.

The proposed project activity falls under the category of "Coal Washeries" and categorized as "Category-A" under project activity 2 (a) of EIA Notification 2006 & its amendment till date.

Total existing land is 5.82 ha. Expansion will be done within the existing premises. No additional land will be required and company has own private railway siding at project site.

Currently 75 people are working within the existing washery and 22 more will be required for the expansion project.

Water required for the Washery will be for washing, dust suppression and domestic purpose. Coal washery will be done using a closed water circuit where water after washing will be treated and recycled for coal washing. Only make up water will be added in the water circuit to compensate the water lost during washing. Total Water requirement after expansion is estimated to be 490 KLD.

The total existing power requirement load for the coal washing plant including crushing & screening is around 400 kVA and for expansion is 600 kVA and will be sourced from CSPDCL Grid. In case of power failure, the existing DG sets of 1250 kVA can meet the requirements of essential loads. No further DG set is required.

Coal washery comprises unloading of raw coal, storing, handling, crushing, screening and coal cleaning using water mixed with magnetite. No wastewater will be discharged outside from the coal washery. Middlings and fines will be given to power plants located in nearby areas. Rejects will be disposed in abandoned coal mines. Dust from crusher and screens will be controlled using Bag Filters.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF BASELINE ENVIRONMENT

Baseline data was generated during winter season from 1st March, 2022 to 31st May, 2022. 10 km area around the site was considered as study area. Data was generated by following the standard/approved procedures of the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change and the Central Pollution Control Board. Meteorological data on wind speed, wind direction, relative humidity and temperature was generated near the project site. Ambient air quality was generated at 8 locations. Noise levels were measured at 8 locations. Surface water quality was collected and analysed at 8 locations; Groundwater quality was analysed at 8 locations. Soil quality was analysed at 4 locations. Data on plants and animals present in the study area was collected from the District Forest Department. Data on landuse, demography, occupation pattern, cropping pattern, infrastructure facilities were collected from District Statistics Handbook and the Tehsil records.

During the study period minimum temperature was recorded 22°C and maximum temperature was recorded as 47°C, Minimum humidity was recorded 10% and maximum Humidity was recorded as 25%. Dominant wind direction in the study period was from NE - SW during the study period. Average Wind Speed during study period is 2.43 m/s. Based on the wind direction and wind speed it is interpreted that maximum dispersion of air pollutant will be in SW direction during the study period.

Summary of Ambient Air Quality

- $PM_{10} = 62.7-88.8 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- $PM_{2.5} = 36.6-54.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- $SO_2 = 6.3-16.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- $NO_2 = 12.5-32.3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- CO = of 350-1320 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

The noise level study shows that the noise levels are meeting the acceptable norms. The noise level in area varies from 52.3 to 73.2 dBA during day time and 38.9 to 68.1 dBA during the night time.

Summary of Ground Water Quality

- pH = 7.26-7.53
- Total dissolved solid = 511 to 652 mg/L
- Total hardness = 296-330 mg/L
- Total Alkalinity = 268-290 mg/L
- Iron = 0.35-0.47 mg/L
- Total coliform was not found in any samples

The groundwater quality meets the specification prescribed by BIS for drinking (IS:10500:2012)

Summary of Surface Water Quality

- pH = 7.43-7.89.
- TDS = 347-540 mg/L.
- DO = 4.6- 6.5 mg/L.
- COD = 10-32 mg/L.
- BOD = 2.7-8.5 mg/L.

The pH value of the soil suspension varied from 7.76 to 7.85. In terms of soil pH the characteristic of the soil is moderately alkaline pH in nature. The Electrical conductivity varied from 266 to 286 $\mu\text{Mohs}/\text{cm}$. The sodium absorption ratio of soil varied from 0.41 to 0.48. The Cation exchange capacity varied from 11.1 to 12.8 meq/100 gm. The loss on ignition in terms of organic matter varied from 0.56 to 0.71%, it indicates that soils are medium in organic carbon status. The major nutrient such as Nitrogen, Phosphorus and

Potassium level were varied from 231.84 kg/ha to 279.18 kg/ha., 16.58 to 21.57 kg/ha and 1182.22 to 1291.70 kg/ha respectively. The micronutrients such as copper, zinc, boron and iron are minimum and sufficient for plantation.

Flora and Fauna: There is no reserve forest in study area. Arpa river and Ghongha river are at 2.35 km and 7.1 km respectively.

Total 8 species of mammals, 8 species of reptiles, 49 species of birds 9 species of butterflies have been observed during the primary survey. No schedule-I species has been found in study area.

According to 2011 Population Census the study area has a total population of 280955 of which 51 percent are male and the remaining 49percent are female. Since there is no urban area in the study area the entire population belongs to rural area. The overall sex ratio in the study area has been worked out to 986 females per 1000 males..

3.0 ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT & MITIGATION MEASURES

Coal Dust is the main pollutant generated during coal handling and crushing cum screening process. Water sprinklers will be used to reduce dust generation during coal handling. Wet dust suppression system will be installed to reduce the dust generation during coal crushing and screening. The crusher unit will be provided with dust extraction system and Bag Filter. All belt conveyors will be covered. Internal roads shall be concreted. Industrial vacuum cleaners will be used in workshops and other work areas. Mechanical road sweeping machines will be deployed for daily cleaning of all internal roads.

100% wastewater generated during coal washing will be treated in Effluent Treatment Plant. The water after treatment will be recycled for coal washing. Domestic sewage will be treated in Sewage Treatment Plant. Treated water will be used for horticulture development.

Low noise emitting plant and machinery will be selected. 33% land area will be developed as greenbelt. The noise level at plant boundary will be maintained below 70 dBA.

Coal washing will produce middlings, fines and rejects which will be sold to power plants in nearby districts.

The existing truck movement pattern will not undergo any significant change due to this coal washery. Fraction of the coal which is already transported by road from the coal mines of the region will be intercepted by the coal washery for washing. Appropriate traffic management plan will be implemented in consultation with the transport authorities.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM

Environmental Management Cell (EMC) will be set up to undertake routine environmental monitoring. Monitoring will be done to ensure compliance with the prescribed laws and standards. The Head of EMC will report to the Plant Head. Qualified staff will be recruited in EMC. Environmental monitoring of ambient air, stack emission, fugitive dust emission, noise levels, groundwater quality, surface water quality and soils will be carried out as per norms. EMC will be responsible for the following functions:-

Regular monitoring of:-

- Measuring fugitive emissions, measuring PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ in work environment and report any abnormalities for initiating corrective and preventive actions.
- Measuring the ambient air quality at upwind and downwind direction of crusher, at plant boundary (3 locations, 120 degree to each other).
- Checking the wastewater quality (inlet and outlet water wastewater treatment plant).
- Checking the ground water quality near the coal storage area, and surrounding villages.
- Noise monitoring at plant boundary, nearest habitation, near highway, and work areas.
- Development and maintenance of greenbelt and greenery within the plant boundary.

5.0 ADDITIONAL STUDIES

Adequate fire mitigation measures will be ensured for handling fire in coal yard. Disaster Management Plan has been prepared to take care of public health and safety during any accident.

CER activities and public hearing commitment will be over three year period. This amount will be spent for making classrooms in local schools, providing teaching aids, making community centres, develop drinking water facility in nearby villages, making rainwater harvesting structures like anicuts and check dams in the area, developing infrastructure facilities and equipment in primary health centres and as per public hearing.

6.0 PROJECT BENEFITS

Coal washing improves the quality of poor grade coal to higher grade coal. During washing, the waste materials like muck present in poor grade coal is removed. High grade coal is required for steel making and cement making. Use of high grade coal in thermal power plants improves the plant efficiency.

The demand for coal washery is growing due to following reasons:

- Depletion of good quality coal mines in India.
- Mechanized mining increases impurities in raw coal.
- Higher transportation cost makes it uneconomical to transport high ash coal.
- Meeting strict environmental requirement in regard to pollution prevention and control (by steel plants, power plants and cement plants).

About 100 people on daily wages basis will get employment during the construction stage. 97 persons will be employed during operational phase, in the skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled category. The preference will be given to local population for employment in the semi-skilled and unskilled category.

7.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Environmental Management Plan for effective management of environmental impacts and ensuring overall protection of the environment through appropriate management procedures has been developed. In order to implement the recommended mitigation measures and institutionalize the EMP, budgetary provision of Rs. 310 capital expenditure has been made. Recurring annual expenditure will be Rs. 88 lakhs of the capital expenditure.

Environment Management Cell (EMC) will ensure that all air pollution control device, effluent treatment plants and water re-circulating systems function effectively. EMC will

also supervise disposal of spent oil and lubricants and used batteries to the authorized vendors. Plantation will be started during the construction phase by following the guidelines issued by the Central Pollution Control Board. Schemes for resource conservation (raw materials, water, etc.), rainwater harvesting and social forestry development will be taken up by EMC. Regular environmental awareness programs for the employees will be conducted.

Workers will be periodically subjected to health check-up. EMC will ensure cleanliness and industrial hygiene in the plant. EMC in association with the safety department will undertake full review of the potential hazard scenarios during plant commissioning. The review will ensure enforcement of the proposed safeguards for pollution abatement, resource conservation, accident prevention and waste minimization. The implementation of EMP would ensure that all elements of project comply with relevant environmental legislation throughout its life cycle.

8.0 CONSULTANTS

The consultant engaged for the preparation of the EIA/EMP for Expansion of Wet Type Coal Washery based on Heavy Media Cyclone is M/s GRC India Pvt. Ltd. GRC India is an ISO 9001:2015, 14001:2015 & ISO 45000:2018 certified pioneer environmental consultancy in India. It has been accredited by National Accreditation Board of Education & Training (NABET), Quality Council of India (QCI), which is the highest accreditation authority in India. The GRC India Pvt Ltd established a modern R&D Laboratory, which is compliant to IS/ISO 9001:2015, IS/ISO 14001:2015 and IS/ISO 45001:2018. All the project sampling and analysis with various studies are done by the GRC labs. Laboratory received accreditation from NABL which has been renewed as per procedure (current certificate no. TC-7501 valid till 25.06.2023).