



## Justification for locating the project in forest area

### Guali Iron Ore Mines of OMC Ltd.

Mining of a particular ore deposit is always site specific irrespective of the land classification. Guali iron ore mining lease of OMC covers an area of **358.258 ha** out of which **332.100 ha** is forest land which is about **92.70%** of the total land. The exploration conducted proved substantial resource of higher grade iron ore and the deposits are confined to forest areas only. Since most of the potential deposits are confined to the forest area of the lease, selection of alternative non-forest land within the lease area for undertaking mining is ruled out. The production target is envisaged to be 30.0 MTPA to cater the need of the iron & steel industries. This demands continuation and expansion of the mining operation on a large scale in this mining lease area considering the potential reserve of iron ore.

The current operation is confined to **137.417 ha** (42.417 ha + 95.00 ha) of forest land in accordance with the final approval granted by MoEF, Govt. of India during 2005 and 2011. Since iron ore production from this mine is planned for **30.0 MTPA** to cater the requirement of the steel plants with which State Government has signed MoUs, the mining is required to be extended by developing the mine pits. So, the balance forest area over **194.683 ha {332.10-(42.417+95)}** has been proposed for diversion. However, a scientific and judicious method of mining is proposed to be adopted requiring forest land likely to be exploited more specifically for mining purpose. The forest area proposed for mining is required for exploitation of minable reserve over **08 years**. Keeping in view the extent of overburden that will be generated in the process of mining over 08 years, an area of **56.90 ha** of forest land is necessarily required for safe and systematic dumping of the generated overburden by maintaining proper slope and terracing. The continuation and expansion of the mining operations, as proposed, is going to enhance the revenue earnings both for the State and the Central Government.

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**THE Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd.**

(A Gold Category State PSU)

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**CIN : U131000R1956SGC000313**