

Dear

This relates to inclusion of inland water transport (IWT) as an essential element in processing proposals of new thermal power plants being set up in the country and cooption of a member from the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) on the *Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power* which examines issues relating to coal linkage and connectivity issues.

2. As you know, several thermal power plants are facing coal shortage due to delay in transportation of domestic and imported coal as the railways are ‘overburdened’. Feasibility Studies conducted by IL&FS IDC on behalf of IWAI have revealed that it is possible to transport coal, whether domestic or imported, through IWT at competitive rates to power plants located on the banks or in the vicinity of National Waterways. Certain other power plants located on the banks of other navigable rivers can also receive at least part of their coal supplies through IWT. Hence, it would be desirable that this aspect is incorporated into the Project Reports and examined by the *Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power* at the initial stage itself.

3. Hence, may I request you to co-opt a IWAI representative on the *Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power* and direct the Project Developers to provide information relating to IWT on the enclosed format in their Project Report to be put up before the ‘Committee’. These steps will go a long way in finding solution to vexed transportation issues which are affecting the sector today apart from contributing to rapid development of the IWT sector in the country.

4. We hope the aforesaid proposal will receive quick and positive response from your end.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(S.P.Gaur)

Encl. – as above

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