

AUCTION OF COAL MINES FOR SALE OF COAL

(17TH TRANCHE OF AUCTION UNDER THE COAL MINES (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 2015)

(7TH TRANCHE OF AUCTION UNDER THE MINES AND MINERAL (DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATIONS) ACT, 1957)

Part III - Queries & Responses

Pursuant to Standard Tender Document dated March 29, 2023

June 09, 2023

Nominated Authority

Ministry of Coal, Government of India

A. Queries and Responses to Standard Tender Document dated March 29, 2023

The following clarifications are applicable to the Standard Tender Document dated March 29, 2023 as well as to mine-specific Tender Documents dated March 29, 2023 pursuant to auction under 17th Tranche of auction under the CMSP Act 2015 & auction under 7th Tranche of auction under the MMDR Act 1957.

Sl. No.	Query	Response
1.	<p>Clause 3.6 – Site visits and information It is requested to give the tentative dates for site visits of coal blocks under auction</p>	As per the revised schedule of the tender process, the last date for receiving written requests for site visits is 1600 hours on June 12, 2023.
2.	<p>Clause 3.9 –Value of Estimated Geological Reserves and Upfront Amount Upfront amount 25% of upfront amount ie, first instalment has to be paid to Nominated Authority, however as per CI 3.9.3 100% of upfront amount paid will be adjusted against the monthly payments to made to State Governments. Kindly clarify the same.</p>	In accordance with the provisions of the tender document, the Upfront Amount shall be payable in 4 equal instalments of which, the 1 st instalment shall be paid to Nominated Authority whereas the remaining 3 instalments shall be paid to the respective State Governments. The Upfront Amount shall be adjusted in full, against the Monthly Payments to be made to the State Government. Provided however, such adjustment of Upfront Amount shall not exceed 50% of aggregate Monthly Payments for the year. Adjustment of Upfront Amount towards Monthly Payments shall be on a monthly basis i.e. maximum 50% of the Monthly Payment for the month to be paid by the Successful Bidder shall be adjusted against Upfront Amount.
3.	<p>Clause 9.5 – Mandatory work program for Partially Explored Mines Annexure 1 provide for Mandatory Work Programme as with no of BHs, meterage as well as estimated exploration expenses. Clause 9.1 provide for Bidder to complete Mandatory Work Programme and Clause 9.5 provide for provision of relinquishment. The reading of these provisions suggest that Bidder's obligations are linked to the value of Mandatory Work Programme while the objective is to explore the block which is done by physical drilling irrespective of actual cost. Hence we request MoC to link all the obligations by actual drilling done rather than value of</p>	The Mandatory Work Program shall be as per Clause 9.1 of the Tender Document.

Sl. No.	Query	Response
	work	
4.	<p>Clearances:</p> <p>a. Many coal blocks have substantial forest area. Whether MoC shall coordinate with MoEFCC in granting permission to explore the forest land? Alternatively, whether MoC shall grant permission to explore/mine the non-forest area only?</p> <p>b. The boundaries of some mines are close to tiger/ elephant corridor. Whether MoC shall coordinate with MoEFCC in granting permission to mine such coal block? Is there any restriction on the distance to be avoided?</p> <p>c. Whether MoC shall give various clearances (MoEFCC, State clearances, etc.) through Single Window system for Coal Blocks?</p>	<p>4a. MoC shall coordinate with MoEFCC in granting permission and for this purpose MoC have set up a Project Monitoring Unit to facilitate clearances. However, it is the sole responsibility of the Successful Bidder to obtain clearance/ approvals etc. in accordance with Applicable Law, at its own costs. Exploration or mining of coal in the non-forest area shall be the responsibility of the Successful Allocatee of the coal mine and approval for the same shall be sought in the mining plan approval stage.</p> <p>b. The extent of safety zone against the ESZ as well as permissions, prohibitions, etc. of different activities in and around the ESZ would be as per the prevailing statutory provisions, Guidelines and Orders, etc. in this regard. However, Ministry of Coal has set up a PMU to assist the successful allocatees of the coal blocks in obtaining the clearances.</p> <p>c. The clearances shall be accorded through respective Government websites. However, Ministry of Coal has launched the Single Window System to facilitate in obtaining clearances and approvals required for smooth operationalisation of coal mines in India as well as augmentation of coal production in the country through a single gateway.</p>

B. Mine Specific Queries and Responses

Sl. No.	Name of Mine	Query	Response
1.	Meenakshi West	<p>1. Additional Data:</p> <p>a. The geological reports with Annexures and Plates are missing.</p>	<p>1. Additional Data:</p> <p>a. The geological report of the block is not yet prepared. Also, analysis of coal core samples is still pending. GR will be prepared after receipt of analysis data of all the core samples.</p>
2.	Aturia	<p>1. Details of coal mine:</p> <p>a. As per Mine Summary of Aturia Coal Block uploaded in MSTC platform it is in West Bengal and also co-ordinates of the block boundary shows it is within the state of West Bengal. But in the e-payment platform of MSTC, it is showing State-Jharkhand.</p> <p>Please clarify about the Location State of the Block.</p> <p>b. As per Aturia Block summary, Block is situated District-Birbhum State-West Bengal. But in Tender Document it is located in the State of Jharkhand</p> <p>c. Whether the provisional cardinal points of the coal block is correct or not. Provide the correct block boundary.</p>	<p>1. Details of coal mine:</p> <p>a. Aturia block is located in the state of West Bengal.</p> <p>b. Aturia block is located in West Bengal state. Corrigendum to the tender document shall be uploaded shortly.</p> <p>c. The provisional cardinal points of the block provided in the mine summary are correct.</p>
3.	JilgaBarpali	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. MECL Draft GR report, details of reserves of 1300 MT (seam wise, depth wise), quality of coal are missing.</p>	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. As the Draft GR is under preparation, the desired information can be provided only after the same is available.</p>
4.	North Dhadu (Eastern)	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. Kindly provide Autocad drawings of Geological Report and Mining Plan. Editable Soft copy (word, Excel) of GR & MP. MINEX model</p>	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. The AutoCAD drawings and editable soft copy of the North Dhadu (Eastern) is not available as the GR of North Dhadu block is very old (prepared in March-1986).</p>
5.	North Dhadu (Western)	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. Kindly provide Autocad drawings of Geological Report and</p>	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. The AutoCAD drawings and editable soft copy of the North</p>

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		Mining Plan. Editable Soft copy (word,Excel) of GR & MP. MINEX model	Dhadu (Western) is not available as the GR of North Dhadu block is very old (prepared in March-1986).
6.	Tara	<p>1. Land:</p> <p>a. 379.86 Ha of private land is acquired by prior allottee as per mine summary. As per mine summary Part -B, Land acquisition of 379.86 Ha of private land is acquired . Kindly provide clarification on the fixed amount payable in Tara coal block with respect to Land & Infrastructure and also the geographical location of private land of 379.86 Ha. Kindly provide Clarity on location and fixed amount payable for 379.86 Ha of private land.</p> <p>b. The block area of Tara is 2400 Ha. But, as per the approved mine plan the project area mentioned in mine summary document is 1801.38 Ha; out of which 325.31 Ha land for Infra and OB dump is outside the block boundary. It is requested to kindly incorporate 325.31 Ha (de-coal area) in project/block area. Kindly incorporate the 325.31 Ha (de-coal area) in project/block area.</p> <p>2. Payments:</p> <p>a. As per annexure – II submitted by prior allottee which is a part of mine dozier, has expenditure related to the forest land in Tara block (such as expenditure on NPV, CA land expenses, Wide Life Management, Safety zone Management and Others). Still FC -II has not been granted for this mine. As per annexure – II submitted by prior allottee which is a part of mine dozier, has expenditure related to the forest land in Tara block (such as expenditure on NPV, CA land expenses, Wide Life Management, Safety zone Management and Others). Still FC -II has not been granted for this mine. We hereby, request you provide clarification on the aforementioned expenditure and its implications on the future allottee.</p>	<p>1. Land:</p> <p>a. In respect of the fixed amount payable for the land and mine infrastructure, the details shall be provided shortly on the MSTC portal.</p> <p>b. The information in respect of land, as provided by the prior allottee, has been provided in the mine dossier.</p> <p>2. Payments:</p> <p>a. The cost incurred by the Prior Allottee for the coal mine regarding obtaining the consent, land acquisition, mine infrastructure etc. is assessed by the competent authority and accordingly, the fixed amount payment is required to be made by the Successful allocatee for the coal mine in accordance with the provisions of the CM(SP) Act, 2015.</p>

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7.	Mahan	<p>1. Payments:</p> <p>a. As per published Mine Summary & submission by prior allottee, the total land acquisition of 1116 Ha in Mahan Coal Mine has already been done considering OC mining method. Also approval such as Environmental Clearance, Forest Clearance, Mining Plan & Mine Closure has been done in accordance with OC Mining Method.</p> <p>All these are part of Fixed Amount and as per Tender Clause 3.3.2(h)(ii), it is Payable by successful bidder. As all the expenditure done on for obtaining all statutory licenses, permits, permissions, approvals, clearances or consents relevant to the mining operations been done by prior allottee in accordance with OC Mining Method.</p> <p>Clarification is required on its implication on future allottee as these clearances may not be required for future allottee as mining method for the said block is restricted to UG mining method by Ministry of Coal.</p> <p>Since Mining methodology is restricted to UG mining for Future Allottee,</p> <p>Therefore the approvals / clearances obtained by prior allottee may not be useful for Future Allottee.</p> <p>Accordingly future allottee should not be made liable to pay for these expenses</p>	<p>1. Payments:</p> <p>a. The payments in respect of the fixed amount for the coal mine is required to be paid by the Successful Allocatee of the said coal mine in accordance with the provisions of the CM(SP) Act, 2015.</p>
8.	BatatiKolga East	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. In the mine dossier, there is one Geological Report prepared by MECL covering 42 boreholes whereas the Coal Block Summary Stated 192 boreholes. We would like to bring to your kind notice about the disparity between the Coal Block Summary Document</p> <p>uploaded in the MSTC Website and the data in the geological report supplied with the Mine Dossier. The geological report covers three blocks namely BatatiKolga East, BatatiKolga West</p>	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. The Geological Report provided in the mine dossier is for regional exploration, which covers approx. 100 sq.km area, and is based on 42 boreholes. But, the information provided in the mine summary (indicating 192 boreholes) was based on the information available from detailed exploration in this coal block at the time of tendering. Geological information may be obtained from the lithologs and location of boreholes drilled within the block boundary of BatatiKolga East provided in the</p>

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		<p>and BatatiKolga North East.</p> <p>The Summary document of BatatiKolga East block shows that the top seams are occurring at shallow depth in the block. When, we reviewed the GR it was found that this was not the case.</p> <p>The data given in the summary document are the data of borehole which are more than four (4km) kilometers from the BatatiKolga East Coal Block Boundary. We request you to kindly provide data for the block as mentioned in the BataiKolga East Mine summary document.</p>	<p>mine dossier.</p> <p>Additional data, which contains correlation in DWG file format and quality data, lithologs, seam list etc in excel file format, has been uploaded in the mine dossier for the coal mine.</p>
9.	Chhendipada II (Revised)	<p>1. Mine Dossier:</p> <p>a. After analyzing the mine dossier document of Chhendipada II (Revised) coal block, It is informed that the text Part containing Chapters on Introduction, Exploration, Geology and Structure, Description of Coal Seams, Reserves, Conclusions and recommendations is not attached. Further, informed that in absence of the above text part, it will be difficult to take up detailed study of the block.</p> <p>In this regard, it is requested that the details of text Part containing Chapters on Introduction, Exploration, Geology and Structure, Description of Coal Seams, Reserves, Conclusions and recommendations for Chhendipada II (Revised) coal block may be sent for further analysis at the earliest</p>	<p>1a. Chhendipada-II (Revised) coal block has been put under current auction with revised boundary as partially explored category which is mentioned in the mine summary. Only basic exploration data of original Chhendipada-II coal block is available which has already been provided in the mine dossier. As no report on geology of the block has been prepared, the desired text is not available at this stage</p>