

Justification for Locating the Project in the Forest Land

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 10 (B) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 and in accordance with the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules 2015 and The Mineral Auction Rules 2015 notified there under, and, Supreme Court judgement, Government of Karnataka had identified C Category Iron ore mines for electronic auction for grant of mining lease.

Accordingly, the auction was held on 1st October to 7th October 2016. In the auction, JSW Steel Ltd. has been allocated 5 C Category Mines and has been declared the preferred bidder under clause 8.1 B (c) of Tender Document. The Letter of Intent was issued to M/s. JSW Steel Ltd. from the office of the Commissioner and Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Karnataka and shall be declared the successful bidder after the submission of Performance Security and Mining Plan. The mining lease will be granted, once all the Clearances, Permits, Consents, NOCs are submitted to sign the Mine Development & Production Agreement.

Therefore, to commence the above-mentioned process, we have already moved the proposals to obtain the prior approval of Govt. of Karnataka and Govt. of India under Section 2(ii) of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the lease area being specified in the sketch provided by the Central Empowered Committee.

In addition to that, to transport the iron ore from these newly allocated mines, M/s. JSW Steel Ltd. has proposed to lay down various Downhill Pipe Conveyors and a main pipe conveyor. We have proposed to adopt a very environment friendly and a cost-effective mode of transporting the material from the mine head to the JSW Steel Plant at Toranagallu. We have planned to install the Pipe Conveyor leading to our steel plant, which will be facilitated, by a number of Downhill Pipe Conveyor from the Mine heads of JSW Mining Leases.

The transportation of Iron ore using Pipe conveyor has many advantages:

- i. Best means of transportation to ensure zero spillage and save precious mineral resources.
- ii. Saves fossil fuel which otherwise would be used for road transport.
- iii. Reduces burden on the transport infrastructure such as road and rail, prevents accidents.
- iv. Reduces emissions associated with road transport such as gaseous pollutants, dust and particulate matter.
- v. Minimal particulate emissions at loading and unloading points.
- vi. Faster means of transportation and saves times and resources.
- vii. Flexibility in transportation and continuity of Conveying.
- viii. Hassle free transportation and least logistic issues.

- ix. Extremely high environmental friendliness. It is pollution free transportation and no dust, fugitive emissions as in case of any other means of transportation.
- x. Less strain on the existing government infrastructure and facilities.

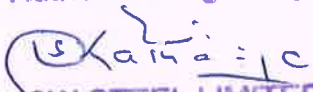
To optimize the conveyor profile with existing ground profile, choice of route is restricted. In addition, there were some inherent limitation because of typical project components making restriction on the turning radius of the said pipe conveyor. The route has been planned meticulously to minimize the diversion of forestland. The width of the corridor for the main pipe conveyor is kept bare minimum of 10.0 m. The material will also be transported by using Dumper or Dumper-rail mechanism, until the pipe conveyor comes in operation. The choice of route at Segment B & C is restricted because of Narihalla reservoir on one side and steep hills and State Highway on the other side. In addition to that, as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment dated 21.03.2017 passed in IA No. 247 & other IA's in Writ Petition Civil No. 562/2009 have approved construction of Conveyor Belt System, Railway Siding and Railway Subline as the most significant step towards controlling the environmental pollution that has persisted on account of open movement of iron ore by road. The enough care was taken to locate the corridor at the extreme outer boundaries of the forest. Therefore, the project is proposed to be located in forestland (1.645 ha.).

Place: Ballari

for JSW Steel Ltd.

Date: 23.08.2017

Authorized Signatory.


Authorized Signatory