

### Need for the Project & Its Importance To The Country/ Region

More than 80% of the chrome ore mined in the country and the world is utilized for the downstream processes of Ferro Chrome/ Charge Chrome Alloy production, which in turn is utilized for the production of stainless steel and other high quality alloy steels.

M/s Balasore Alloys Ltd has its Ferro Alloys plant located at Balgopalpur, Balasore, Odisha. BAL is planning for expansion in its existing capacity. It is also in the process of acquiring two more Ferro Alloys Plants in Odisha. Therefore the total Ferro Chrome production capacity of Balasore Alloys Ltd will become approximately 6,75,000 TPA. The chrome ore requirement for production of total Ferro chrome quantity will be around 17, 00,000 TPA. BAL will meet this quantity from its captive mine "Kaliapani Chromite Mine". Hence in order to meet the increased demand of chrome ore, it is proposed to enhance the capacity of mine from 0.6 MTPA to 1.692 MTPA.

Underground mining is environmental friendly. Dust pollution will be negligible due to less excavation of OB/waste as compared to opencast mining. There will not be any affect to quality of water and the air quality, except marginally for the allied activity at the surface. Surface features shall not be disturbed. Mining will be totally mechanized.

Considering above mentioned facts the proponent now has taken a decision to start underground development for ore Band – I & II, so that by the end of the opencast conceptual period there will be full-fledged ore production from friable and hard zone of Chromite ore by underground mining.