

**Guidelines for preparation of Cluster Mining Proposals**

1. Cluster proposal may be prepared for such leases, which have contiguous boundaries.
2. All the existing mining proposals/fresh proposals in pipeline be included in that including non-forest lands, if within.
3. States will take individual proposals from different lessees in the proforma with relevant documents.
4. However, with covering letter, a comparative statement of all mines with area and other details be given and all leases with boundaries be shown on one map.
5. Even existing approved leases be included in the proposal so that they can be brought to the same time frame.
6. The condition of compensatory afforestation will apply on the basis of each individual lease rather than on pro-rata basis.
7. The safety zone shall be at the outer boundary of the cluster and condition of safety zone will apply on pro-rata basis.

This is to further clarify that where existing forest roads outside the lease areas/cluster are being used by lessees for transporting mined minerals, it is not desirable to insist inclusion of such forest area in the lease proposal unless a new road is proposed for such lease or cluster. The State Government should rather permit its use on the terms and conditions to be decided by the State Government.