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JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT STRUCTURE IN FOREST AREA

For Humankind, Water does more than just quench your thirst and regulate your body's temperature; it also keeps the tissues in your body moist. You know how it feels when your eyes, nose, or mouth gets dry? Keeping your body hydrated helps it retain optimum levels of moisture in these sensitive areas, as well as in the blood, bones, and the brain. In addition, water helps protect the spinal cord, and it acts as a lubricant and cushion for your joints.

Water Supply and Sanitation is a State responsibility under the Indian Constitution. States may give the responsibility to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI) in rural areas or municipalities in urban areas, called Urban Local Bodies (ULB). At present, states generally plan, design and execute water supply schemes (and often operate them) through their State Departments (of Public Health Engineering or Rural Development Engineering) or State Water Boards.

Depleting ground water table and deteriorating ground water quality are threatening the sustainability of both urban and rural water supply in many parts of India. The supply of cities that depend on surface water is threatened by pollution, increasing water scarcity and conflicts among users.

According to recent statistics, 44 million are affected by degraded water quality with the excess of fluoride, arsenic, iron, nitrate, heavy metals and salinity. Only 18.7% of villages have safe water supply while 51.1% depends on wells, tanks and other sources. 32% of the villages do not have any water supply. The objective of every nation is to provide safe drinking water for all. Panchayat involvement, community participation, private public partnership, intersect oral coordination is very important to achieve the mission of distributing safe drinking water to the rural areas of India.

To sum-up, the Mega PWS project under RWS&S Division, Sambalpur is aimed provide the potable drinking water to rural population of over 62000 in 115 villages at Rairakhol Block of Sambalpur district.

The proposed land for WTP has been identified at Kadaligarh, Rairakhol block. Before choosing this land we have surveyed and searched for land near the intake well at Kiakata which is in Angul. We weren't able to get the land at desired location as the identified lands were owned by private tenants and they refused to give us the plot. We then searched for the plot in and around Rairakhol as this will be closer to our ESRs. We had two issues, first, the total area required for WTP is larger than most other units in the system so we weren't able to get large non-forest plot at any one place, secondly, most of the land in this part of Rairakhol block is under forest cover. We have surveyed in and around Rairakhol block with the concerned Revenue Inspectors and Tahasildar to identify the non-forest lands but we weren't able to get any suitable location.

We have tried out best to make sure the identified land has the least adverse effects on the ecosystem and less trees are harmed for construction of the WTP which is needed for the greater good of the people.

Yours Faithfully



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