

**To whomsoever it may concern**

**I. Justification for locating the Conveyor Belt project for ML No. 2677 in the forest area**

1. The Hon'ble Supreme Court through its order dated 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017 has instructed all the mine owners in the State who are having EC more than 1MTPA to install conveyor belt for transportation of iron ore from mine to railway siding.
2. BBH railway siding which is our private railway siding used for transporting iron ore to the buyer destination is located approx. 4km on the southern side of the mining lease and in between the mining lease and railway siding is the forest land.
3. Any utility that must reach the BBH railway siding has to be through this forest area. Therefore, the right of way for this pipe conveyor also has to cross through the forest area but affecting negligible area.
4. The best possible alignment for the conveyor belt from our mine to railway siding passing through the forest area is selected based on the joint inspection by DMG team.

**II. Justification for reapplying on a new area/new alignment after grant of stage 1 over FC Proposal No. FP/KA/MIN/34838/2018 dated: 25.08.2018**

1. As per Supreme Court order in IA 247 we have applied for diversion of 7.978 Ha of forest land in Sy.no.35 of Thanigenahalli village and Sy.No.107 Hirekandwadi village in Holalkere and Dindadahalli village in Chitradurga State Forest, Chitardurga Taluk & District for establishment of Conveyor Belt Project for transportation of iron ore from our ML No. 2677.
2. Stage 1 clearance was granted by MOEFCC on 15<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 alongwith queries & compliance of the same as under:
  - i. As part of the applied area was passing through adjoining Jantakal Mine (closed non-working mine) NOC of the competent authority was sought.
  - ii. The Director Mines & Geology refused NOC on the basis that the alignment passes over mineralized zone of the adjoining non-working mine which is proposed for further auction after exploration by GoK.
  - iii. DMG directed to change the alignment or apply fresh FC after verification of the new alignment by KIOCL (exploration agency for new blocks appointed by GoK) & DMG.

Accordingly, we have reapplied as a new FC proposal vide application No FP/KA/MIN/51389/2020 dated 07.11.2020 over 9.547ha, over the alignment is duly verified by DMG & KIOCL.

Based on the above facts the project is proposed in the forest area and hence applied for diversion under Forest Conservation Act 1980.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

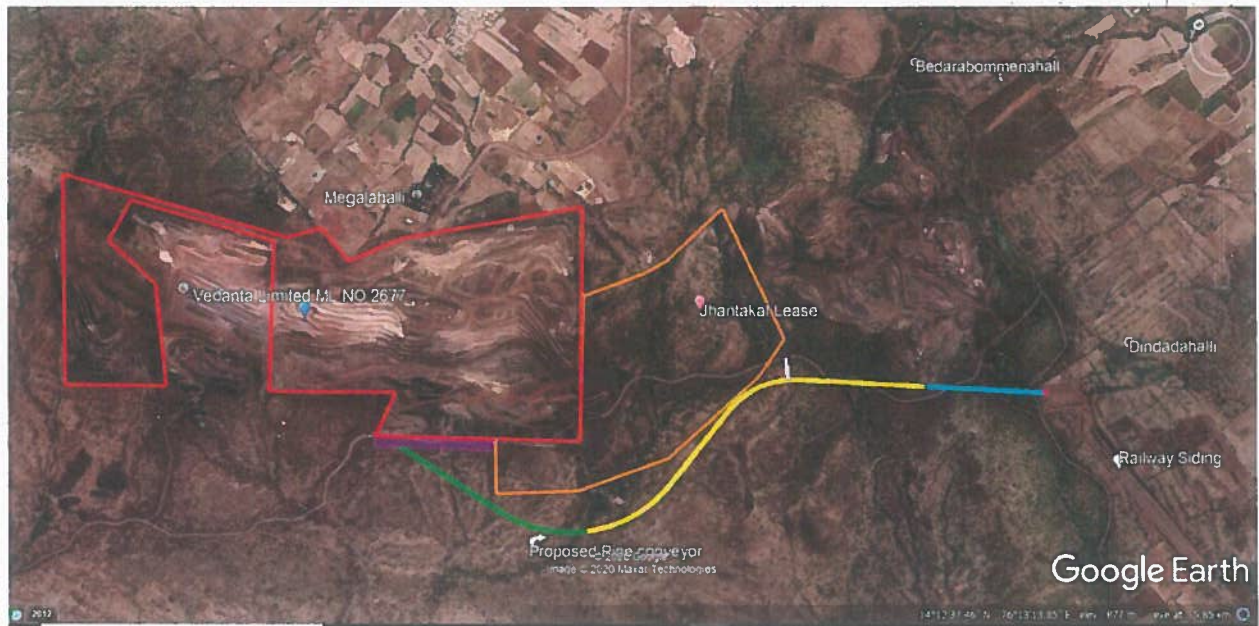
(Authorized Signatory)

**VEDANTA LIMITED**

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**Google Earth Image from Vedanta limited mines ML NO 2677 to Railway siding**

