SITE INSPECTION NOTES OF THE PROPOSED DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR MINING LEASE FOR LATERITE OVER AN EXTENT OF 26.57 HA. (MINING AREA 17.43 HA +ROAD AREA 9.14 HA) IN COMPT.NO.750 OF TADEPALLI PROTECTED FOREST OF FOULKS PETA RANGE AND COMPT NO.398 & 399 DENDULURU RF & COMPT.NO 754 OF CHERUVUPALEM PF. DEVARAPALLI BEAT OF RAMPACHODAVRAM RANGE RAMPACHODAVRAM DIVISION BY THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, RAMPACHODAVRAM DIVISION, RAMPACHODAVARM.

Date of inspection: 20th April, 2023.

In compliance to the instructions of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Andhra Pradesh, Guntur and the Conservator of Forests, Rajahmundry Circle, Rajamahendravaram under the provision of F(C) Act, 1980, I have inspected the proposed area for diversion of forest land for mining lease for Laterite over an extent of 26.57 ha (Mining Area: 15.44 ha, Safety Zone Area:1.34 ha Mining Road Area:0.65 ha and Road area for mining material transportation 9.14ha) in compt.no.750 of Tadepalli PF, compt No.398 & 399 Denduluru RF & compt.No 754 of Cheruvupalem PF. Devarapalli Beat of Rampachodavram Range of Rampachodavram Division in favour of M/s Rajiv Tribal Q.L.C.C.S.Ltd., Maddiveedu H/o Tadepalli village, Maredumilli Mandal, ASR Paderu District with the Forest along Range Officers, Foulkspeta. Rampachodavaram and concerned staff on 20.04.2023 and submit the observations made during the field visit as follows:



 The proposed area for diversion of forest land for mining lease over an extent of 26.57 ha is in compt.no.750 of Tadepalli PF of D.Velamalakota Beat, Seethapalli section of Foulkspeta Range and compt No.398 & 399 Denduluru RF & compt.No 754 of Cheruvupalem PF, Devarapalli Beat of Rampachodavaram Range of Rampachodavram division (Mining Area: 15.44 ha, Safety Zone Area: 1.34 ha Mining Road Area: 0.65 ha and Road area 9.14ha).

2

S.No	Range	RF & Compt no Details		Area in ha.
1	Foulkspeta	Tadepalli PF, Mining area		15.44 ha
		compt.no.750 of	Safety Zone	1.34 ha
		D.Velamalakota Beat	Area	
			Mining Road	0.65 ha
			Area	
		Total Mining a	17.43 ha	
1	Foulkspeta	Tadepalli PF,	Road area	6.98 ha
		compt.no.750 of		
		D.Velamalakota Beat		
2	Rampachoda	Denduluru RF,	Road area	0.95 ha
	varam	compt No.398 & 399,		
		Devarapalli Beat		
		Cheruvupalem PF,	Road area	1.21 ha
		compt.No 754,		
		Devarapalli Beat		
		Total Road a	9.14 ha	
		Total area proposed f	26.57 ha	

- The Forest type is dry mixed deciduous forests (5A/C3) and sub type is Mixed Forest. The proposed area is mostly covered with the dominating species of seedlings, saplings and young plants about 3 meters tall and trees including poles and bajus like *Xylia xylocarpa,, Spondias pinnata, Chloroxylon swietenia, Lagerostroemia parviflora, Lannea coromandelica, Borasus flabellifer, Artocarpus heterophyllus, Dillenia pentagyna, Pterocarpus marsupium, Dellinea pentagyena* and bush growth species *Zizyphus oenoplia (thorny sps& abundantly), Carissa carandas, Ficus tsiela* and climbers species *Bauhinia vahlii, Acacia concinna* (abundantly) medicinal plants species like *Glorisa superba, Curculigo orchioides, Asparagus racemosus, Cicca acida, Andrographis paniculata, Achyranthes aspera, Abrus precatorius, Mucuna pruriens, Terminalia chebula* and natural regeneration is good in the proposed area.
- In this proposed area, existing timber species enumeration has been taken up by the Forest Section Officer, Seethapalli section and total 40 trees are existing in Foulkspeta Range and the value of trees is Rs.4,04,895/-.
- This proposed area 26.57 ha is the focal point for places like Maddiveedu and Tadepalli villagers. Due to the RoFR claims issued in other than mining areas in Tadepalli P.F., the villagers are farming in the lower part

of the mining area, in three directions from decade. Due to the constant collision of human beings and vehicles, did not see <u>any animal</u> <u>movement during the inspection</u>.

- However for protection of wildlife against the mining operations, takingup of safety measures as a precaution is very much essential. Erection of Chainlink mesh of suitable gauge to a height of 2.00 mts around the safety zone area prevents entry of the wildlife into the proposed mining area thus the possible damage if any to the wildlife can be avoided.
- The proposed area is not a part of a National park or Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve or Elephant corridor. No Archeologically important structures are present in the proposed area. The proposed forest land for diversion is located at aerial distance of **16.44 Kms** from Papikonda National Park and 6.44 Kms away from default Eco-Sensitive zone area.
- Blasting in the mining area causes harm to the wildlife but open cast mining may not harm wildlife. In view of this, a condition "ban on blasting" is to be imposed to avoid any possible injuries or death of animals. Working in the night also may not be permitted.
- The areas are prone for soil erosion, due to their being gentle to moderate slopes. SMC measures like constructing CCTs is required in the vicinity. However, there is no scope for construction of Percolation tanks due to shallow depth of soils.
- Reclamation of mined areas is required in a phased manner. The dugout pits shall be refilled with fertile soil besides bench terracing if required and planted with tall plants of native species.
- Permanent demarcation of the mining area by erection of RCC pillars is essential to avoid disputes as well as checking encroachment into adjoining forest areas not granted for mining purpose.
- As per the guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 provision for safety zone all around the proposed mining areas shall be made.

SI. no	Name of the applicant	Area proposed for mining	Area Proposed for mining road area	Area earmarked for safety zone (Exempted in CA)	Road Area proposed for transportation of mining material	Total area proposed for diversion
1	M/s Rajiv Tribal Q.L.C.C.S.Ltd.	15.44 На.	0.65 Ha.	1.34 Ha.	9.14ha	26.57 ha.

- 13. There are no claims received under RoFR Act, 2006 in the proposed mining area. The Gram Sabha was conducted on 12-10-2010 in Tadepalli Gram Panchayat of Maredumilli Mandal and a resolution was passed expressing no objection for mining the mineral Laterite from the proposed mining areas in Tadepalli PF by the M/s Rajiv Tribal Q.L.C.C.S.Ltd.,
- 14.The Project Officer, ITDA, Rampachodavaram has conducted Gram Sabha in the presence of Sarpanch, Villagers, VSS members and concerned officers on 16.03.2022 and submitted the Resolutions of Gram Sabha and FRC's stating that no RoFR claims had been received.
- 15.The District collector, erstwhile East Godavari district, Kakinada has issued Form-II certificate for mining area of 17.43 ha and the District Collector, ASR District, Paderu has issued Form-I certificate for Road area of 8.63ha. The user agency has submitted the undertaking for remaining 0.51 ha of road area.



Based on the above field observations and interaction with the field staff and local villagers, the following special conditions in addition to the general conditions are proposed to be imposed for diversion of forest land for permitting the mining proposals.

- a. Chain link fence of suitable gauge to a height of 2.0m shall be erected around the safety zone area to prevent entry of the wildlife into the mining area at the cost of the user agency.
- b. To collect @ of Rs.1.00 lakh per ha of forest area (26.57 ha) proposed for diversion (Mining area 17.43 ha + Road area 9.14 ha = Total area 26.57 ha) from the user agency for taking up wildlife conservation measures and monitoring of works in the vicinity of the proposed mining areas. [it amounts of Rs.26.57 lakh]. "As per guidelines issued in Stage-II approval of Indira Sagar project (Polavaram project), condition No.05 states that in addition to the Net Present Value of the

forest land, 5% of the project cost shall be deposited with the State Forest Department for conservation and protection of National Parks Sanctuaries in the state of Andhra Pradesh:"

- c. Blasting in the mining areas shall be banned. Mining in the night shall not be permitted.
- d. An amount of Rs.1.00 lakh per ha shall be deposited for carrying out Soil and moisture conservation works, slope stabilization and Sinages in the vicinity of the mining area. [it amounts of Rs.26.57 lakh]
- e. The mined areas (dugout pits) shall be refilled with fertile soil and bench terracing be done if required besides raising successful plantations with tall plants of native species at the cost of the user agency as a part of reclamation of the mined area.
- f. Permanent demarcation of the mining area by erection of RCC pillars at the cost of the user agency to avoid disputes as well as to check encroachment into adjoining forest areas not granted for mining purpose.
- g. User charges equivalent to the cost of permit charges @ Rs.10/- per MT as fixed by the Government in GO Ms.no.63 EFS&T (For-I) dept; dt.06.02.2010 for the permits issued for transportation of laterite on quarterly basis shall be paid through DD in favour of the Divisional Forest Officer, Rampachodavaram for using the existing road.
- h. Administrative cost at the rate of Rs.10/- per MT of Laterite transported shall be paid by the user agency on quarterly basis for meeting the administrative expenses like maintenance of records, conveyance and communication charges, supervision and monitoring charges etc., to the Divisional Forest Officer, Rampachodavaram through DD.
- i. Pollution control measures shall be taken up by the user agency in the nearby villages at the cost of user agency.
- j. The user agency shall not use any roads other than those approved in the mining proposal.
- k. The User Agency shall procure one 4*4 SUV Vehicle, seating 7 people and shall hand over to DFO, Rampachodavaram for monitoring and evaluation purpose.

Divisional Forest Officer, Rampachodavaram Division, Rampachodavaram