


**Annexure-XXXII**

**JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA**

Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification. In order to meet the requirement of iron Ore, Steel & Mines Dept. vide proceedings dt 09.02.2016 has allowed extension till dt 30.12.2038 in respect of mining lease for iron ore over retained area of 268.84 ha in Khandadhar RF, Khandadhar PRF and Sarkunda PRF of Sundargarh district for a period of 50 years under rule 72 of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 which covers entirely forest land. The exploration undertaken so far proved substantial iron ore reserve. The following are the justification of locating the project in forest land:

- Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification.
- Rantha ML area over 268.84 Ha comprises R.F. and P.R.F. category of land.
- There is no non-forest land in the lease hold area.
- Production target is envisaged at 1.0 MTPA which would cater the need of the industries.
- The continuation and expansion of the mining operations, as proposed, is going to enhance the revenue earnings for the State and the Central Government.
- A scientific and judicious method of mining is proposed to be adopted requiring minimum extent of forest land likely to be exploited more specifically for mining purpose.
- Forest area proposed for mining shall continue over a period of 89 years.
- The requirement of forest land as highlighted in the proposal is felt essential.
- Unless the total forest land within the ML is diverted the lease cannot be renewed.
- Keeping in view of safe and systematic mining over 89 years, the forest land under this proposal is necessarily required including the existing broken up quarries.

  
(Dr. Suman Krishna Sit)  
General Manager (Geology)  
Authorized signatory  
Suman Krishna Sit  
General Manager(Geo)  
Power of Attorney Holder  
Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd.  
Bhubaneswar