

F. No. CCT-13011/3/2007-CA-I(Vol-III)
Government of India
Ministry of Coal

Room No. 622-A, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated: 27th May, 2021

To,
The Coal Controller,
Coal Controller's Organisation,
Council House Street,
Kolkata-700001

Subject: Policy for Handling & Disposal of Washery Rejects

Sir,

The proposal of Handling & Disposal of Coal washery Rejects has been under examination in this Ministry and with the approval of Competent authority, the policy for Handling & Disposal of Washery Rejects has been framed. The present Policy will regulate the handling and disposal of Coal Washery Rejects in a uniform manner and will be applicable on all coal Washeries.

Policy for Handling & Disposal of Washery Rejects

1. Objective

- a. To define coal washery rejects
- b. To facilitate conservation of energy through environment friendly extraction of residue energy from coal washery rejects
- c. To regulate the use of coal rejects with an aim to minimize the pollution footprint
- d. To decide the ownership of rejects in different modes of washery operations
- e. To ensure stacking of rejects, dumping of rejects in mine voids/low lying areas in environment friendly manner
- f. To provide for a mechanism for monitoring and control

2. Some of the key terms - defined

- 2.1 **Coal Washery Rejects (CWR)** are the by-product of Coal Washeries with Gross Calorific Value (GCV) less than 2200 kcal/kg.
- 2.2 **High Calorific Value (HCV) coal Washery Rejects** are rejects with GCV equal to or in excess of 1500 kcal/kg.

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- 2.3 **Low Calorific Value (LCV) coal Washery Rejects** are rejects with GCV less than 1500 kcal/kg.
- 2.4 **Owner of CWR** shall be the party, which owns the raw coal supplied to the Washery. Hereinafter, the term **Owner** shall be used for the owner of CWR.
- 2.5 **Deemed Owner of CWR** Any rejects generated due to washing that cannot be utilised by the owner may be sold to washery operator and in such case the washery operator will be deemed owner of CWR.

3. Stacking of CWR

- 3.1 Owner/deemed owner shall ensure that LCV and HCV Rejects are stacked separately at appropriate sites selected as per environmental guidelines issued in this regard.
- 3.2 Each stacking site shall be properly levelled, surveyed and a grid plan shall be prepared showing RLs at 15 m interval.
- 3.3 During stacking of CWR, all environmental and safety guidelines shall be followed. Due precautions shall be taken against spontaneous heating.
- 3.4 The Owner/deemed owner shall get the average GCV of each stock examined as per the guidelines issued by CCO in this regard.
- 3.5 Monthly records shall be maintained in respect of each stock of CWR showing the opening stock, amount of CWR received in and despatched from the stock during the month, closing stock, average GCV and other relevant details.
- 3.6 The owner/ deemed owner will ensure disposal of rejects as specified in EC conditions.

4. Disposal of CWR

4.1 Prioritizing conservation -Extraction of energy from the HCV rejects

- 4.1.1 As Indian coal is inherently difficult to wash, the loss in calorific value in rejects is often too high and therefore may be gainfully used as source of energy in CPPs (Captive Power Plants) /TPPs (Thermal Power Plants) for generation of power and other permissible end usages etc.
- 4.1.2 Owners/ deemed owners shall take all possible initiatives to ensure extraction of energy from the generated HCV rejects through its use as source of energy in various environmentally permissible end usages.
This is in line with Rule-27 of Solid Waste Management Rules -

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2016, which requires extraction of energy from solid wastes of high calorific value of 1500 kcal/kg or more. The owners shall maintain a record of all such initiatives (failed/successful) showing all relevant details in a specified format.

4.1.3 The Owner/ deemed owner shall ensure that the HCV reject is supplied to such end users who possess valid environmental clearances/permits for its use.

4.1.4 Whenever it is decided to dispose HCV rejects under this route, Owner/ deemed owner shall obtain prior permission from Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO) by applying for the same in a specified format. CCO may carry out necessary inspections and draw samples of CWR being despatched for ascertaining GCV and other particulars.

4.2 Exploring alternate use of Washery Rejects - 2nd priority

4.2.1 If the initiatives taken under Para-4.1 above do not fructify for the HCV rejects, the Owner/ deemed owner will explore **other permissible uses** of HCV rejects such as replacement of construction material (for highways, railways, dams, embankments, etc.), reclamation of land, brick making, or any other alternative gainful use. This exercise will also be carried out in respect of LCV rejects.

4.2.2 Actions for disposal of HCV rejects under this route shall be taken up only when due diligence was made by the Owner/ deemed owner for utilizing the rejects in terms of Para-4.1 above. All documentary evidences of such due diligence shall be kept maintained by the Owner/ deemed owner.

4.2.3 Whenever it is decided to dispose HCV/LCV rejects under this route, Owner/ deemed owner shall obtain prior permission from Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO) by applying for the same in a specified format. The owner/ deemed owner shall also give an undertaking that due diligence was made by him for disposal of HCV rejects as per Para-4.1. CCO may carry out necessary inspections and draw samples of CWR being despatched for ascertaining GCV and other particulars.

4.3 Dumping of Washery Rejects in mine voids/low lying areas in environment friendly manner

4.3.1 If all initiatives taken under Para-4.1 and Para-4.2 above do not fructify, the Owner/ deemed owner may resort to the last option of dumping of Washery rejects in mine voids or low lying areas in an environment friendly manner observing all precautions relating to safety and environment, as stipulated in statute and various guidelines. Going for this option will require proper and prior study of implications involved and with adoption of appropriate 'engineering

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solutions' to avoid spontaneous heating, and possible contamination of water bodies.

- 4.3.2 Actions for disposal of rejects under this route shall be taken up only when due diligence was made by the Owner/ deemed owner for utilizing the rejects in terms of Para-4.1 and Para-4.2 above. All documentary evidences of such due diligence shall be kept maintained by the Owner/ deemed owner for inspection/verification of CCO as and when required.
- 4.3.3 Selection of Mine Voids/Low lying areas shall be the look-out of the Owner/ deemed owner, who shall enter into an appropriate arrangement with owner of the mine void/low lying area for dumping of rejects therein.
- 4.3.4 **All Coal mining companies shall identify and make a list of abandoned mine voids/running mines suitable for dumping of rejects and submit the same to CCO. The list of such mines shall be updated annually by the coal companies.**
- 4.3.5 Whenever it is decided to dispose rejects under this route, Owner/ deemed owner shall obtain prior permission from Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO) by applying for the same in a specified format. He shall enclose the agreement made with the owner of mine void/low lying area, a plan of the site showing the total area to be utilized for dumping, manner of transport and dumping, precautions proposed to be taken, structure of supervision, manner of final reclamation etc. The owner/ deemed owner shall also give an undertaking that due diligence was made by him for disposal of rejects as per Para-4.1 and Para-4.2. CCO may carry out necessary inspections and draw samples of CWR being despatched for ascertaining GCV and other particulars.
- 4.3.6 The owner/ deemed owner shall submit a Bank Guarantee (BG) @ Rs. 5.0 (five) lakh per hectare as guarantee towards final reclamation of the site to CCO. However, if the proposed mine has already an approved Mining Plan/ Mine Closure Plan, submission of BG may be dispensed with if an undertaking of the Mine is submitted in this regard.
- 4.3.7 It shall be responsibility of the Owner/ deemed owner to ensure that all precautions and safety measures are taken to ensure environment friendly disposal of rejects in a safe manner. CCO and other statutory agencies may carry out periodic inspections of the dumping site(s) to ensure compliance of such guidelines.
- 4.3.8 After completion of dumping and final reclamation by the Owner/ deemed owner, the reject dumping site shall be inspected by CCO to ascertain the efficacy of reclamation and precautionary measures put in place. If any deficiency is noticed, CCO may ask for remedial actions to be carried out by the Owner/ deemed owner failing which, CCO will

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get the job done by any third party by encashing the BG submitted by the Owner/ deemed owner. The site shall not be declared closed for return of BG unless it is certified by the CCO that the site has been reclaimed adequately. CCO may obtain services of an accredited independent agency for carrying out such inspections at Owner's/ deemed owner's cost.

4.3.9 The Owner/ deemed owner will maintain a record of all such cases of reject dumping along with all relevant details in a specified format.

4.4 Additional obligations for Linkage holders (regulated sector) obtaining coal at subsidized rates through FSA route and the owners of coal block allocated through allotment route

4.4.1 The Linkage holders drawing coal under the Long-Term Linkage, as per National Coal Distribution Policy (NCDP)/Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) and the coal block owners (allotment route) are solely responsible for efficient use of coal for the specified purpose as per the FSA/allotment order.

4.4.2 **If coal is washed in a 3rdparty Washery, such linkage holders/ block owners and in case any agreement is signed with washery operator as mentioned in para 2.5 the said washery operator (deemed owner) will be responsible for handling and disposal of rejects.**

4.4.3 Linkage holders/block owners have to declare the benefits derived from disposal of rejects/ agreement with washery operator and the methodology for passing on the benefits derived from such transaction to the public. The detailed information in this regard is to be furnished to the concerned Electricity Regulator or other authorities, if any.

5. Maintenance of records and submission of returns

5.1 The Owner/ deemed owner shall maintain all records that are specified in preceding paragraphs and all records required to be maintained under various applicable statutes/guidelines/orders in vogue.

6. Monitoring and Control

6.1 Subsequent to grant of permission for disposal of reject under any of the three routes, CCO may carry out inspection of concerned Washery, check the records maintained by the Owner/ deemed owner and draw samples from the reject stock/reject in transit for verifying the GCV. CCO shall carry out such inspections and maintain a record of the same along with other relevant details.

6.2 CCO shall carry out regular/surprise inspections of Washeries and also the sites of reject handling to check the efficacy of handling and

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disposal of rejects. CCO may check the various records, as mentioned in preceding paragraphs, maintained by the Owner/ deemed owner and may also get the samples drawn and tested from reject stocks or stock of any other Washery product.

6.3 Cost of all sampling and testing carried out by the CCO under the provisions of this policy shall be borne by the Owner/ deemed owner.

7. Nothing in preceding paragraphs shall absolve the Owners/ deemed owners from fulfilling the various statutory requirements under other applicable statutes and obligations under various agreements executed with the Ministry/coal companies. Similarly the present policy shall not place any restrictions on various statutory bodies/State authorities/ coal companies in discharging their duties with regard to coal Washeries under respective statutes/agreements.

2. Since the competent authority has approved the **policy for Handling & Disposal of Washery Rejects** as mentioned in Pars 1 above, policy may be circulated to all concerned for further action. The action taken report shall be sent to this Ministry from time to time

Yours faithfully,

Sujeet Kumar
(Sujeet Kumar) 27/5/21

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy for necessary action to:

1. Chairman cum Managing Director, Coal India Limited, Kolkata
2. Chairman cum Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Telangana

Copy for information and necessary actions to:

1. PS to Minister of Coal
2. PSO to Secretary Coal. Ministry of Coal
3. PPS to Additional Secretary(VKT), Ministry of Coal
4. PPS to Additional Secretary(MN), Ministry of Coal
5. PPS to Joint Secretary(SBN), Ministry of Coal
6. PPS to Joint Secretary(BPP), Ministry of Coal
7. PPS to Joint Secretary(VT), Ministry of Coal
8. PPS to Joint Secretary & FA Ministry of Coal
9. PS to Economic Advisor, Ministry of Coal
10. PS to DDG, Ministry of Coal
11. PS to Director (T), Ministry of Coal

Copy to:

1. Director, NIC Ministry of Coal-with a request to upload it on the website of Ministry of Coal
2. Hindi Section for Hindi translation of above.
3. Under Secretary, Vigilance Section, Ministry of Coal w.r.t. Vigilance section's O.M. No. 13029/09/2014-vig dated 14.04.2021.
