

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND

The Pottangi Bauxite deposit owes their origin to insitu weathering rocks of Khondalite and associated rocks. Bauxite occurs as very gently undulated blanket, capping on the parent rocks on the plateau tops. At an elevation of 1300 mRL to 1416 mRL steep or vertical scrap faces along the periphery of the laterite bauxite caps barren to sparse vegetation at the hill tops, fairly dense growth of flora along the slopes of the plateau characterise the deposit.

The total ML area 697.979 ha comes under forest category namely Pottangi PRF and Galigabeda PRF under Semiliguda Forest Range of Koraput Forest Division. The deposit characterised by top of the hill plateau is site specific irrespective of the land classification.

All the potential grade of Bauxite ore confined to forest area only so there is no alternative other than exploiting the ore deposit in the forest land to cater the requirement of Bauxite for production of Alumina. As the total area subjected for mining falls under forest area, diversion of the same for non-forestry use is inevitable under the Forest Conservation Act 1980. Accordingly the total forest area over 697.979 ha which includes 674.579 ha under active diversion and 23.400 ha under Safety Zone diversion has been sought for forest clearance under Section 2(ii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.



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