JUSTIFICATION OF LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

M/s S. R Rungta is one of the leading and the oldest mining group of the mineral rich belt of Odisha & Jharkhand. The group is engaged in these activities for the past six decades, which made the group a pioneer house of mineral industry.

Rungta Mines Limited (RML), the flagship company of S.R Rungta group established in the year 1962 is one of the leading Iron Ore Producer in Jharkhand & Odisha.

M/s Rungta Mines Limited is expanding the Kamanda Integrated Steel Plant up to 0.75 MTPA from 0.60 MTPA in the state of Odisha. The steel manufacturing process will be via Pelletisation, Sponge iron, Sinter, Mini Blast Furnace, Coke Oven, Induction Furnace, Ladle, Refining Furnace, Continuous Caster, Rolling Mill (TMT/Round/Wired Road/Structural/Flat/Others), Ferro - Alloy Plant.

We are proposing to expand the following facilities and approval is obtained from ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi as well as State Pollution Control Board, Bhubaneswar.

The Company has already commissioned 0.27 MTPA DRI plant, 0.20 MTPA Steel and 40 MW (20 MW WHRB + 20 MW AFBC) captive power plants over an area of 154.489 Ha. in village Kamanda of district Sundargarh, Odisha, which is under operation. Additional units such as 1 x 350 TPD DRI and 8 MW CPP utilizing the heat energy of the flu gas for steam generation by installing Waste Heat Recovery Boiler (WHRB) in under installation within the premises.

The Kamanda Plant is connected with 33 KKV voltage level with a CD of 2650 KVA with WESCO network in Joda-Tensa 33 KV line. At 33 KV system the maximum power can be evacuated up to 15 MW. Some times during failure of any of the above the power will be surplus, hence it requires to be evacuated to grid for smooth operation of the plant as well as meet the requirement of power in other areas of the locality. During operation of SMS and rolling mill the 7th and 13th harmonics are generated which very much dangerous for operation of power plant.

It required to be nullified by connecting to the grid system which infinite bus system.

Besides that it is needless to inform you that in 132 KV system we may transfer the power to any place of the country through open access in tune of up to 70 MW.

- 1. Hence it is essential to be connected with 132 KV at Barbil Grid. This is the shortest route taken up for this transmission line.
- 2. This route is well located for the incoming and outgoing transmission line with a proper road connectivity with less power loss.
- 3. This proposed route is aligned in such a way, so that less forest land used and the lesser number of trees are enumerated for cutting & pruning.
- 4. This proposed route is aligned in such a way, so that it will avoid the running mining area of the locality.

The other objects of this project are.

- 1. Improvement of power supply will overcome Low Voltage problems; reduce outage thus improving the efficiency of the steel plant as well as domestic and agriculture appliances.
- 2. Quality power will encourage small scale and medium scale industries which will generate employment in the area of Keonjharand Sundargarh District.
- 3. Due to Electrification of the villages and Cities with quality power, this will reduce growth of the criminal activities.
- 4. Quality power supply will facilitate Administration to provide common people better equipped Hospital and help in upgraded Technical Institutions for education and administration.

Alternate Alignment

All possible alternatives have been explored to reduce the area of forest land, avoiding thickly populated village areas, thickly forest area, and running mining area before finalization of the selected route. The area was studied thoroughly and found that other routes area having impact on forest as well as mining areas. The suitable route (Route-III) of the Transmission line from 132/33KV Grid Sub-Station at- Barbil, district Keonjhar to Kamanda Steel Plant of M/s Rungta Mines Limited in Sundargarh district over a length of 33.90 KM. This project involves 46.609 Ha Non-Forest Land and 35.507 Ha of Forest Land (Keonjhar Forest Division 31.806 Ha + Bonai Forest Division 3.701 Ha). This project area does not come under any protected areas.

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Route -I: -

The length of the Transmission Line is about 32.50 Kms and having 113 Angle points. This route involves total forest area 48.033 Haincluding 18.670 Ha of Reserved Forest and passing through Siddhamatha RF.

Route – II:-

The length of the Transmission Line in about 33.25 Kms and having 127 Angle points, this route involved total forest area 56.428 Ha including 26.065 Ha of Reserved Forest and passing through Siddhamatha RF.

Route – III:-

The length of Transmission Line is 33.90 Kms having 164 Angle points. This route involves 35.507Ha of Forest Land including 6.144 Ha of Reserved Forest and passing through Siddhamatha RF.

After extensive exercise 3 alternate route (Route-I, Route-II & Route-III) are analyzed for construction of Transmission line. Out of the above 3 routs, Route no. III has been finalized for the following reasons.

- 1. This route involves a less forest area 35.507 Ha (Keonjhar Forest Division 31.806 Ha + Bonai Forest Division 3.701 Ha) compared with the forest areas of other alternate routes.
- 2. Other then route no.III, no alternate route can be considered to savegreen land and avoid active mining areas.
- 3. This route is well located for incoming and outgoing Transmission line with a proper road connectivity with less power loss.
- 4. This proposed route is aligned in such a way, so that lesser no's of tress will be felled.
- 5. For Construction of the Transmission line & Grid Sub-Station there is a requirement of huge employment potential. Beside user agency have already engaged local people for detailed survey of the proposed project area. Around 50 people will be engaged continuously for 5 to 6 months during construction period. Also opportunities will be developed after strengthening of power scenario in course of construction. Local contractors shall be benefited to a large extent.

Beside the above employment indirect but continuous engagement of some local people is being generated for statutory work, maintenance work etc.

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