



Justification for Locating the Bandha Coal Mine Project (5 MTPA) in Forest Land

The application for diversion of forest land is intended for coal mining activities in an environment friendly manner. This is site specific as coal is deposited below earth surface, which is intended to be excavated. Some portion of the proposed land is intended to be used for allied activities of mining, the site of which can't be changed. Bandha Block is covered in Survey of India Toposheet No.63 UB (R.F. 1:50000) and Open series Toposheet Nos G-44WB (M2, M4, N2, 51, 52, R1, R3, R4) (RF 1:5,000). The area is bounded by Latitude 24°6'51.064" N to 24°4'17.375" N and Longitude 82°24'56.668" E to 82°21'39.764" E. The block area under study for report falls in the Sarai Tehsil of Singrauli district of Madhya Pradesh State. Essel Mining & Industries Limited (EMIL) through its wholly owned subsidiary EMIL Mines and Mineral Resources Limited (EMMRL) had participated in the auction of the Block and emerged as a "Preferred Bidder on 3rd Nov/20. Nominated Authority vide its letter dated 28th December 20 had declared EMMRL as successful bidder for Bandha Coal Mine and subsequently Allocated the Block vide order number NA-104/5/2020-NA dated 03.03.2021 for commercial coal mining over an area of 1850.94 Hectares out of which Reserve Forest 686.04 Ha, Protected Forest- 95.90 Ha Revenue Forest-3.55 Ha, Private land-775.01 Ha and Non-forest Govt. land 290.44 Ha.

Detailed Geological exploration was undertaken by CMPDI, accordingly Geological coal reserves have been estimated Category-wise (proved & indicated), Grade-wise (G4 to G17 for proved reserve), Depth wise and Thickness wise. Statements of reserves under seam wise, grade wise and depth wise are given in Annexure-VIIIA & VIIIB. A total of 560.3814 MT of total reserves (Net Proved Indicated) has been estimated, out of this total reserves 452.0587 MT comes under proved category and 108.3227MT in indicated category. Opening of the Bandha Coal Mine will have the following benefits.

- A. Increase supply of coal for India's power programme
- B. Provide better social & economic life of the area
- C. Promote industrial activities in alignment with nature and surrounding eco-system
- D. Help in creating national wealth
- E. Generate direct and indirect employment to the local persons

The Bandha Coal Mine was identified and explored by CMPDI and coal seams have been identified to be lying underneath the forest land. Hence, diversion of 785.49 Hectares of the forest land has been proposed for mining activities.


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