

Mining Happiness -Letter No. M.3.9.2../OMC/F&E/2023 18th March, 2023

To

The Divisional Forest Officer, **Bonai Division**

Sub:

Diversion of 268.84 ha forest land (including 12.581 ha. of forest land earmarked for Safety Zone) within Rantha Iron Ore Mines of M/s Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd (OMC Ltd.)

Letter No. 8196/6F-(Mg.) dt 25.09.2020 by DFO, Bonai. Ref:

Sir.

The point wise compliance to the observations raised by DFO, Bonai vide letter under reference during the verification of the proposal submitted by OMC for diversion of 268.84 ha of forest land pertaining to Rantha Iron Ore Mines is given as under:

1. As per Letter No. R&DM-GE (GL)-S-63/13-4822/CS, dtd. 12.02.2015 of the Chief Secretary of Odisha addressed to all Collectors, necessary Certificate should be furnished by the Tahasildar as regards status of total land involved in the project (both Forest & Non-forest) as per Govt. record as on 25.10.1980.

In compliance, it is submitted that, Rantha Iron Ore mining lease area over 268.84 ha comprises 197.803 ha of Khandadhar Reserved Forest and the remaining 71.073 ha is Rantha PRF as per the DGPS survey data vetted by ORSAC. The land schedule and the map has been verified as on 25.10.1980 and authenticated by Tahasildar, Lahunipara and enclosed as Plate No. IX and Annexure-XII (A) respectively.

2. The land schedule of proposed diversion area separately for Mining & Other ancillary activities and Safety Zone should be signed by the User Agency and authenticated by the Range Officer, Barsuan, Tehsildar, Lahunipara and DDM, Koira and to be enclosed to the diversion proposal.

In compliance, it is submitted that the purpose wise utilization of forest land proposed for diversion in the extant proposal duly filled in the proforma given has been authenticated by the Range Officer, Barsuan, Tahasildar, Lahunipara and DDM, Koira and enclosed herewith as Annexure-XII (B).

Further, in compliance to the observation at Para-3, it is submitted that total 1.993 ha of forest area has been approved for Conveyor Corridor passing through Rantha ML which includes 0.026 ha of forest area earmarked for safety zone (7.5mtr along ML boundary). Hence, 1.967 ha (1.993-0.026) of forest area has been mentioned in the purpose wise breakup of the area proposed for diversion. The Table showing the Proposed Land Use plan has been revised and authenticated by Range Officer, Barsuan, Tahasildar, Lahunipara, DDM, Koira and enclosed as Plate No. V for reference.

It is therefore requested to examine the above compliance and recommend to higher ups to consider for grant of stage-I Forest Clearance.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr Suman Krishna Sit) General Manager (Geology) Authorized signatory