

Reasons for the not providing the alternative location for construction of new screening plant and beneficiation plant:

The proposed screening plant & Tailing dams are planned to ensure best possible interconnection with minimal disturbance to the existing facilities and surrounding forest. This is planned to make best use of contours between existing lump ore Conv. 501 and fine ore Conv. 411 from EL 722m to EL 690m with less disturbance to existing vegetation. Considering the topography, storage silos are envisaged instead of open stockpile in order to have more live volume, clean & safe storage and easy retrieval of material, which are eco-friendly.

The Kumaraswamy Iron Ore mine is located at hill top where the iron ore deposits occur and the ancillary facilities like screening plant, tailing dam, overflow slurry pipe line channel etc need to be built to support the mining process in non mineralized area near ancillary facilities. All the ancillary facilities for the proposed projects are located in Donimalai. These facilities will be used for processing of ore from KIOM. To reduce the energy consumption, for the transport of tailings from the screening plant to the tailing dam, a slope will be maintained between the SP-2 and Tailing dam-1 and Tailing dam-2. Thus the location of tailing dam is selected near and below the height of screening plant. The same is available at the site. Water availability for screening is also in existence, so no extra infrastructure will be required. To avoid the environmental implication of the screening and tailings on villagers, it is away from the residential area also. Already Environment Management Plan, Bio-diversity conservation plan are in implementation in the region. Hence construction of SP-II should be done as proposed in the proposal, near to existing screening plant. As there is no other land is suitable for the project, alternative has been not examined by NMDC Limited.