

भारत सरकार /GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, भोपाल/ REGIONAL OFFICE, BHOPAL Kendriya Paryavaran Bhavan, Link Road No.3, E-5, Ravi Shankar Nagar,

> BHOPAL - 462016 (M.P.) TEL: 0755-2466525 E-mail: rowz.bpl-mef@nic.in



File No. 6-MPC027/2019-BH0/ 38/

Dated 20 /05/2025.

To,

The Additional Director General of Forests (FC) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj New Delhi - 110 003.

Sub: Site Inspection for diversion of 19.00 ha Reserve forest land for Open Cast Mining of Pyrophilite/diaspore in Compartment No. RF-262, Range Jatara, Tikamgarh District of Madhya Pradesh State in favour of M/s Khajuraho Minerals Pvt. Ltd. (Online No. FP/MP/MIN/35835/2018) - regarding.

Ref: MoEF&CC (FC Division), New Delhi letter dated 21.03.2025.

Sir,

With respect to the subject and reference cited above, the Site Inspection Report of Regional Office, Bhopal in respect of 19.00 ha Reserve forest land for Open Cast Mining of Pyrophilite/diaspore in Compartment No. RF-262, Range Jatara, Tikamgarh district in favour of M/s Khajuraho Minerals Pvt. Ltd. of Tikamgarh District, Madhya Pradesh State is submitted herewith for further necessary action.

Yours faithfully

Encl : As above.

(Ashok Kumar Sinha) Dy. Director General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

Shri Suneet Bhardwaj, AIGF, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (FC Division), Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bag Road, Aliganj, New Delhi.

Field Inspection Report of A.K. Sinha, IFS, DDGF (C), RO Bhopal

<u>Ref:</u> Gol, MoEF&CC (FC Division), letter No. 6-MPC027/2019-BHO, Dated-21 March, 2025. <u>Date of Inspection</u>: 03.05.2025

Officers present at the time of inspection: -

- 1. A. K. Sinha, Dy. Director General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal.
- 2. Shri Sarvesh Sonwani, DFO, Tikamgarh
- 3. Shri Sishupal Ahirwar, Range Officer, Jatara
- 4. Shri Ashwani Kumar Mishra, Dy. Range Officer
- 5. Shri Premnarayan Ahirwar, FBO, Harpura
- 6. Shri A. P. Singh, Director, Khajuraho Minerals Private Limited
- 7. Shri Abhishek Parmar, Technical Person, Khajuraho Minerals Private Limited

Title	of the Project:	Go Ev ha Py Ja	overn vam S a Ro yroph tara, f M/s	sal for seeking p nment under Section Samvardhan) Adhini eserve Forest lan nilite/diaspore in C Tikamgarh District o Khajuraho Mineral /MIN/35835/2018)	2 (1) (ii) of the V yam, 1980 for div d for open ca ompartment No. of Madhya Prades	Van (San version ast Min RF-262 h State i	rakshan of 19.00 ning of , Range n favour
1.	Legal status of the forest land proposed for diversion:		Rese	erved Forest: 19.00	ha		
2.	Item-wise break-up details of the forest land proposed for		Sl. no.	Component wise break-up	Forest Division/ Forest Range	Forest comp. no.	area (ha)
	diversion:		1.	Mining	Tikamgarh	RF-	18.964
			2.	Approach road	/Jatara	262	0.036
a Shiring				to	otal		19.00
3.	Whether proposal involves any construction of buildings (including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof:		No				
4.	Total cost of the Project at present rates:		870	00 Lakhs as per Pari	vesh Portal Part-J	l ·	
5.	Wildlife:	1000	Nilgai, Peacocks, Jackals, Bear, Occasional movement of Hyena, Wild pig, etc.				

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6.	Vegetation:	Cano The ma	ii. La iii. Di iv. Az v. Ac vi. Mi vii. Ca vii. Bu	s varying f and in the an llenia penta gerstroemic ospyros mel radirachta in lina cordifol itragyna pan ssia fistula itea monosp her misc. Sp	rea are as gyna a parviflor anoxylon ndica lia rvifolia perma	follows: -	
7.	Background note on the proposal:	crust. ceran locali	minerals Py morphic rock They are m nic industries, zed in nature.	found as sr ainly used etc. They a	nall pocke in rubbe	ets/ veins i er, paints,	fire bricks,
8.	Compensatory Afforestation:	As pe Sl. No. 1	District Chhatarpur	Tehsil Buxwaha otal	Village Kasera	Khasra No. 13/1	Area (ha) 19.00 19.00
9.	Whether proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980 or not. If yes, a detailed report on violation including action Taken against the concerned officials:	No					
10.	Whether proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons. If yes, whether rehabilitation plan has been prepared by the State Government or not:	No					•

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11.	Reclamation Plan: (If applicable, submit details and Financial allocation:	Reclamation plan is included in the approved mining plan.
12.	Details on catchment and command area under the project:	Not applicable.
13.	Cost benefit ratio:	1:16.4 (as per Parivesh portal Part-I)
14.	Recommendations of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/State Government:	Recommended
15.	Utility of the Project:	They are mainly used in rubber, paints, fire bricks, ceramic industries, etc. It will also provide employment to the local people.
16.	Whether land being diverted has any socio cultural/religious value:	No.
17.	Situation w.r.t. Any P.A.	Proposed area is neither a part of any protected area nor it falls within 10 km of the nearest protected area. It also does not fall in any notified Wildlife corridor.
18.	Any other information relating to the Project:	

19. Specific comments/ observation of inspecting officer

INSPECTION OF THE PROPOSED DIVERSION AREA

Forest Division-Tikamgarh, Range- Jatara; Beat-Harpura, Forest Comp. No. RF-262, Area-19.00 Ha

The area is a hillock and its foot hills, with highly undulating terrain. It has very sparse vegetation with species as shown in column no. 06. The dominant species in the area is *Butea monosperma*. The area is observed to be highly dry with very less vegetation. The trees found are stunted in growth. Most of the trees are not fit for timber and are fit

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for only fuel wood. The soil is also very poor in nutrients. The biotic pressure like collection of fuel wood and grazing is very high. All these factors are responsible for degradation of forest in the area. The Pyrophyllite and Diaspore deposit is just like a vein in the middle of the proposed diversion area. The said mineral is igneous metamorphic rock is found in a particular vein/pocket and does not spread either laterally or vertically. Therefore, the mining for these deposits are very intensive in nature. The rocks/ overburden which does not contain the mineral or are in very small percentage, are removed as overburden. The proposed area is completely inside the Reserved Forest land. Therefore, the project proponent has proposed a diversion of 0.036 ha for approach road to the proposed diversion area. This approach access is linked to a black top road.

The wildlife in the area is as shown in column no. 05. The proposed diversion area neither falls in any protected area nor is a part of any notified Wildlife corridor. The nearest protected area is Orchha Sanctuary situated at a distance of about 50 kms. Therefore, the proposed diversion area is not very important from Wildlife point of view.

As informed by the project proponent, there is no requirement of electricity connection as the electricity would be made available by solar panels. The requirement of water for drinking or dust suppression would be purchased and transported by tankers in the mine. Therefore, there is no provision for supply of electricity or pipeline for water. The mining is proposed to be done by rock breakers and sorting of minerals manually. The removal of overburden would be by shovel and dumper combination. The evacuation of minerals would be by dumpers. The mining operation is proposed to be carried out only during day time. The reclamation of the mine would be as per the approved mining plan.

The provisions for safety zone area, dumping area, Office/maintenance hut, etc. have not been depicted in the KML file of the proposed diversion area in online Parivesh portal. However, during the site inspection, the same were discussed with the project proponents and they informed that following provisions have been made in the proposed diversion area:

1) Safety zone around the mining area to a width of 7.5 meter

- 2) Proposed OB/waste dump area
- 3) Garland drain
- 4) Green belt in safety zone

These provisions are not shown in the KML file in online Parivesh portal. The User Agency has prepared a map (to the scale) showing the mining lease boundary and all the details as mentioned above along with location of existing Jamnara nala. The same is enclosed herewith for ready reference.

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According to the same, it is observed that a seasonal Jamnara nala is flowing just beside the mineralized area. The nala is observed to be crossing the mining lease boundary at two locations. The project proponent explained that though the nala is crossing the mining lease boundary at two points, the nala would not be disturbed by the mining activity. It was also informed by the project proponent that a garland drain is also proposed much inside the lease boundary than the course of Jamnara nala and hence there is no possibility of extending the mining operations beyond the garland drain. The same has been shown in map provided. Therefore, the hydrology of the Jamanara nala won't get affected. It was also informed by the project proponent that a safety zone area with 7.5 meter width all along the lease boundary shall be provided and the same shall be planted with native species in consultation with the State Forest department. Also an area proposed for OB/waste dump has been provided in the south east corner lease area.

It is suggested to provide settling tanks at suitable points in the garland drain, so that the water is discharged into the Jamanara nala without any silt. Further, the approach access should also be provided with at least two rows of plantation and its maintenance with native species at the cost of the User Agency.

INSPECTION OF CA AREAS

Date of Inspection: 04.05. 2025

Officers present at the time of inspection: -

- 1. A. K. Sinha, Dy. Director General of Forests (C), Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhopal.
- 2. Shri Ramkumar, Sub DFO, Buxwaha
- 3. Shri Lav Pratap Singh, Range Officer, Buxwaha
- 4. Shri Mahendra Singh Gond, Dy. Range Officer, Buxwaha
- 5. Shri Sheet Kumar Kol, FBO, Jagara in-charge
- 6. Shri A. P. Singh, Director, Khajuraho Minerals Private Limited
- 7. Shri Abhishek Parmar, Technical Person, Khajuraho Minerals Private Limited

District- Chhatarpur, Range- Buxwaha; Tehsil- Buxwaha, Village-Kasera, Khasra no.-13/1, Area- 19.00 ha

The CA area provided is mostly a plain land with gentle gradient. The area is adjacent to PF-277 and the vegetation is also in continuation with the vegetation of the forest area. The vegetation in the area comprises of mostly matured trees of species such as *Butea monosperma*, *Holoptelea integrifolia*, *Diospyros melanoxylon*, *Terminalia arjuna*,

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Cassia fistula, Adina cordifolia, Lagerstroemia parviflora, Aegle marmelos, Cordia dicotoma, Feronia elephantum, etc. As analysed through DSS, it was observed that in about 7.00 ha of the area is having MDF/VDF. Therefore, for this 7.00 ha area, only crop improvement plan needs to be submitted. The crop improvement plan may include Silvicultural operations such as removal of weed, Cut back operation for high cuts, singling operations, Soil and moisture conservation works like gully plugging, formation of percolation tanks, staggered contour trenching, gap planting, seed dibbling, etc.

In the rest of the 12.00 ha CA area, it is almost open with canopy density varying from 0.0 to 0.3. The soil in the area is sandy loam with considerable depth. The nutrients in the soil also seems to be satisfactory. As per the CA scheme prepared and submitted, it is observed that 28,300 plants are proposed to be planted in the said area which is sufficient for the 12.00 ha degraded area. **Therefore, taking into consideration, the above-mentioned facts there is no requirement of any CA in Degraded Forest Land.** It is suggested to provide chain link fence all around the 19.00 ha CA area before taking up plantations with native species. A solar pump with borewell and watcher's hut cum watch tower are also suggested for better growth of plantation and its protections suitable soil and moisture conservation works are also suggested for better results.

Taking into consideration, all the facts mentioned above, the CA land provided is an excellent one and very much suitable for raising plantations with native species.

20	Recommendations Of Regional Deputy Director General of Forests (C) along with detailed reasons:	The project is recommended for approval subject to the observations as mentioned in the note above.
21.	Regional Head shall give detailed comments on whether there are any alternatives routes/alignments for locating the project on the non-forest land:	The project is concerning mining of Pyrophyllite and Diaspore minerals which are minor minerals and site specific in nature. These minerals, outside the forest area have either been exhausted or very low grade in quality. Therefore, there is no alternative to the proposal.

(Ashok Kumar Sinha) Dy. Director General of Forests (C) **Regional Office**, Bhopal Page 6 of 9

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FIELD INSPECTION PHOTOGRAPHS



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