



JSW Steel Limited

Vijayanagar Works :

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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 had 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 Dharmapura Iron Ore Mine Block in Ramgad Village, Sandur Taluk Ballari District, Karnataka State.

Accordingly, the auction of “**M/s Zeenath Transport Company, ML No. 2239**” block (one of the B-Category Mines) was held on 24.07.2019. In the auction, JSW Steel Ltd. has been declared preferred bidder vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19 dated 26.07.2019 under clause 8.1 B (c) of Tender Document and issued Letter of Intent vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19 dated 13.08.2019 from the office of the Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Karnataka. Subsequently, we are declared as the successful bidder vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19/5172 dated 19.02.2020. The mining lease will be granted, once all the Clearances, Permits, Consents, NOCs are submitted to sign the Mine Development & Production Agreement.

Moreover, a letter has been issued from Office of the Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Karnataka (vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19/4886 dated 16.11.2019) instructing the preferred bidder to submit application for FC. Forest Department has requested 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.

The existence of the iron ore is evidenced in the proposed area and the same land will be leased as per LoI vide letter no. DMG-2020:MLS:AUC:2018-19 dated 13.08.2019 issued by the Department of Mines & Geology, Karnataka, to extract the minerals in a scientific & environment friendly manner. The erstwhile lessee (M/s Zeenath Transport Company, ML No. 2239) has 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 is proposed to locate in the forestland, which will be leased in forestland over **43.58 Ha.**

Place: Ballari
Date: 28.02.2020

For JSW Steel Ltd.

Authorized Signatory



Part of O. P. Jindal Group

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