



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 and Mineral (Auction) Amendment Rules, 2017 notified thereunder, the Government of Karnataka has identified four (04) iron ore mines for electronic auction for grant of Mining Lease, which are expiring on 31.03.2020. One of them was BBH Mine Block in Bedarabommanahalli, Hirekandavadi and other villages, Chitradurga and Holalkere Taluka, Chitradurga District, Karnataka.

Accordingly, the auction of “**M/s Mineral Enterprises Limited, ML No.2346**” block (one of the A-Category Mines) was held on 24.07.2019. In the auction, JSW Steel Ltd. has been declared as the preferred bidder vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19 dated 26.07.2019 under clause 8.1 B (c) of Tender Document. The Letter of Intent (LoI) vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19 dated 13.08.2019 and Successful Bidder vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19/5180 dated 19.02.2020 have been issued from the office of the Director, Department of Mines & Geology, Karnataka. Subsequently the mining lease will be granted, once all the Clearances, Permits, Consents, NOCs are submitted to sign the Mine Development & Production Agreement.

A letter has been issued from Office of the Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Karnataka (vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19/4898 dated 16.11.2019) instructing the preferred bidder to submit application for Forest Clearance. Forest Department had requested Dept. of Mines & Geology to inform the “Preferred Bidder” to seek forest clearance in FORM-A under Section 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 through Government of India website www.parivesh.nic.in well in time.

Justification for Mine Lease: The existence of the Iron ore is evidenced in the proposed area and the same land will be leased as per LoI to extract the minerals in a scientific & environment friendly manner. The erstwhile lessee (M/s Mineral Enterprises Limited, ML No.2346) has been carried out the detailed exploration and provided a report that the valuable iron ore reserves fall underneath the forestland, which cannot be moved/mined/transported by any other method or medium to any other place other than the Open-pit mining. This method of mining needs diversion of the forestland i.e. the project is site specific. Therefore, the project requires the diversion of **93.60 Hectare** of forest land excluding road over 4.396 hectare and statutory building over 2.286 hectare.

Justification for Approach Roads: Approach road is a critical element, which will serve the access to the mining lease for transporting Men, Machinery & Material. To avoid the congestion and avail smooth movement of vehicles, an ingress and an egress road are proposed. The details of the roads are as follow:

- I. **R-1 falling in forest land:** It is an existing approach road from State Highway 48 towards the mining lease area for transportation of iron ore using dumpers (Heavy Motor



Vehicle) and for the movement of HEMM. The area of R-1 is 1.728 hectare with width of 10 m and is stretched over 1728 m. This road is currently being used by multiple lease holders for the transportation of iron ore using dumpers, thus making the movement of LMV difficult.

- II. **R-2 falling in forest land:** It is an existing approach road from State Highway 48 towards the mining lease area for transportation of men and Light Motor Vehicles. The area of R-2 is 0.827 hectare with width of 5 m and is stretched over 1654 m. This road is being utilized mainly to reduce the traffic load on R-1 and to provide a safe passage to the LMVs. Therefore, we have also proposed to utilize this road.
- III. **Ingress Road R-3 falling in forest land:** This is an existing road which connects R-1 and R-2 to the mining lease. The area of this road is 0.935 hectare with width of 12 m and is stretched over 779.17 m. We have proposed two existing roads for better management of incoming and outgoing traffic to handle such large quantity of material. Also, it is the only road which connects statutory building-2 with the mining lease and R-1.
- IV. **Egress Road R-4 falling in forest land:** This is an existing road which connects mining lease to R-1 and R-2 and statutory building-1. The area of this road is 0.520 hectare with width of 12 m and is stretched over 433.33 m. This road will be exclusively utilized for the transportation of loaded dumpers.
- V. **R-5 falling in forest land:** This is also an existing road which serves as an auxiliary road which connects statutory building-1, R-3 & R-4 to R-1 & R-2. The area of R-5 is 0.386 hectare with width of 12 m and is stretched over 321.67 m.
- VI. **R-6 falling in revenue land:** This is a junction point area of all the roads mentioned above, which covers 0.157 hectares of non-forest land. This non-linear patch being a critical element will serve an access to the existing railway siding.

Justification for Statutory Buildings: As per the Mine Rule, 1955, maintenance and production of reports, registers and other records shall be kept at an office or the nearest convenient building within or near to the mine. However, the mining lease area is fully mineralized zone and proposing such buildings which covers such extent would lock the valuable mineral. Moreover, there are existing statutory buildings in the close vicinity to the mining lease which include Plaza gate, Survey Room, Quality Analysis Laboratory, Rest Shelters, Petrol Bunk, Statutory Office Area, Workshop Area and Lavatories over an area of 2.286 hectare. Therefore, we are proposing the same for our utilization.

Place: Ballari

Date: 25.02.2020

For JSW Steel Limited

Authorized Signatory

