

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN THE FOREST LAND

The instant lease i.e. 6.90 Sq. Mile Mining lease of Bolani Ores Mines (6.90 Sq Miles ML) is an on-going Mining Project with all its ancillary activities operative since 14.11.1962. Initially, Bolani Ores Mines was a single mining complex and quarries and infrastructural facilities were created under both the leases based on the convenience and suitability of land. The tract on Hill Range in the west, measuring 5.10 sq. mile was taken for iron ore and the area in the valley stretching from Barbil in the east right upto the foothills was taken for ancillary activities and Manganese mining areas as 6.9 sq. mile lease .

The 6.90 Sq. Mile mining lease is a manganese and iron ore bearing lease of Raw Materials Division of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), a Govt. of India Undertaking. Manganese mining in this lease had to be discontinued since 1980's due to lack of forest clearance in compliance to Forest (Conservation Act). In order to substantiate the manganese ore requirement in line of the expansion planned of the Steel Plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL); the Raw Materials Division (RMD) of SAIL has planned to resume mining activity and produce manganese ore from this lease to meet the enhanced requirement of Manganese ore in Steel Plants of SAIL and Maharashtra Electro smelt Ltd., located at Chandrapur, Maharashtra. In the Approved Mining Plan of 6.9 Sq. Mile Lease of Bolani, it has been proposed to win manganese ore from Quarry Nos. 4, 5 & 7. Revenue plots of part of Quarry no 4 & 5, fall in non forest land (HAL) which are certified to be forest as on 25.10.1980 . The Quarry Nos. 9 & 10 also fall in the non-forest land, part of which are also certified to be forest as on 25.10.1980. Mining in these quarries could not be carried out during the plan period in absence of Forestry Clearance. It is proposed to carry out mining at the rate of 15,000 TPA in this Scheme Period both from quarries located in Forest as well as non- forest land recorded as forest in order to substantiate the manganese ore requirement of the Steel Plants of SAIL.

The lease is also supportive mining lease of 5.1 sq. mile lease of Bolani Ores Mines, which is the main iron ore supplier to Rourkela Steel Plant and other steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) . The essential ancillary activities such as Railway Siding and Loading plant, tailing and fines disposal facilities, Intake point, Township which are required for ore production from both Bolani 6.90 sq. miles ML and Bolani 5.1 sq. miles ML are located in the non forest land (as per HAL) of this instant 6.9 Sq. miles mining lease which have been certified to be recorded as forest land as on 25.10.1980 by Tahasildar, Barbil vide his letter dated 01.06.2016. As per the certificate of Tahasildar, Barbil, 238.093 Ha ROR area was identified as Forest as on/after 25.10.1980. Out of the above identified as forest land, around 128 Ha and is already broken up since inception for the aforesaid essential ancillary installations such as Railway Siding and Loading plant, tailing and fines disposal facilities, Intake point, Township which are required for ore production from both Bolani 6.90 sq. miles ML and Bolani 5.1 sq. miles ML . As such, the above installations on 6.90 sq. miles ML are indispensable to despatch the iron ore produced from Bolani 5.1 sq. miles ML to meet the requirement of SAIL steel plants.

Hence , the instant proposal is submitted for approval under section-2(ii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980 over 128 ha Non forest land (HAL) recorded as forest as on 25.10.1980 including 3.687 ha of safety zone and over 110.093 ha Non forest land (HAL) recorded as forest as on 25.10.1980 under section-2(iii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980, in compliance with the guideline F No. 8-78/1996-FC(pt.) dt.10.03.2015 read with F No. 8-78/1996-FC(pt.) dt.09.03.2016 of MoEF & CC, Govt. of India .


General Manager (Mines)

Bolani Ores Mines
पी. सी. नाईक / P. C. Naik
नगरपालिका (अवकाश) / General Manager (Mines)
बेल - ३०१ एम डी - रावसाई-अवकाश अड्डा
SAIL, RMD-Bolani Ores Mines
बेलनं: 758 037, रावसाई, ओडीशा
Bolan: 758 037, Rawasai, Odisha