

F.No. 776/2009-MIV
MINISTRY OF MINES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

New Delhi dated 13th October, 2010

To

The Secretaries (Mines & Geology) of the State Governments
(as per list attached)

Sub: **Guidelines regarding submission of maps along with mineral concession proposals.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Guidelines on the above mentioned subject issued vide this Ministry's letters of even number dated 25th September, 2009 and 3rd June, 2010 and to say that it is still being observed that the maps accompanying the proposals are not clear and specific. The matter has, therefore, been reconsidered in the light of availability of GPS/DGPS positioning systems and the ongoing work of the State Revenue Departments under the National Land Records Management Programme (NLRMP) and the Survey of India (Sol) project of establishing a National Ground Control Point Library (GCPL).

2. In this connection, it is recognized that the purpose and level of utility and accuracy of data has to be weighed against the cost of data collection. In the case of RP and PL, since these are licences enabling entry into an area for a limited period (upto 6 years) and the areas are also relatively large, the utility of using GPS to define the area is clear. The fact that these points may not have the presumption of truth in case the land records system of the State has not been digitized is of relatively less importance.

3. In the case of Mining Leases, since the lease area description is based on the land records, which has the presumption of truth, description by GPS when that is not the basis for the land record will have limited utility, and will not be of use in legal determination of lease boundaries, though the system may be useful for the mine boundaries with a lease area.

4. Accordingly, in partial supersession of the earlier instruction/guidelines issued in this behalf, the following revised guidelines are issued for processing of cases under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules thereunder, for submission of proposals keeping in view the difficulties expressed by applicants/Mineral Associations:

I. (a) For Reconnaissance Permit (RP):

- (i) In the proposals for RP covering more than one village, the map should be drawn up in the scale of 1:25000 or 1:50000. If the proposed area for RP is more than 25 sq.km. then the map can be in the scale of 1:250,000.
- (ii) The map should show at least three permanent ground control points/reference points viz. crossing or road, religious place, river, village etc for all the maps.
- (iii) The GPS coordinates for the area proposed should be determined by the RP applicant. (The GPS points should be with reference to the GCPL of Sol/NLRMP points, if they exist).

(b) For Prospecting Licence (PL):

- (i) For PLs covering more than one village the map should be drawn up in the scale of 1:25000 or 1:50,000. For PLs within one village the map should be in the scale of 1:4000 (or cadastral scale applicable in the State).
- (ii) The GPS coordinates for PL may be determined by the applicant and shown accordingly on the map. (The GPS points should be with reference to the GCPL of Sol/NLRMP points if they exist).
- (iii) The map should show at least three permanent ground control points/reference points viz. crossing or road, religious place, river, village etc.

(iv) The map should clearly show the survey/khasara number including part numbers and the area in respect of each number/part number for all maps which are in the cadastral scale.

(c) For Mining Leases (MLs):

- (i) Mining Leases maps must be in cadastral scale.
 - (ii) The GPS coordinates should be shown only in respect of Taluka/Districts wherein GCPL Points of Sol/NLRMP exist. In all other cases, the IBM will require the GPS coordinates from the ML applicant at the stage of approval of Mining Plan. However, ML applicant should preferably show three reference points viz., crossing of road, religious place, river etc. available in the lease area/nearby area in the Map.
- II. For undemarcated areas/Forest Compartments, GPS referencing may be provided for RP/PL/ML even if the area is not covered by GCPL of Sol/NLRMP, as no alternative or better record are available to fix the reference points.
 - III. If the area is a Forest compartment, the map should give the names of the villages whose boundaries abut the forest area from all sides and also the distances.
 - IV. In case of a Forest compartment, locations of mineral concessions (RP/PL/ML) already granted or recommended must be shown on the map so that a complete picture is available.
 - V. Wherever the DGPS Survey is completed by State Governments Revenue Departments for any Taluka/District under the NLRMP, the GPS coordinates in the prescribed format of the State Land Records are to be supplied in the map along with the mineral concession application.
 - VI. If an area falls within the geo-data control points of the Survey of India in their GCPL, the same should be clearly shown in the map.

- VII. Details of adjacent areas for which other applications are pending or recommended as well as the existing PLs/MLs/RPs in the adjacent areas should be shown in the map.
- VIII. In all cases where the area is not compact and contiguous, adequate details regarding the area left out in between applied for areas should be given to enable proper appreciation of the reasons why non contiguous area needs to be approved.
- IX. In case of multiple applicants being recommended in a single proposal, separate maps for each applicant should be furnished showing the applied and the recommended area of each applicant.
- X. The map along with mineral concession should clearly show the applied area and the recommended area, duly colour-coded/indexed
- XI. The map should contain the signature, name, designation, date and seal of the authorized signatory of the State Government which is forwarding the proposal.
3. All State Governments/UT Administration are requested to ensure that these guidelines are scrupulously complied with by all concerned. In case maps are incomplete, the proposal will be returned.
4. The above guidelines will come into force with effect from the issue of the same. The State Governments will then have to process all proposals in accordance with the above mentioned guidelines.

Yours faithfully,

Bhupal Nanda
(Bhupal Nanda)
Director