



BEFORE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
 EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
 ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 121/2022/EZ

Abhishek
 identified by me
Abhishek Bhushan

In the matter of :-

SATISH PURI

.....APPLICANT

-Vs-

Union of India Others

.....RESPONDENTS

COUNTER AFFIDAVIT ON BEHALF OF THE
 RESPONDENT NO. 6, THE DIVISIONAL FOREST
 OFFICER, SARANDA FOREST DIVISION, WEST
 SINGHBHUM, JHARKHAND

02
25.02.23



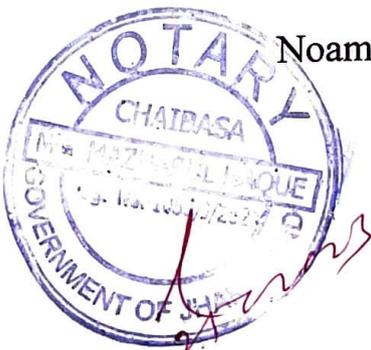
I, Abhishek Bhushan, aged about 34 years, son of Sri I.B.
 Prasad, resident of Gandhi Tola, P.O + P.S-Chaibasa, Dist-

25.02.23

West Singhbhum do hereby solemnly affirm and State as follows :-

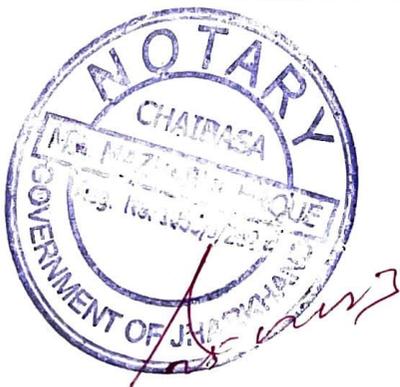
1. That presently, I am working and posted as the Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand and have been duly authorized by the Respondent State of Jharkhand to swear this affidavit.
2. That I have gone through the pleadings of the above application and after understanding the contents thereof, I am filing this counter reply to the said application.
3. That the applicant herein has primarily filed this application under Section 14 and 15 read with Section 20 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 alleging inter-alia question relating to the environment with regard to large scale pollution of River Koina from Vijay-II Iron Ore mine of M/s Usha Martin Limited which has now been taken over by Tata Steel Long Products Limited located in Village Ghatkuri, Tehsil Noamundi, District West Sighbhum, Jharkhand.

Abhishek
Identified by me
[Signature]



It has further been submitted that the Applicant herein noticed on 14.10.2021 discharge of iron fines from Vijay-II Iron Ore mine which polluted the river Koina and nearby forest area. This pollution is caused because of non-compliance of conditions contained in Environment Clearance letter dated 22.12.2008 and also in violation of Forest Clearance dated 09.11.2012. The discharge of the pollutant is also in violation of the provisions of Water Act. The Applicant further submits that till date the breach of iron fines from Vijay-II Iron Ore mine is continuing thereby causing large scale pollution of river Koina and the same can be seen from the satellite images taken by the Applicant on June, 2022. Thus, till date no restoration has been done by the Project Proponent.

4. That at the outset it is stated that the Application filed on behalf of the application is highly misconceived, baseless and



Regional Office (IRO), MoEF &CC, Ranchi nominated Mr. M.R Prasad Scientist-C, District Magistrate, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand nominated ADC, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.

Photocopy of the nominated competent authorities by the committee member is being annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure-A** to this reply.

Abhishek

Identified by me
 Date: 25/07/2023
 A. K. SINGH

5. That the aforesaid Committee was required to visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter, submit its report, and if the allegations were found to exist, the Committee was also required to compute the Environmental Compensation and recommend remedial



measures, and the said report of the Committee was required to be submitted before the Hon'ble Tribunal by affidavit.

6. That in compliance of the order passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal NGT vide order dated 07.09.2022, the Joint Committee from various Organizations / institutions for inspection of the Vijay II Iron ore mine was constituted and who was required to visit the site with a direction that ".....The Committee shall visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter submit its report.

"In compliance to the Hon'ble Court's directions, a Site Visit was conducted by the following members of the Joint Committee on 12.10.2022: 1. Shri Chandra Mauli Sinha, IFS, DFO, Saranda Forest Division 2. Shri S. K. Sinha, Addl. District Commissioner, Chaibasa 3. Shri Prajesh Jena, IFS, Attached Officer, Saranda Forest Division 4. Shri Jitendra Prasad Singh, Regional Officer, JSPCB, Jamshedpur 5. Shri

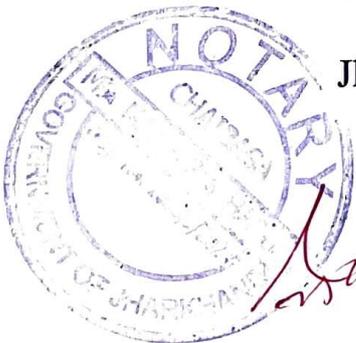


Abhishek
Identified by me
Abhishek
ADVO

M. Rajeshwar Prasad, Scientist C, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Ranchi 6. Shri Taufic Aslam, Scientist B, CPCB, Regional Office Kolkata All the members of the Joint Committee along with Officials from the Vijay II Iron Ore Mines, inspected various locations within and outside the mine lease premises and have noted all the observations along with photographs.

Identified by the
District Advocate

Following the Site Visit, the members of the Joint Committee have discussed the issues stated in the petition. Brief note on the project: Vijay II Iron Ore block is located in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand State. The nearest township is Kiriburu located at a distance of 15 km from Ghatkuri village. State capital Ranchi is located at 330 km distance. The nearest Railway station is Barajamda Railway station at a distance of 15 km from the block. Vijay II Iron Ore block is located in Ghatkuri reserve Forest in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand state, under Survey of India OSM



No.F45H8 and is bound by co-ordinates with latitudes 22°09'56"N, 22°11'18"N, 22°11'16"E & 22°09'53"N and longitudes 85°20'17"E, 85°20'56"E, 85°21'32"E & 85°21'26"E.

The ownership of Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine, situated in Ghatkuri Reserve Forest was originally with M/s Usha Martin Limited. Mining lease was granted by the Jharkhand State Government in respect of which a lease deed was executed on 16.08.2005 and registered as no. 1382/1372 on 18.08.2005 at the office of the Sub – Registrar of Chaibasa, Jharkhand.

Subsequently, in the mine was taken over from M/s Usha Martin Limited by M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd., M/s Usha Martin Limited preferred a transfer application letter no. UML/RNC/2018/166 dated 03.12.2018 under the Mineral (Transfer of Mining Lease granted otherwise than through

Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules 2016, requesting the



State Government for its approval in connection with transfer of the Mining Lease to the M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd.

The State Government vide letter no. 32/2018/M432 dated 09.03.2019 approved the transfer application under the Mineral (Transfer of Mining lease granted otherwise than through Auction for Captive purpose) Rules 2016, subject to compliance of the terms and conditions contained in the said letter, which is annexed in Transfer Deed.

Abhishek
 Identified by me:
Dr. Jyoti K. Patil
 Advocate

The transfer deed as per the above approval letter has been executed on 25.05.2019 and registered on 27.05.2019 between M/s Usha Martin Ltd and M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. A fresh mining lease deed was executed in favor of M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. on 19.08.2019 as per condition no. 9 of the letter no. 432 dated 09.03.2019, read with Rule 12 of the Mineral (Transfer of Mining Lease granted otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules 2016 and a Mine Development and Production Agreement (MDPA) was



signed for meeting captive requirements for its steel plant at Gamharia. Subsequently, there has been a change in the name of the company. A fresh "Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name" has been issued by the office of the Registrar of Companies, Cuttack, Orissa under the notice of Name Change of company from "Tata Sponge Iron Limited" to "Tata Steel Long Products Limited" on August 20, 2019.

From scrutiny of the documents submitted on the project, it was noted that the project was accorded Environment Clearance and Forest clearances by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, more vividly described in the inspection report dated 12.10.2022 enclosed herewith.

Abhishek

*Identified by
Admission No. 222
Jharkhand*



Photocopy of the inspection report dated 12.10.2022 is

being annexed herewith the
marked as **Annexure-B** to
this reply.

7. That it may further be mentioned here that the aforesaid
committee in terms of the direction issued by the Hon'ble
NGT and in consonance with the issues raised in the petition:
being Original Petition No. 121/2022, the following issues
were perceived:

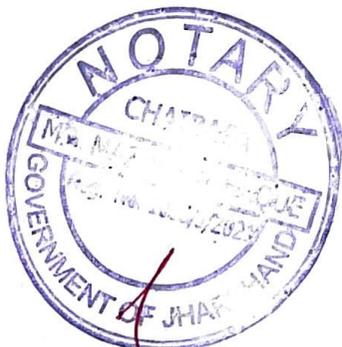
- a. Discharge of large quantities of iron ore fines from Vijay –
II Iron ore mines which has polluted Koina River and
nearby Forest areas.
- b. This pollution is caused due to non-compliance to
conditions of the Environment Clearance letter dated
22.12.2008.
- c. It is also due to violation of Forest Clearance letter dated
09.11.2012.

A. Bhisley
Identified by me
S. J. Advocates



- d. The discharge of pollutants is also in violation of the provisions of the Water Act.
- e. The breach of the iron fines from Vijay – II Iron ore fines is continuing thereby causing large scale pollution of River Koina and the same can be seen by satellite imagery taken in June, 2022.
- f. Till date no restoration has been done by the project proponent.
- g. As per the EC Conditions mentioned in the letters issued in the years 2005 and 2008, the project authorities are to construct catch drains, siltation ponds around the mine, mineral and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River and Koina River , seasonal nallas and other water bodies.
- h. The project proponent was also to construct garland drains, settling tanks and check dams around the mine pit and overburden to prevent runoff.

Abhishek
22/06/2022
22/06/2022
22/06/2022



[Handwritten signature]

i. The project proponent was also to design the same keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall in the area adjoining the mine sites.

j. The applicant noticed that the pollutant being discharged from the Iron ore mine on 14.10.2021 which polluted the river and the streams and surrounding forest areas. Overall damage is 5 ha which is gathered through sentinel satellite image.

*Identified by me
Date 25/02/2023
Advocate*

8. That answering respondent at this stage humbly submits that the Observations made by the Committee on the aforesaid issues raised in the petition are being discussed in detail in the report of the Joint committee dated 12.10.2022, enclosed hereinabove, and for the sake of brevity the observation made therein are not being reiterated, however, the answering respondent humbly seek leave to rely on the averments made therein at the time of hearing, if so required, to substantiate its contentions.



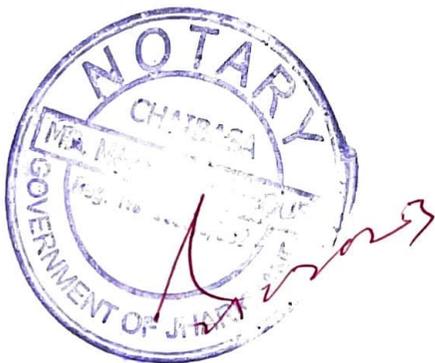
9. That as mentioned herein above the members of the Joint Committee have visited the sites and various issues mentioned in the petition were deliberated and have been verified at site and has been made following relevant observation:-

a. *The project authorities have taken adequate measures like covering the OB dumps, mineral dumps, constructed garland drains which flow into the siltation pond, have raised plantation over the OB dumps for stabilization and has constructed check dams for arresting the silt and sediments before the water flows out of the mine into the surrounding water bodies.*

b. *There are no seasonal nalas originating from the mine and flowing into the water bodies.*

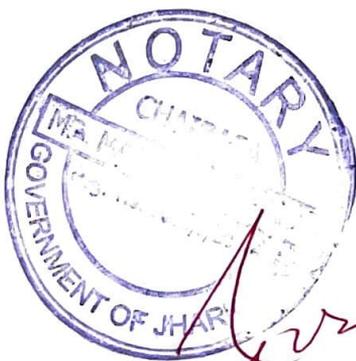
From the observations made at the site, it is viewed that the possibility of mine water flowing into the Koina and Karo rivers is very less.

Abhishek
Identified by me
Abhishek



and various site inspections and visit of the Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine and the surrounding forest area by the officials of the office of government of Jharkhand, the allegations as to the Non-compliance of conditions of Environmental Clearance (hereinafter referred as 'EC') and Forest Clearance (hereinafter referred as 'FC') by the Respondent No. 4 seems to be wrong and incorrect.

12. The it may further mentioned here that the the Vijay-II Mine was originally under the ownership of M/s Usha Martin Limited (Hereinafter referred as 'UML') and same was acquired by the Respondent No. 4 with prior approval of the State of Jharkhand, through its Secretary, Department of Mines and Geology dated 09.03.2019. The approval of such transfer was granted in accordance with the Minerals (Transfer of Mining Lease Granted Otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules-2016.



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

a) That prior to acquisition of Vijay-II Mine by the Respondent No. 4, UML had already obtained the EC for conducting mining activities in Vijay-II Mine since 2005. Originally the EC was granted for this Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India (hereinafter referred as 'MoEF&CC') in the year 2005 & 2007 respectively. Subsequently, in the Year 2008, the then mining lessee, M/S UML had applied for EC for expansion of Vijay-II Iron Ore mining project and enhancement of production of Iron Ore from 0.65 MTPA to 2.5 MTPA. Upon due verification, inspection and assessment, by accepting the said proposal, MoEF&CC has granted the amended EC on 22.12.2008 with certain terms and conditions mentioned there under.

b) That it is pertinent to mention here that the EC for the mining project was granted to the Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine on 22.12.2008.



Abhinav

*Identified by
Advocate
20/12/2008*

Photocopy of the EC dated 22.12.2008 is being annexed herewith the marked as **Annexure-C** to this reply.

c) That the FC was also granted to UML for conducting the Mining activity in Vijay-II Mine by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India on 09.11.2012

Photocopy of the FC dated 09.11.2012 is being annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure-D** to this reply.

d) That, the Respondent no. 3 being competent authority of State Govt. of Jharkhand has granted the necessary Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate (hereinafter as 'CTO') to the Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine in the name of M/s UML.

Abhishek
Identified by me
Advocate



Pursuant to transfer of Vijay-II Mine and upon application submitted by the Respondent no.. 4 and upon due verification and scrutiny of facts and documents, the Respondent no. 3 has granted the CTO with respect to the Vijay-II Iron Ore mine in the name of the Respondent no. 4 vide its Letter No. JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-6151106/2019/2650 dated 31.12.2019.

Photocopy of the CTO in the name of Respondent No. 4 dated 31.12.2019 is being annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure-E** to this reply.

- e) That, by virtue of the transfer of the said Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine in favour of the Respondent no. 4 and as provided under Rule-4(3)(a) of The Minerals (Transfer of Mining Lease Granted Otherwise Than Through

Advocate
Identified by
Advocate



Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules-2016, all consents, licenses and approvals etc., including the existing EC & FC are automatically transferred in favour of the Respondent no. 4 from the transferor/earlier mining lessee i.e., UML.

- f) That, in due course after transfer of the mine, the Respondent no. 4 also applied for Transfer of the EC and upon due enquiry, assessment and verification the EC was transferred in favour of the Respondent No. 4 on 22.09.2021 on the same terms and conditions mentioned in original EC dated 22.12.2008 by the competent authority of the MoEF & CC.

Photocopy of the Transfer of EC dated 22.09.2021 is being annexed herewith and marked as **Annexure-F** to this reply.

13. That it is further stated here that it was noted that at several places outside the mine lease boundary of Vijay II Iron mine,



Abhishek
Identified by Mr. Aditya Chandra

which happens to be the road connecting to various mines, is located in the forest area. Due to steep slope of the hill, the force of the surface runoff in this area is quite high as a result, at many places there is a breach of the boundary wall and water has flowed into the adjoining forest area. The concerned authorities may take necessary mitigative measures to check this which could be affecting the forest areas. B. It was also noted that there are a number of iron ore mining projects (few of them operational and others non operational) adjoining the Vijay II iron ore mine and all these projects are located within or near to the Forest area. The surface runoff from all over the area maybe affecting the adjoining forest area. In light of the above, a comprehensive plan for arresting the surface runoff into the surrounding water bodies through a series of check dams has been put in place i.e CAT (catchment area treatment plan), following the study by IIT Kharagpur has been approved by the

A. Chatterjee

*Identified by
Subal Chatterjee
Advocate*



Government, for Saranda to check soil erosion through various engineering and biological interventions, of which the said Project proponent is one of the stakeholder. Speedy and time bound execution of all the prescribed intervention as directed by the plan will go a long way in protecting the larger landscape of Saranda along with the lease area of the Project proponent. C. It was also opined by the Committee that the project authorities may carryout repair of any damage to various effective measures that have been taken by them due to the recent rains. Further, they have to have a routine (quarterly) maintenance schedule and monitoring of the various measures adopted by them, submitted to the DFO Saranda and Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board.

14. That as a cumulative facts narrated herein above the answering respondents humbly submits that the instant OA being devoid of merits, as opined by the members of the Committee that pollution of the rivers due to the mine water

Admitted by me
Admitted
Admitted



carrying sediments and fines from the OB dumps and mineral storage areas of Vijay II Iron ore mine, as alleged in the petition on 14.10.2021 is not true, and thus required to be rejected by this Hon'ble Tribunal, and accordingly submits that the contentions and claims made by the claimant are speculative, imaginary, mala fide and wholly without basis, liable to be dismissed out rightly.

15. That in the facts and circumstances of the case, as stated hereinabove, the application filed by the applicant, has got no merit and is liable to be dismissed in limine.
16. That the answering respondent has gone through the concerned inspected report and has agrees with the same.
17. That this counter affidavit is being filed bonafide and in the interest of Justice.
18. That I have gone through the contents of this counter affidavit and fully understood the same.



Abhinav

*Identified
Subscribed
Advocate*

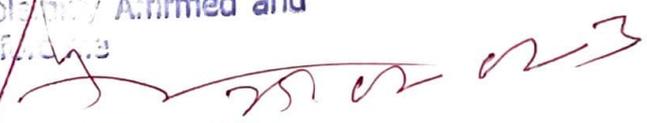
- 19. That annexure are photocopy/true copy their respective original.
- 20. That, the statements made in paragraph.....1,3,5,7,11,13^{to 19} are true to my knowledge, those stated in paragraph 4,6,12.....are true to my information derived from the relevant records of the case and rest are by way of humble submissions before this Hon'ble Court
- 21. That this affidavit is signed, sworn and verified by me on this day the 24th February, 2023 at Chaibasa.




 (Abhishek Bhusan, IFS)
 Divisional Forest Officer
 Saranda Forest Division, Chaibasa.

↑
 Identified by me
 Adv. M. P. Sharma
 Advocate

Mr./Mrs./Miss. Abhishek Bhusan
 Who is Identified by Mr./Mrs./Miss.
M. P. Sharma
 Advocate Solely Affirmed and
 Declared before me


MD. MAZHARUL HAQUE
 NOTARY CHAIBASA, SINGHBHUM (W)

Serial No.A 84829

Before at Chaibasa
West Singhbhum (Jharkhand)

AFFIDAVIT / शपथ पत्र / ALL NOTARIAL PURPOSE



02
25.02.23

84853

NOTARIAL PURPOSE





भारत सरकार / Government of India
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय/Integrated Regional Office

पता: द्वितीय मंज, झारखण्ड राज्य आवास बोर्ड मुख्यालय, इनम्, चौक, राँची, झारखण्ड - 834002
Add: 2nd Floor, Headquarter/Jharkhand State Housing Board, Inam, Chowk, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834002
Tel: 0651-2418802, 2410807; E-mail: ro.ranchi-mef@gov.in



File No.7-174/IRO-2022/592

Dated: 30.09.2022

सेवा में,

1. District Magistrate,
West Sighbhum, Jharkhand
2. Divisional Forest Officer,
Saranda Forest Division,
District West Sighbhum,
Jharkhand
3. Scientist 'B',
Central Pollution Control Board,
Eastern Regional Directorate
Kolkata, West Bengal.
4. Regional Officer,
JSPCB Regional office-cum-laboratory,
Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

Sub: Nomination of a Scientist from Integrated Regional Office Ranchi, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change in OA No. 121/2022/EZ pending before Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata – reg.

Ref: Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata's order dated 07.09.2022 in OA No. 121/2022/EZ in the matter of "Satish Puri Vs Union of India & Ors".

महोदय/महोदया,

This refers to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata's order dated 07.09.2022 in OA No. 121/2022/EZ in the matter of "Satish Puri Vs Union of India & Ors". Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 07.09.2022 constituted a committee comprising of:

1. District Magistrate, West Sighbhum, Jharkhand,
2. Scientist, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board,
3. Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kolkata
4. Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest, Division, District West Sighbhum, Jharkhand,
5. Scientist, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC Ranchi, Jharkhand

Accordingly, this is to inform that undersigned (Shri M.R.Prasad, Scientist 'C', Mobile No. 9777202541 & email id: ro.ranchi-mcf@nic.in) has been nominated from Integrated Regional Office Ranchi of the MoEF&CC as a member of the above committee. As per the direction of NGT, it is also to inform that, site inspection of the project is proposed on 12-10-2022. A line of confirmation in this regard may also be communicated please.

This is for your information and necessary action, please.

अनुलग्नक : संलग्न

विश्वासभाजन
डॉ. राजेश्वर प्रसाद
(एम. राजेश्वर प्रसाद)
वैज्ञानिक 'सी'

1. Regional Management, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand
2. Regional Management, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand
3. Regional Management, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand
4. Regional Management, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand
5. Regional Management, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand
6. Regional Management, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand
7. Regional Management, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand
8. Regional Management, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand
9. Regional Management, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand
10. Regional Management, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand

Item No.03

Court No.1

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
EASTERN ZONE BENCH, KOLKATA
(Through Video Conferencing)**

Original Application No.121/2022/EZ

Satish Puri Applicant(s)
Versus

Union of India & Ors. Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 07.09.2022.

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. AMIT STHALEKAR, JUDICIAL MEMBER
HON'BLE MR. SAIBAL DASGUPTA, EXPERT MEMBER**

For Applicant(s) : Mr. Sourabh Sharma, Advocate a/w
Mr. Kaustav Dhar, Advocate

For Respondent(s): Mr. Surendra Kumar, Advocate for R.-3,
Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree, Advocate for R.-2,5 & 6,

ORDER

1. Mr. Sourabh Sharma, learned Counsel (in Virtual Mode) assisted by Mr. Kaustav Dhar, learned Counsel for the Applicant are present.
2. The allegation of the Applicant is that Respondent No.4/Unit was granted Environmental Clearance on 19.04.2005 for production of 0.65 MTPA (Million Tonnes per annum) of iron ore mine. The expansion of the Unit was sought from 0.65 MTPA to 2.5 MTPA for which Environmental Clearance was granted on 22.12.2008. Under this Environmental Clearance the Respondent No.4 was required to construct catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size around the mine working, mineral and OB dumps (over burden dumps) to prevent run off water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River, Koina River as well as seasonal nallahs and water bodies. The Project proponent (PP) was also required to construct Garland drains, settling tanks and check dams around the mine pit and over burden dump to prevent run off. It was also required to

design the same keeping 50 per cent safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall in the area adjoining the mine site.

3. The allegation is that the above conditions of the Environmental Clearance have not been complied with and there is discharge of iron fines from Vijay-II Iron Ore mine which has polluted the River Koina and nearby forest area.
4. In our opinion, the matter requires consideration.
5. Issue notice to the Respondents, returnable within four weeks.
6. All the respondents shall file their counter-affidavits within four weeks.
7. Mr. Surendra Kumar, learned Counsel who is present in Virtual Mode in another matter is directed to take notice on behalf of Respondent No.3, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board.
8. Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree, learned Counsel who is present in Virtual Mode is directed to take notice on behalf of Respondent No.2, 5 & 6.
9. The Applicant is permitted to implead the District Magistrate, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand as well as the Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand in the array of Respondents, as Respondent Nos. 5 & 6 respectively.
10. Considering the allegations made in the Original Application we deem it appropriate to constitute a Committee comprising of the following members:-
 - I) District Magistrate, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand,
 - II) Scientist, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board,
 - III) Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kolkata,

- IV) Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand,
- V) Scientist, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC Ranchi, Jharkhand.

The Integrated Regional Office of MoEF & CC, Ranchi, Jharkhand shall be the nodal office for all logistic purposes.

11. The Committee shall visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter, submit its report.
12. If the allegations are found to exist, the Committee shall also compute the Environmental Compensation and recommend remedial measures.
13. The Committee shall submit its report on affidavit by the next date of listing.
14. The Applicant shall provide e-copy/soft copy of Original Application along with its annexures to learned Counsel Mr. Surendra Kumar and Ms. Aishwarya Rajyashree today itself.
15. **List on 17.10.2022.**

.....
B. Amit Sthalekar, JM

.....
Saibal Dasgupta, EM

September 07, 2022,
Original Application No.121/2022/EZ
BD



जिला दण्डाधिकारी -सह- उपायुक्त का कार्यालय, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।
(गोपनीय शाखा)

आदेश

क्षेत्रीय निदेशक, केन्द्रीय प्रदुषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड, पर्यावरण एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के पत्रांक CM-13014/43/2022-LAW-RD-KOLKATA-RD (Kolkata)/1931/ दिनांक 19.09.2022 एवं वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी, सारण्डा वन प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा के ज्ञापांक 2000 दिनांक 14.09.2022 द्वारा प्राप्त पत्र में अंकित है कि दायर वाद संख्या OA No. 121/2022/EZ सतीश पुरी बनाम Union of India & Ors के मामले के अनुपालन में माननीय NGT द्वारा दिनांक 07.09.2022 को पारित आदेश के अनुपालन में कमिटी को शपथ पत्र के माध्यम से जाँच प्रतिवेदन निर्धारित तिथि 17.10.2022 के पूर्व न्यायालय के समक्ष दाखिल करना है (छायाप्रति संलग्न)।

उक्त के आलोक में माननीय NGT द्वारा पारित आदेश का अनुपालन हेतु अपर उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा को कमिटी के साथ स्थल निरीक्षण हेतु प्रतिनियुक्त किया जाता है। निदेश दिया जाता है कि माननीय NGT द्वारा पारित आदेश के अनुपालन हेतु स्थल जाँच के उपरान्त प्रतिवेदन उपलब्ध कराया जाए।

अनुलग्नक :- यथोक्त।



ए/

जिला दण्डाधिकार-सह-उपायुक्त,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।

ज्ञापांक : 3667 /गो० चाईबासा, दिनांक 06 वीं अक्टूबर 2022

प्रतिलिपि :- अपर उपायुक्त, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा को सूचनार्थ एवं अनुपालनार्थ प्रेषित।

प्रतिलिपि :- वन प्रमण्डल पदाधिकारी, सारण्डा वन प्रमण्डल, चाईबासा को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

जिला दण्डाधिकार-सह-उपायुक्त,
पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, चाईबासा।



केन्द्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड

(पर्यावरण वन, एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)

CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India)

Eastern Regional Directorate

502, Southend Conclave, 1582, Rajdanga Main Road, Kolkata - 700 107

Dated: 19/09/2022

To

The Deputy Director General of Forests (C),
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office, Bungalow No. A-2,
Shyamali Colony, Ranchi - 834002
Email: ro.ranchi-mef@gov.in



P/c Act
B
21/9

C.S.
21/9/22

Sub: Nomination Letter in the matter O.A. No. 121/2022/EZ vide Hon'ble NGT order dated 07.09.2022

Sir,

This has reference to the Hon'ble NGT order dated 07.09.2022 in the matter of O.A. No. 121/2022/EZ wherein the following has been directed -

"...Considering the allegations made in the Original Application we deem it appropriate to constitute a Committee comprising of the following members :-

- I) District Magistrate, West Sighbhum, Jharkhand,
- II) Scientist, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board,
- III) Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kolkata,
- ✓ IV) Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, District West Sighbhum, Jharkhand,
- V) Scientist, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC Ranchi, Jharkhand...

...The Committee shall visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter, submit its report..."

In this regard, Mr. Toufic Aslam, Sc. B (Mobile No. 7827106649 & Email: toufic.cpcb@gov.in & rdkolkata.cpcb@gov.in), has been nominated by the Competent Authority to represent CPCB in this committee.

All communication, therefore, regarding the inspection and others on this subject, Mr. Toufic Aslam may also be informed with a copy to this office.

Yours faithfully,

(M. K. Biswas)
Regional Director

Copy for kind information to:
As per list

(M. K. Biswas)



JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

T.A. DIVISION BUILDING (GROUND FLOOR), H.E.C., DHURWA, DHANBAD -834004
Phone.: 2400851, 2400852, 2400979 Fax: 0651- 2400850, Web Site – www.jspcb.nic.in

34

By Email/Speedpost

Hon'ble NGT Matter
Time Bound (Urgent)

Ref. No. 13/.....2025

Ranchi, Dated.. 27.9.22

From,

Yatindra Kumar Das,
Member Secretary.

To,

The Deputy Director General,
Integrated Regional Office,
MoEF & CC, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
The Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.
The Regional Director,
CPCB Regional Office, Kolkata.
Divisional Forest Officer,
Saranda Forest Division,
West Singhbhum, Jharkhand.



27/9/22

27/9/22

Sub: - Compliance of the directions issued by the Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata in its order dated 07.09.2022 in O. A. No. 121/2022/EZ in the matter of Satish Puri Versus Union of India & Ors.- Regarding.

Sir,

In connection with the above subject matter – it is to inform that the Hon'ble NGT, Eastern Zone Bench, Kolkata in its order dated 07.09.2022 in O. A. No. 121/2022/EZ in the matter of Satish Puri Versus Union of India & Ors. has given certain directions (Copy enclosed). The operative part of which is as follows: -

“2. The allegation of the Applicant is that Respondent No.4/Unit was granted Environmental Clearance on 19.04.2005 for production of 0.65 MTPA (Million Tonnes per annum) of iron ore mine. The expansion of the Unit was sought from 0.65 MTPA to 2.5 MTPA for which Environmental Clearance was granted on 22.12.2008. Under this Environmental Clearance the Respondent No.4 was required to construct catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size around the mine working, mineral and OB dumps (over burden dumps) to prevent run off water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River, Koina River as well as seasonal nallahs and water bodies. The Project proponent (PP) was also required to construct Garland drains, settling tanks and check dams around the mine pit and over burden dump to prevent run off. It was also required to design the same keeping 50 per cent safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall in the area adjoining the mine site.

3. The allegation is that the above conditions of the Environmental Clearance have not been complied with and there is discharge of iron fines from Vijay-II Iron Ore mine which has polluted the River Koina and nearby forest area.

9. The Applicant is permitted to implead the District Magistrate, West Sighbhum, Jharkhand as well as the Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, West Sighbhum, Jharkhand in the array of Respondents, as Respondent Nos. 5 & 6 respectively.

10. Considering the allegations made in the Original Application we deem it appropriate to constitute a Committee comprising of the following members:-

- I) District Magistrate, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand,
- II) Scientist, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board,
- III) Scientist, Central Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Kolkata,
- IV) Divisional Forest Officer, Saranda Forest Division, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand,
- V) Scientist, Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC Ranchi, Jharkhand.

The Integrated Regional Office of MoEF & CC, Ranchi, Jharkhand shall be the nodal office for all logistic purposes.

11. The Committee shall visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter, submit its report.

12. If the allegations are found to exist, the Committee shall also compute the Environmental Compensation and recommend remedial measures.

13. The Committee shall submit its report on affidavit by the next date of listing.

15. List on 17.10.2022.”

In light of the above, it is further informed that the Regional Officer, JSPCB Regional Office – cum – Laboratory, Jamshedpur (Contact No. - 9572552863; Email: - jspcb.jsr@gmail.com) is nominated as the member of the committee on behalf of JSPCB to look into this matter. This is for your information and necessary action please.

Thanking you.

Encl: As above.

Yours sincerely,

(Yatindra Kumar Das)
Member Secretary

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE SITE INSPECTION CARRIED OUT ON 12.10.2022 OF THE VIJAY II IRON ORE MINES OF M/S TATA STEEL LONG PRODUCTS LTD UNDER THE DIRECTIONS OF THE HON'BLE NGT IN OA 121/2022 IN THE MATTER OF SATISH PURI Vs UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS.

The Hon'ble NGT in its order dated 07.09.2022 had constituted a Joint Committee from various Organizations /institutions for inspection of the Vijay II Iron ore mine at site and with a direction that ".....**The Committee shall visit the site in question and inspect the same with reference to the allegations made in the Original Application and, thereafter submit its report.**"

In compliance to the Hon'ble Court's directions, a Site Visit was conducted by the following members of the Joint Committee on 12.10.2022:

1. Shri Chandra Mauli Sinha, IFS, DFO, Saranda Forest Division
2. Shri S. K. Sinha, Addl. District Commissioner, Chaibasa
3. Shri Prajesh Jena, IFS, Attached Officer, Saranda Forest Division
4. Shri Jitendra Prasad Singh, Regional Officer, JSPCB, Jamshedpur
5. Shri M. Rajeshwar Prasad, Scientist C, MoEF&CC, Integrated Regional Office, Ranchi
6. Shri Taufic Aslam, Scientist B, CPCB, Regional Office Kolkata

All the members of the Joint Committee along with Officials from the Vijay II Iron Ore Mines, inspected various locations within and outside the mine lease premises and have noted all the observations along with photographs. Following the Site Visit, the members of the Joint Committee have discussed the issues stated in the petition.

Brief note on the project:

Vijay II Iron Ore block is located in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand State. The nearest township is Kiriburu located at a distance of 15 km from Ghatkuri village. State capital Ranchi is located at 330 km distance. The nearest Railway station is Barajamda Railway station at a distance of 15 km from the block. Vijay II Iron Ore block is located in Ghatkuri reserve Forest in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand state, under Survey of India OSM No.F45H8 and is bound by co-ordinates with latitudes 22°09'56"N, 22°11'18"N, 22°11'16"E & 22°09'53"N and longitudes 85°20'17"E, 85°20'56"E, 85°21'32"E & 85°21'26"E.

The ownership of Vijay-II Iron Ore Mine, situated in Ghatkuri Reserve Forest was originally with M/s Usha Martin Limited. Mining lease was granted by the Jharkhand State Government in respect of which a lease deed was executed on 16.08.2005 and registered as no. 1382/1372 on 18.08.2005 at the office of the Sub – Registrar of Chaibasa, Jharkhand. Subsequently, in the mine was taken over from M/s Usha Martin Limited by M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd., M/s Usha Martin Limited preferred a transfer application letter no. UML/RNC/2018/166 dated 03.12.2018 under the Mineral (Transfer of Mining Lease granted otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules 2016, requesting the State Government for its approval in connection with transfer of the Mining Lease to the M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. The State Government vide letter no. 32/2018/M432 dated 09.03.2019 approved the transfer application under the Mineral (Transfer of Mining lease granted otherwise than through Auction for Captive purpose) Rules 2016, subject to compliance of the terms and conditions contained in the said letter, which is annexed in Transfer Deed. The transfer deed as per the above approval letter has been executed on 25.05.2019 and registered on 27.05.2019 between M/s Usha Martin Ltd and M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd.

A fresh mining lease deed was executed in favor of M/s Tata Sponge Iron Ltd. on 19.08.2019 as per condition no. 9 of the letter no. 432 dated 09.03.2019, read with Rule 12 of the Mineral (Transfer of Mining Lease granted otherwise than through Auction for Captive Purpose) Rules 2016 and a Mine Development and Production Agreement (MDPA) was signed for meeting captive requirements for its steel plant at Gamharia. Subsequently, there has been a change in the name of the company. A fresh "Certificate of Incorporation pursuant to change of name" has been issued by the office of the Registrar of Companies, Cuttack, Orissa under the notice of Name Change of company from "Tata Sponge Iron Limited" to "Tata Steel Long Products Limited" on August 20, 2019.

From scrutiny of the documents submitted on the project, it was noted that the project was accorded Environment Clearance and Forest clearances by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India ; the details of which are given below:

S n	Type of clearance	Issuring Authority	EC letter no.	Date
1	Environment Clearance	Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India	J-11015/48/2001-IA.II(M) Vijay II Iron ore Mine of M/s Usha Martin Ltd located in Ghatkuri RF, in Tehsil Noamundi, District West Singhbhum, Jharkhand	19.04.2005

			(For production of 0.65 lakh tones per annum of iron ore during Phase-I over total lease area of 155.078 ha which is forest land)	
2	Environment clearance	Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India	J-11015/507/2007-IA.II(M) Expansion of Vijay-II Iron ore Mining Project of M/s Usha Martin Limited located in village Ghatkuri, Tehsil Noamundi District, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand. (Enhancement of production from 0.65 million TPA of iron ore to 2.5 million TPA over an area of 155.078 ha which is forest land)	22.12.2008
3	Forest Clearance	Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India	No. 8-88/2007-FC(Pt) Stage II Forest Clearance for Diversion of 117.0059 (Total lease area 155.078 ha) of forest land for Ghatkuri Vijay-II Iron Ore Mining project in favour of M/s Usha Martin Private Limited in Saranda Forest Division in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand.	09.11.2012
			No. 12(21)51/2004-FC E Stage II approval under Sec 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980 for Diversion of 29.4648 ha	12.07.2005
4	Consent to Establish	Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board	Memo no. 3676	11.10.2007
	Consent to Operate	Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board	SPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-6151106/2019/2650 Consent to Operate obtained from Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board for 2.5 MTPA of ROM Production	31.12.2019
5	Transfer of Environment Clearance	Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India	No. J-11015/507/2007-IA.II(M) Transfer of EC from M/s Usha Martin Limited to M/s Tata Steel Long Products Limited issued for Expansion of Vijay-II Iron ore mining project with production capacity to 2.5 MTPA over the mine lease area of 155.078 ha located in village Ghatkuri, Jharkhand	22.09.2021

With the change in the ownership of the Vijay II Iron ore mine, the project authorities had applied to various mining and the State Government Regulatory authorities with respect to change in the lease deed as well as the Mining Plan of the Vijay II iron ore mine. The details of this is given below:

Sn	Type of agreement /clearance	Regulatory authority	Letter No.	Date
1	Lease Deed	State Government of Jharkhand	i. Lease deed executed in favor of Vijay II Iron Ore Mine of M/s Usha Martin Limited on 16.8.2005 and registered as no. 1382/1372 ii. Transfer deed executed on 25.05.2019 and registered on 27.05.2019 from M/s Usha Martin Ltd. To M/s Tata Sponge Iron Limited by State Govt. of Jharkhand under The Mineral (Transfer of Mining Lease Granted otherwise than through auction for Captive Purposes) Rules 2016	18.8.2005 25.05.2019
2	Mining Plan	Regional Controller of Mines, Ranchi	Approval of Review of Mining Plan for the period 2020-2021 to 2024-2025 Vide letter no. RAN/WSB/Fe/MP-35/2019-20 of Regional Controller of Mines, IBM, Ranchi	
3	Mine Development and Production Agreement	State Government of Jharkhand	MDPA is made between State Govt. (Jharkhand) and M/s Tata Sponge Iron Limited vide letter no. 445'	15.05.2019
4	Site Specific Wildlife and Biodiversity Conservation Plan	PCCF Wildlife State Govt of Jharkhand	SSWLCP sanctioned by PCCF, Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand vide office order no. 27.	20.8.2020

Issues raised in the petition :

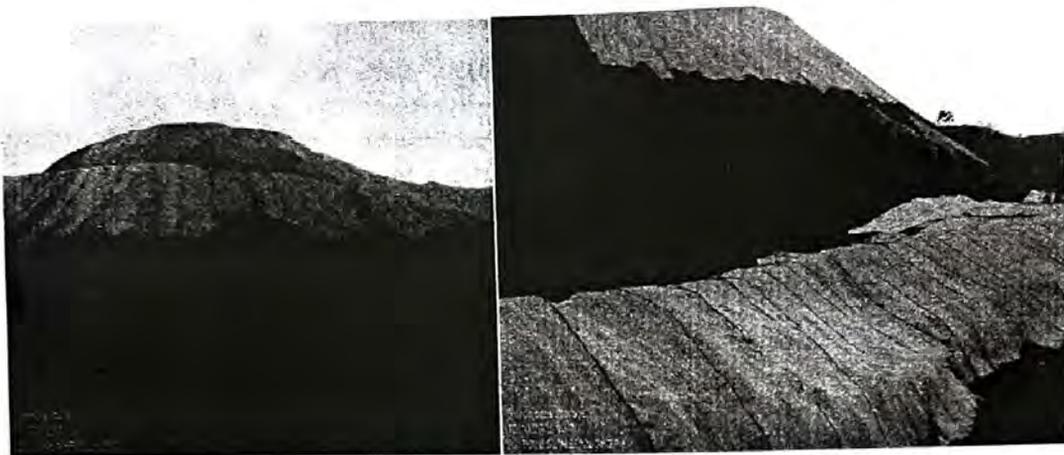
On perusal of the Original Petition No. 121/2022 in the matter of Satish Puri Vs. Union of India and others, the following issues were noticed:

1. Discharge of large quantities of iron ore fines from Vijay - II Iron ore mines which has polluted Koina River and nearby Forest areas.
2. This pollution is caused due to non-compliance to conditions of the Environment Clearance letter dated 22.12.2008.
3. It is also due to violation of Forest Clearance letter dated 09.11.2012.
4. The discharge of pollutants is also in violation of the provisions of the Water Act.
5. The breach of the iron fines from Vijay - II Iron ore mines is continuing thereby causing large scale pollution of River Koina and the same can be seen by satellite imagery taken in June, 2022.
6. Till date no restoration has been done by the project proponent.
7. As per the EC Conditions mentioned in the letters issued in the years 2005 and 2008, the project authorities are to construct catch drains, siltation ponds around the mine, mineral and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River and Koina River , seasonal nallas and other water bodies.
8. The project proponent was also to construct garland drains, settling tanks and check dams around the mine pit and overburden to prevent runoff.
9. The project proponent was also to design the same keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall in the area adjoining the mine sites.
10. The applicant noticed that the pollutant being discharged from the Iron ore mine on 14.10.2021 which polluted the river and the streams and surrounding forest areas. Overall damage is 5 ha which is gathered through sentinel satellite image.

The Observations made by the Committee on the issues raised in the petition are mentioned below:

Point no. 1: Discharge of large quantities of iron ore fines from Vijay - II Iron ore mines which has polluted Koina River and nearby Forest areas.

Observation - It was noted that the Vijay -II Iron ore mine is situated over hilltop, spread over an area of 155 ha which is all forest land. It was observed that mining operations were being carried out as per the approved mining plan. The mined out minerals are being stored at earmarked site and is covered with polythene sheets. There are garland drains made at the bottom of the mineral dump flowing into and siltation ponds made, to check the flowing of sediments into the surrounding areas. However, at some places, the drains have been filled up. This has been attributed by the project authorities due to the recent heavy rains in the area.



Mineral stacks, with proper benching and covered with polythene covers .

The committee observed that the iron fines stored in these dumps are terraced properly and covered to prevent washing away due to rains. The exposed surfaces of the mineral storage may be similarly managed. In light of the above, it was viewed by the members of the Joint Committee that there might have been flow of surface runoff from the Vijay II Mine due to rains and weakening of the embankment on 14.10.2021 but the chance of pollution of Rivers, which are flowing at a distance of more than 3 kms from the mine and affecting the Forest land surrounding is very less.

Point no. 2: This pollution is caused due to non-compliance to conditions of the Environment Clearance letter dated 22.12.2008.

The Ministry has granted Environment clearance to the project vide letter No. J-11015/507/2007-IA.II(M) dated 2008. In the letter there were conditions with regard to the environmental safeguard measures stipulated which are to be adopted by the project proponent during the operation of the mine. Some of the the conditions mentioned with respect to storage of the mined out materials and their compliances as observed at site are mentioned below:

a. *The project proponent shall ensure that no natural water course and /or water resources shall be obstructed due to any mining operations. The first order streams and the seasonal Nallahs originating from the mining lease area shall be protected. (Specific condition no. vi)*

Observation: It was noted during the visit that there were no natural water stream or nalla flowing within the mine lease area.

b. *The overburden (OB) generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked dump site only and it should not be kept active for a long period and phase-wise stabilization shall be carried out. (Specific condition no. viii)*

Observation: It was noted that there was one OB dump. It was stated by the project authorities that a total quantity of 48.48 lakh metric tones of OB is dumped. From the information submitted by the project authorities, it is also noted that since mining operation, the OB generated has been utilized for backfilling purpose covering a total area of 13.85 ha over which the present OB dump is located. Adequate measures like proper benching with 10 mtrs and stabilization measures have been taken. Garland drains have been found at the toe of the dumps which drain into a settling pond.



Terracing and covering of OB dump

Plantation raised over OB dumps

c. *Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral and OB dumps(s) to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo river, the Koina River, seasonal nallahs and other water bodies and sump capacity should be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump settling of silt material, sedimentation pits shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains and desilted at regular intervals. (Specific condition no. ix)*

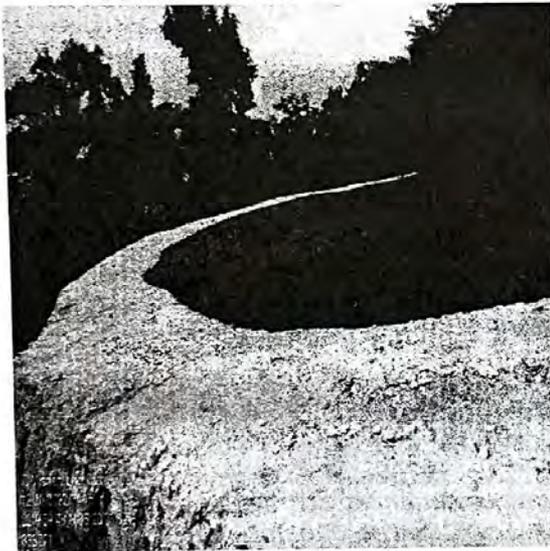
Observation: It was observed that catch drains have been constructed to check the direct flow of surface runoff into the surroundings of the mine. Siltation pond has been constructed into which the drainage water, carrying the silt from the mine flows into. This arrests the sediments and silt from being carried to the outside the mine. There is also a Check dam constructed to enable settling of all the sediments and also arrest the outflow of suspended solids into the neighbouring environment.



Garland drain



Siltation pond



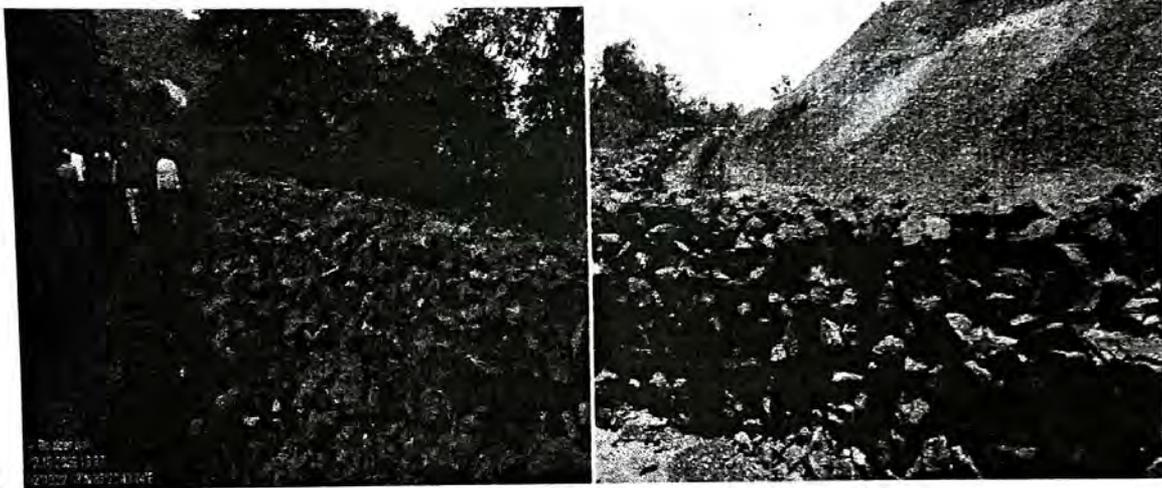
Masonry Check Dam in the mine

- d. Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of the over burden dump and the OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rain fall data. (Specific condition no. x)

Observation: The project authorities have developed retaining wall at the toe of the OB dump area and material storage areas. The dimension of retaining wall constructed is mentioned below:

Sl	Type of the retaining wall	Dimension
1	Cemented Retaining wall At the toe of OB dump	i. 45 m (length)x 2m (width)x 2m (height) ii. 30m (length)x 2m (width)x 2m (height)
2	Rubble masonry retaining wall at toe of OB dump and mineral	i. 41.5 m (L) x 1m (W) x 1m (H) ii. 60 m (L) x 1m (W) x 1m (H)

	dumps	iii. 55 m (L) x 1m (W) x 1m (H) iv. 31m (L) x 7m (W) x 3.8 m (H) v. 35m (L) x 3m (W) x 3.8 m (H)
3	Retaining wall constructed during the current year • Cemented Retaining wall	i. 150m (L) x 2m (W) x 1.5m (H) ii. 65m (L) x 3.5m (W) x 2.5 (H)
4	Retaining wall boulder masonry (located outside mine lease area)	50m (L) x 3.5m (W) x 2.5 (H)
5	Boulder wall	300 mtrs



During the site visit, it was observed that there was no discharge of effluent to the outside. The project proponent has constructed garland drain, siltation pond and check dams to check the iron ore fines flowing into the nearby rivers. There is no significant domestic effluent discharge as the mine has no residential colony in the lease area.

- e. *Plantation shall be raised in an area of 27.8048 ha including a 7.5 m wide green belt in the safety zone around the mining lease, over burden dump, backfilled and reclaimed area, mine benches, around crushing and screening plant, roads, etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha.*

Observation: It was observed that the project authorities have done plantations in the mine as well as outside the mine as well. The survival and growth of the plantation is found to be good. It was observed that good plantation with growth is there in the area within the safety zone, mine lease area and reclaimed areas. The details are given below:

Sn	Location of the plantation area	No. of saplings plated
1	Safety Zone area	1031
2	Backfilled area	1322
3	Compartment no. 26 and barren land within the mining lease area	6393 saplings

f. *Appropriate mitigative measures shall be taken to prevent pollution of the Karo river, the Koina River in consultation with the state pollution Control Board.*

Observation: The project authorities have taken adequate measures as suggested in the Environment Management Plan. It was noted that the following measures have been adopted in the mine to prevent the pollution of rivers flowing nearby.

- i. Iron fine dump as well as OB dump have been covered with coir matt.
- ii. Garland drains have been constructed below the OB dumps and mineral stack areas to check direct flow of the minerals along with the water.
- iii. Retaining walls have been constructed at the bottom of the toe of the OB dumps as well as the mineral dump areas.
- iv. 300 mtrs masonry wall has been constructed below the mineral stack.
- v. A retaining wall of 65 mtrs length, with a width of 3.5 mtrs and height of 2.5 mtrs has been constructed to check the washing out of soil and sediment to the outside of mine lease area.

Construction of check dams outside the mine lease area:

It was observed that the project authorities have constructed a check dam at Baraiburu area for settling down the sediments and soil particles so that only the supernatant water flows outside. It was reported that intermittently the project authorities do the desilting of the check dam to facilitate maximum sediment trapping and settling down in the area.



Point no. 3: It is also due to violation of Forest Clearance letter dated 09.11.2012.

Observation: In the Forestry clearance granted to the project by the Ministry of Environment and Forest certain conditions with respect to fencing the safety zone plantations, planting and sowing of seeds over the OB dumps to arrest soil erosion, construction of check dams retention walls were stipulated.

As observed at site, it was noted that the project authorities have adopted many such measures and are complying with the stipulations mentioned in the Forestry clearance. Therefore, it is viewed that the project authorities are complying with the conditions stipulated in the Forestry Clearance satisfactorily. It was observed that the safety zone has been fenced, Vetiver grass has been planted at the outer ridges of OB dump to check soil erosion. However the quantum, location and orientation of check-dams, retention walls and garland drainage system has scope for improvement.

Point No. 4: The discharge of pollutants is also in violation of the provisions of the Water Act

Observations: There is no discharge of effluents observed during the site visit. The project proponents have constructed garland drains leading into the siltation pond and check dam to arrest the sediment and iron ore filings before flowing out of into the water bodies outside and finally into the rivers. There is no significant domestic sewage discharge as there is no residential colony in the lease area.

Point No. 5: The breach of the iron fines from Vijay - II Iron ore fines is continuing thereby causing large scale pollution of River Koina and the same can be seen by satellite imagery taken in June, 2022.

Observations: On the day of site visit, it was noted that there was adequate precautions taken by the project authorities like covering the iron ore fines and OB dumps with polythene sheets, garland drains provided and settling pits made for storage of the surface runoff from the mine. However, the approach road to the mining area is subjected to rill and gully erosion, especially during heavy rainfall. As this road is used to carryout the ore to nearby storage area by trucks, appropriate measures such as guided drainage channel, siltation ponds, check-dams must be constructed to check the eroded soil to enter the streams. A suitable wheel washing facility can be provided at the exit point of kaccha road /storage facility (at Bokna) to prevent pollution of the main road, which ultimately will find way into water streams. This will also ensure that the trucks do not need to clean in any nearby water source or river stream.

Point No. 6: Till date no restoration has been done by the project proponent.

Observations: At site, it was noticed that the project authorities have cleaned up the garland drains, constructed siltation ponds, check dams and retaining walls. In light of the above, it is viewed that the project proponent have taken adequate

steps for improvement and arresting the sediment and silt transportation outside the mine lease area. However, at some places, the drains have been filled up. This has been attributed by the project authorities due to the recent heavy rains in the area.

Point No. 7: As per the EC Conditions mentioned in the letters issued in the years 2005 and 2008, the project authorities are to construct catch drains, siltation ponds around the mine, mineral and OB dumps to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River and Koina River , seasonal nallas and other water bodies.

Observations: At site, it was noticed that the project authorities have provided garland drains, constructed catch drains, siltation ponds, check dams and retaining walls . In light of the above, it is viewed that the project proponents have taken adequate steps for improvement and arresting the sediment and silt transportation outside the mine lease area. These steps have been taken up for prevention of pollution of surrounding water bodies as well as the Rivers Karo and Koina. Though many interventions such as siltation ponds, check dams and retention walls were found in the lease area of the projects proponent, their adequacy and efficacy in future (especially when the OB keeps accumulated and more surface gets exposed to impact of water) cannot be ascertained in the want of

- i) A scientific study-based soil conservation plan for the existing interventions. (for ex: arriving at the number and location of physical structures using USLE: universal soil loss equation).
- ii) Mechanism to monitor the erosion and escape of water from the lease area throughout the year.

Point No. 8: The project proponent was also to construct garland drains, settling tanks and check dams around the mine pit and overburden to prevent runoff.

Observations: At site, it was noticed that the project authorities have cleaned up the garland drains, constructed siltation ponds, check dams and retaining walls . In light of the above, it is viewed that the project proponent have taken adequate steps for improvement and arresting the sediment and silt transportation outside the mine lease area.

Point No. 9: The project proponent was also to design the same keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall in the area adjoining the mine sites. It was viewed that It cannot be scientifically established that the erosion retention structures are designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above the peak rainfall.

Observations: From the site visit and reports submitted by the project authorities, it is noted that precautionary measures like construction of garland drains, check dams, siltation ponds have been constructed and are regularly desilted. It is submitted by the Joint Committee that the measures adopted by the

project proponent are satisfactorily being complied with and also meeting the requirements and the purpose.

Point No. 10: The applicant noticed that the pollutant being discharged from the Iron ore mine on 14.10.2021 which polluted the river and the streams and surrounding forest areas. Overall damage is 5 ha which is gathered through sentinel satellite image.

Observations:

Many engineering structure (retention wall, boulder wall, siltation ponds, etc, Biological methods (grass plantation and coir matting of OB dumps, safety zone plantation) were found in the lease area to check the flow of polluted water out of lease area. It is viewed by the Joint Committee that, as the area is marked by "laterite soil"(red in color due to high Iron content), it is difficult to conclude that the red soil in the forest is caused by the mining activities.

In light of the above, it was viewed by the members of the Joint Committee that there might have been flow of surface runoff from the Vijay II Mine due to rains and weakening of the embankment on 14.10.2021 but the chance of pollution of Rivers, which are flowing at a distance of more than 3 kms from the mine and affecting the Forest land surrounding is very less.

CONCLUSIONS:

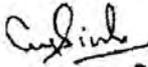
1. The members of the Joint Committee have visited the sites and various issues mentioned in the petition were deliberated and have been verified at site. It is viewed that
 - a. The project authorities have taken adequate measures like covering the OB dumps, mineral dumps, constructed garland drains which flow into the siltation pond, have raised plantation over the OB dumps for stabilization and has constructed check dams for arresting the silt and sediments before the water flows out of the mine into the surrounding water bodies.
 - b. There are no seasonal nalas originating from the mine and flowing into the water bodies.
2. From the observations made at the site, it is viewed that the possibility of mine water flowing into the Koina and Karo rivers is very less.

Therefore, it is opined by the members of the Committee that pollution of the rivers due to the mine water carrying sediments and fines from the OB dumps and mineral storage areas of Vijay II Iron ore mine, as alleged in the petition on 14.10.2021 may not be true.

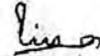
Other observations:

- A. It was noted that at several places outside the mine lease boundary of Vijay II Iron mine, which happens to be the road connecting to various mines, is located in the forest area. Due to steep slope of the hill, the force of the surface runoff in this area is quite high as a result, at many places there is a breach of the boundary wall and water has flowed into the adjoining forest area. The concerned authorities may take necessary mitigative measures to check this which could be affecting the forest areas:
- B. It was also noted that there are a number of iron ore mining projects (few of them operational and others non operational) adjoining the Vijay II iron ore mine and all these projects are located within or near to the Forest area. The surface runoff from all over the area maybe affecting the adjoining forest area. In light of the above, a comprehensive plan for arresting the surface runoff into the surrounding water bodies through a series of check dams has been put in place i.e CAT (catchment area treatment plan), following the study by IIT Kharagpur has been approved by the Government, for Saranda to check soil erosion through various engineering and biological interventions, of which the said Project proponent is one of the stakeholder. Speedy and time bound execution of all the prescribed intervention as directed by the plan will go a long way in protecting the larger landscape of Saranda along with the lease area of the Project proponent.
- C. It was also opined by the Committee that the project authorities may carryout repair of any damage to various effective measures that have been taken by them due to the recent rains. Further, they have to have a routine (quarterly) maintenance schedule and monitoring of the various measures adopted by them, submitted to the DFO Saranda and Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board.

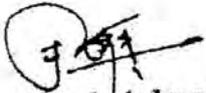
D. The committee has also observed that iron ore fines have been stored in the earmarked located within the mine lease area. It was stated by the project authorities that the iron ore fines stored is about 6 million tones (approx) and this would continue to increase further with the ongoing mining operations. It is seen that the iron ore fines, which are presently not being dispatched due to State Government's administrative decision, the risk of spillage of this stored iron ore fines under heavy rains is high. Therefore, it is viewed that evacuation and dispatch of the stored iron ore fines would reduce the risk of spillage and affecting the surrounding environment.



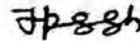
(Chandra Mauli Sinha)
Divisional Forest Officer
Saranda Forest Division



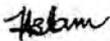
(S. K. Sinha)
Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
West Singhbhum, Chaibasa



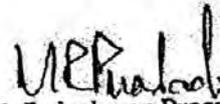
(Prajesh Jena)
Attached Officer,
Saranda Forest Division



(Jitendra Prasad Singh)
RO, JSPCB,
Jamshedpur



(Taufic Aslam)
Scientist B, CPCB, Kolkata



(M. Rajeshwar Prasad)
Scientist C, MoEF&CC, Ranchi

51

Annexure - 1c

Annexure A-1 29

No. J-11015/507/2007-IA.II(M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Paryavaran Bhavan,
C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road,
New Delhi-110 003.

Dated the 22nd December, 2008

To
M/s Usha Martin Limited
Regd. Office
'Mangal Kalash',
2 A, Shakespeare Sarani,
Kolkata - 700 071
E-mail: rkkapur@ushamartin.co.in

**Subject: Expansion of Vijay-II Iron Ore Mining Project of
M/s Usha Martin Limited located in Village
Ghatkuri, Tehsil Noamundi, District West
Singbhum, Jharkhand - environmental
clearance regarding.**

Sir,

This has reference to your letter No 'nil' dated 19.02.2008 and subsequent letters dated 15.04.2008, 27.06.2008, 22.05.2008, 09.07.2008 and 14.08.2008 on the subject mentioned above. The proposal is for enhancement of production of iron ore from 0.65million tonnes per annum (million TPA) to 2.5million TPA. The Ministry of Environment & Forests had earlier accorded environmental clearance to this project for production of 0.65 million TPA of Iron ore on 19.04.2005 and 02.02.2007. The terms of reference (TORs) to the project were prescribed on 10.12.2007. The total mine lease area of the project is 155.078ha, which is a forest land falling in the Ghatkuri reserve forest. Area proposed for mining is 21.3948ha, an area of 5.91ha is kept for over burden dump,

1.66ha for roads, 0.5ha for green belt and 125.6132ha is others (un-diverted forestland). The Karo River and the Koina River are flowing in the buffer zone of the mine at a distance of 1km and 5km respectively from the mine lease boundary. In addition, a number of seasonal nallas originate from the hill top and drain towards THE Karo River in the East side and the Koina River in the West side. Modification/diversion in the existing natural drainage pattern at any stage have not been envisaged. No national park/wildlife sanctuary/biosphere reserve/tiger reserve etc. is reported to be located in the core and buffer zone of the mine and the area also does not report to form corridor for Schedule-I fauna. The mine lease area falls within the Singbhum Elephant Reserve. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Biodiversity Conservation cum Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand vide their letter dated 10.05.2008 stated that the proposed mine lease area falls within the core area of the Singbhum Elephant Reserve and that no national park/wildlife sanctuary/ biosphere reserve or wildlife corridor are located within 10 km. of the mine lease. The Karo Karampada Elephant Corridor is also reported to be located beyond 10 km. of the mine lease. In support of this, a map duly authenticated by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Biodiversity Conservation cum Chief Wildlife Warden, Jharkhand has also been provided. The proponent has submitted a wildlife conservation plan. Four reserve forests namely Kodolibad RF, Jojogutu RF, Uliburu RF and Goddahatina RF and four protected forests namely Nuia PF, Pandrasali PF, Sonapi PF and Gua PF are located in the buffer zone of the mine. The mine working will be opencast by mechanized method involving drilling and

blasting. The blasting pattern will be changed from 2.5m (burden) x 2.5m (spacing) to 3m (burden) x 4m (spacing). As a result the yield per hole will increase from 93.75tonnes to 270tonnes. The bench height will also increase from 6m to 9m. The excavator and dumper size will also be changed. Beneficiation of mineral has not been proposed. There will be 3 additional mobile crushing plant as well as 3 screening plant. The targetted production capacity of the mine will be 2.5millionTPA of iron ore and the life of mine will be 8years. Approximately 8330TPD of mineral will be transported through road. The topography of the area is undulated and hilly at an elevation above mean sea level ranging from 605m to 820m. The present working depth of mine is 776m AMSL and the ultimate working depth of mine will be 650m AMSL. The groundwater table is reported at 470m AMSL. The mine working will not intersect groundwater table. The peak water requirement of the project is estimated as 154m³ per day, out of which 150m³ per day will be met from the Karo River and remaining 4m³ per day from the ground water. There is no population in the core zone, therefore, displacement of population and R&R is not involved. It is estimated that 25.15lakh tonnes of waste will be generated from the mine (Quarry 1 and Quarry 2), which will be partly backfilled and partly disposed off in the form of an external dump in an area of 5.91ha. The maximum height of the dump will be 50m in five terraces of 10m each. Backfilling will start from the year 2012. Plantation will be raised in an area of 27.8048ha at the end of the mine life. The public hearing of the project was held on 04.02.2008 for enhancement of production of iron ore from 0.65million to 2.5million TPA involving lease area of 155.6078ha. The

Indian Bureau of Mines had approved modified mining plan of the project on 18.05.2007 for lease area of 155.078ha. The Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, Ministry of Environment and Forests had conveyed approval under Forest(Conservation) Act,1980 for diversion of 29.4648ha forestland, out of 155.078ha forestland on 12.07.2005 for captive iron ore mining in Ghatkuri Block No.15 of Saranda Forest Division. The capital cost of the project is Rs.20crores and the capital cost for environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs.167.5Lakhs. The annual recurring cost towards environmental protection measures is proposed as Rs.42Lakhs.

2. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has examined the application in accordance the EIA Notification, 2006 and hereby accords environmental clearance under the provisions thereof to the above mentioned Vijay-II Iron Ore Mining Project of M/s Usha Martin Limited for an annual production capacity of 2.5million tonnes of iron ore by opencast mechanized method involving mining lease area of 155.078ha, subject to implementation of the following conditions and environmental safeguards.

A. Specific Conditions

- (i) The project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish from the Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board and effectively implement all the conditions stipulated therein.
- (ii) Necessary forestry clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for an area of 155.078 ha forestland shall be obtained before starting mining

operation in that area. Till such time mining activities shall be restricted to an area of 29.4648ha for which forestry clearance has been obtained from the Ministry on 12.07.2005. Environmental clearance is subject to grant of forestry clearance.

- (iii) Environmental clearance is subject to final order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter of Goa Foundation Vs. Union of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 460 of 2004, as may be applicable to this project.
- (iv) Environmental clearance is subject to obtaining clearance under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 from the competent authority, as may be applicable to this project.
- (v) The mining operations shall be restricted to above ground water table and it should not intersect groundwater table. In case of working below ground water table, prior approval of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Central Ground Water Authority shall be obtained, for which a detailed hydro-geological study shall be carried out.
- ✓(vi) The project proponent shall ensure that no natural watercourse and/or water resources shall be obstructed due to any mining operations. The first order streams and the seasonal nallahs originating from the mining lease area shall be protected.
- (vii) The top soil, if any, shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and it should not be kept

unutilized for long. The topsoil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation.

(viii) The over burden (OB) generated during the mining operations shall be stacked at earmarked dump site only and it should not be kept active for a long period and their phase-wise stabilization shall be carried out. There shall be one external dump in an area of 5.91ha. The maximum height of the dumps shall not exceed 50m having 5 terraces of 10m each and the overall slope of the dump shall be maintained to 28° . The proponent shall ensure slope stability based on study carried out in this regard. The OB dump should be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. In critical areas, use of geo textiles shall be undertaken for stabilization of the dump. Monitoring and management of rehabilitated areas shall continue until the vegetation becomes self-sustaining. Compliance status shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests and its Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar on six monthly basis.

✓(ix) Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size shall be constructed around the mine working, mineral and OB dump(s) to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River, the Koina River, seasonal nallahs and other water bodies. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly desilted particularly after the monsoon and maintained properly. Garland drains, settling tanks and

check dams of appropriate size, gradient and length shall be constructed both around the mine pit and over burden dump to prevent run off of water and flow of sediments directly into the Karo River, the Koina River, seasonal nallahs and other water bodies and sump capacity should be designed keeping 50% safety margin over and above peak sudden rainfall (based on 50 years data) and maximum discharge in the area adjoining the mine site. Sump capacity should also provide adequate retention period to allow proper settling of silt material. Sedimentation pits shall be constructed at the corners of the garland drains and desilted at regular intervals.

- (x) Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of the over burden dump and the OB benches within the mine to check run-off and siltation shall be based on the rain fall data.
- (xi) Plantation shall be raised in an area of 27.8048ha including a 7.5m wide green belt in the safety zone around the mining lease, over burden dump, backfilled and reclaimed area, mine benches, around crushing and screening plant, roads etc. by planting the native species in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees should be around 2500 plants per ha.
- (xii) Effective safeguard measures such as regular water sprinkling shall be carried out in critical areas prone to air pollution and having high levels of SPM and RSPM such as haul road, loading and unloading point and transfer points. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air

Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board in this regard.

- (xiii) Regular monitoring of the flow rate of the springs and perennial nallahs flowing in and around the mine lease shall be carried out and records maintained.
- (xiv) The project authority should implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (xv) Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine lease by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the mining operation. The monitoring shall be carried out four times in a year, pre-monsoon (April-May), monsoon (August), post-monsoon (November) and winter (January) and the data thus collected may be sent regularly to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, the Central Ground Water Authority and the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board. If at any stage, it is observed that the groundwater table is getting depleted due to the mining activity, necessary corrective measures shall be carried out.
- (xvi) The project proponent shall obtain necessary prior permission of the competent authorities for drawl of requisite quantity of water (surface water and ground water) for the project.

- (xvii) Suitable rainwater harvesting measures on long term basis shall be planned and implemented in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.
- (xviii) Appropriate mitigative measures shall be taken to prevent pollution of the Karo River, the Koina River in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (xix) Vehicular emissions shall be kept under control and regularly monitored. Measures shall be taken for maintenance of vehicles used in mining operations and in transportation of mineral from mine face to the beneficiation plant. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be overloaded.
- (xx) No blasting shall be carried out after sunset. Blasting operation shall be carried out only during the daytime. Controlled blasting shall be practiced. The mitigative measures for control of ground vibrations and to arrest fly rocks and boulders should be implemented.
- (xxi) Drills shall either be operated with dust extractors or equipped with water injection system.
- (xxii) Mineral handling area shall be provided with adequate number of high efficiency dust extraction system. Loading and unloading areas including all the transfer points should also have efficient dust control arrangements. These should be properly maintained and operated.
- (xxiii) Consent to operate shall be obtained from the State Pollution Control Board prior to start of enhanced production from the mine.

- (xxiv) Sewage treatment plant shall be installed for the colony. ETP shall also be provided for the workshop and the wastewater generated during mining operation.
- (xxv) Pre-placement medical examination and periodical medical examination of the workers engaged in the project shall be carried out and records maintained. For the purpose, schedule of health examination of the workers should be drawn and followed accordingly.
- (xxvi) The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered fauna namely elephant, leopard, wolf etc. spotted in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna prepared shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. All the safeguard measures brought out in the Wildlife Conservation Plan so prepared specific to this project site shall be effectively implemented. Necessary allocation of funds for implementation of the conservation plan shall be made and the funds so allocated shall be included in the project cost. A copy of action plan shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Forests and its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
- (xxvii) The entire mining lease area shall be fenced by erecting solar powered electric fencing all around it. The fencing so erected shall be maintained properly and the cost towards erection and maintenance of the solar powered electric fencing shall be borne by the project proponent out of the project cost.

- (xxviii) No transportation of ore outside the mine lease area shall be carried out after sunset.
- (xxix) Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, crèche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.
- (xxx) A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of Corpus Fund shall be submitted to the Ministry of Environment & Forests 5 years in advance of final mine closure for approval.

B. General conditions

- (i) No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests.
- (ii) No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral iron ore and waste should be made.
- (iii) Four ambient air quality-monitoring stations should be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RSPM, SPM, SO₂ & NO_x monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- (iv) Data on ambient air quality (RSPM, SPM, SO₂ & NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its

Regional office located at Bhubaneswar and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.

- (v) Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.
- (vi) Measures should be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operations of HEMM, etc. should be provided with ear plugs / muffs.
- (vii) Industrial waste water (workshop and waste water from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated 19th May, 1993 and 31st December, 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap should be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.
- (viii) Personnel working in dusty areas should wear protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed.
- (ix) A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel should be set-up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.
- (x) The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures should be kept in separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure

should be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar.

- (xi) The project authorities should inform to the Regional Office located at Bhubaneswar regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- (xii) The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bhubaneswar shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data / information / monitoring reports.
- (xiii) The project proponent shall submit six monthly report on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (xiv) The project proponent shall submit six monthly report on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, its Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board.
- (xv) A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayat / local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- (xvi) State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional office, District Industry Centre and Collectors office/ Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.
- (xvii) The project authorities should advertise at least in two local newspapers widely circulated, one of which shall be in the vernacular language of the locality concerned, within 7

84

days of the issue of the clearance letter informing that the project has been accorded environmental clearance and a copy of the clearance letter is available with the State Pollution Control Board and also at web site of the Ministry of Environment and Forests at <http://envfor.nic.in> and a copy of the same should be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located Bhubaneswar.

3. The Ministry or any other competent authority may alter/modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
4. Failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
5. The above conditions will be enforced inter-alia, under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and rules made thereunder and also any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India/High Court of Jharkhand and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.
6. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Environment Appellate Authority, if preferred within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 11 of the National Environment Appellate Act, 1997.

65

35⁴³

(SATISH C. GARKOTI)

Additional Director (S)

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Department of Environment,
Government of Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
3. The Secretary, Department of Mines, Government of
Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
4. The Chief Wildlife Warden, Government of Jharkhand,
Secretariat, Ranchi.
5. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of
Environment & Forests, Regional Office (EZ), A/3,
Chandra Shekar, Bhubneshwar-751 023.
6. The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, CBD-
Cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, New Delhi-110
032.
7. The Chairman, Jharkhand State Pollution Control Board,
T.A. Division Building (Ground Floor), HEC Campus ,
P.O. Dhurwa, Ranchi ? 834004, Jharkhand.
8. The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority,
A2, W3 Curzon Road Barracks, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-
110001.
9. The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira
Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440 001.
10. The District Collector, West Singhbhum District,
Jharkhand.
11. EI Division, Ministry of Environment & Forests, EI
Division, New Delhi.
12. Monitoring File.
13. Guard File.
14. Record File.

(SATISH C. GARKOTI)

Additional Director (S)

T. e.
①

66

Annexure - D
44

Ann

F. No. 8-88/2007 - FC (Pt)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110510
Dated: 09th November, 2012

To

Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Jharkhand,
Ranchi.

Sub: Diversion of 117.0059 (total lease area 155.078 ha) of forest land for Ghatkuri Vijay -II Iron Ore mining project in favour of M/s Usha Martin Private Limited in Saranda Forest Division in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter no. no. 3 / Vanbhumi - 49 / 2010 / 1911 / VP dated 29.05.2010 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under section-3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' approval was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 25.02.2011 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter no. 3/Van Bhumi-49/2010/2341 dated 6 June 2012, final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 117.0059 (total lease area 155.078 ha) of forest land for Ghatkuri Vijay -II Iron Ore mining project in favour of M/s Usha Martin Private Limited in Saranda Forest Division in West Singhbhum district of Jharkhand subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over equivalent non-forest land proposed for diversion shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the project cost.
3. Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (7.5 metre strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area), wherever feasible, shall be done at the project cost. Besides this, afforestation on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone shall also be done at the project cost.
4. Following activities shall be undertaken by the user agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost:
 - (i) Proper mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented.
 - (ii) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds to arrest soil erosion.
 - (iii) Construction of check dams, retention/toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated

[Handwritten signature]

material along the contour.

5. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake by involving local community, the afforestation measures in the blanks within the lease area, as well as along the roads outside the lease area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
6. The User Agency shall pay the additional NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
7. The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulating) Act, 1957, or Rules framed there under, subject to a maximum period of 30 years.
8. The User Agency has paid Rs. 33.79 lakh on *pro rata* basis, the cost of implementation of Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan prepared by the State Government in collaboration with M/s SAIL. The user agency shall pay the difference of the proportionate cost that may be decided by the State Government after finalization of the Comprehensive Wildlife Management Plan.
9. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure compliance of the following conditions as recommended by Dr. R.K. Singh in his report dated 12.10.2012 titled "Wildlife Occupancy around a Mining Lease - A rapid assessment on the impact forest diversion of proposed iron ore mining lease on wildlife in the Saranda Forest Division, Jharkhand:
 - i. The user agency shall set up a full-fledged forest and wildlife management team at mining site for environmental/ecological conservation of area as corporate environmental responsibility in accordance with guidelines of MOEF.
 - ii. The State Forest Department with the support of user agency shall further undertake an intensive survey through suitable scientific method such as camera trapping to ascertain the presence of *Four-horned antelope* outside their mining lease under the supervision of a wildlife expert. If the presence of *Four-horned antelope* is confirmed then the compartment no. 26, 28 and 29 of Ghatkuri Reserve Forest should be fenced by chain link. Availability of clean water throughout the year and adequate fire control measures in fenced area must be ensured till the sizable population of animal is achieved. Regular patrol must be ensured through community participation.
 - iii. The user agency shall provide a four wheel drive vehicle to Gua Range to facilitate the frontline field staff for regular patrolling of area. The monthly running cost needs to be met on proportionate basis by all three mines i.e. M/s Usha Martin Ltd, M/s Devkibhai Vheljee and M/s M.L. Jain and Sons.
 - iv. The user agency shall support in-situ capacity building program for forest officials and local community on topics like wildlife monitoring, crime prevention, habitat management, law enforcement etc.
 - v. The user agency and other lessee will celebrate wildlife week to create awareness programme amongst their staff and transporters for ecological and wildlife conservation of Saranda like Mines Environment and Mineral Conservation week which is celebrated every year by every mines under the aegis of Regional Controller of Mines, Indian Bureau of Mines, Kolkata Region.
 - vi. The user agency and others will up skill the knowledge of their mines manager, environmental consultants and local forest officials towards best practices in mining like

Sh

- progressive mining and successive reclamation through exposure visits and training.
- vii. Only working mining pits will be properly fenced instead of creating a linear barrier for wildlife movement through fencing of safety zone around the whole mining leases.
 - viii. GIS tool will be used to implement mining and reclamation plan. Progressive mine closure plan shall be prepared so that reclamation should progress along with mining. In reclamation process, the pioneer succession species will be identified from abandoned area and the same species shall be considered for restoration.
 - ix. Adequate water sprinkling will be ensured along the entire haul road within the mines. Proper dust suppression chemicals will be used while sprinkling the water to minimize the dust load in ambient air.
 - x. Lessee should ensure plying of only Pollution under Control (PUC) vehicles in their lease area without the use of pressure horn.
 - xi. To prevent the silt and fines flow into river Koina and Karo, the user agency shall construct suitable civil structure and the harvested rain water needs to be utilized in mines.
 - xii. **Blasting in night at mines and night transportation of ore through public roads will not be allowed. Transportation of ore by trucks/dumpers within the forest limit shall be replaced with aerial mode in phased manner.**
 - xiii. Proper lighting system in the mine will be used to reduce the glare to open sky to facilitate the migration path of avifauna.
 - xiv. Insulated power transmission cable will be used in stretches passing through forests and the transmission line will be aligned along the roads only.
 - xv. The user agency will be responsible to control fire in and around mining leases under
 - xvi. the supervision of state forest department
 - xvii. The earthen flank shall be made available to facilitate the movement of wild animals by reducing the width of blacktop road from Chotanagra to Saddle forest check post.
 - xviii. Paramilitary forces must be advised to consult local forest officials to put fires in forest area for making the visibility during combining operation and other purposes. Supply of LPG cylinder must be ensured by the local administration to discontinue the practice of large scale fire wood collection for cooking in the camp of paramilitary forces.
10. The State Government shall ensure that various mines are worked in such a way that the required elephant corridor / intermittent vegetation zones are always maintained without any long gap / disturbances.
 11. The user agency shall ensure reclamation and rehabilitation the mined out area with gentle negotiable slope of sufficient width so that connectivity is maintained beyond the ridge to allow animals to cross easily.
 12. The user agency shall design the mine trenches in such a manner to bring zero pollution to Karo & Koena rivers.
 13. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area.
 14. The user agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage / felling of trees in the adjoining areas.

Sh

- 15. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 16. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- 17. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person.
- 18. The evacuation of iron ore will be either through closed conveyer or aerial ropeway.
- 19. The user agency will surrender equal extent of area duly reclaimed and afforested from the already diverted forest areas after completion of mining activity.
- 20. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan.
- 21. The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly.
- 22. Any other condition that the Addl. CCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar, may impose from time to time for the protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area.
- 23. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

Yours faithfully

(Shiv Pal Singh)
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of forests

Copy to:

- 1. The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi for information.
- 2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Govt. of Jharkhand for information.
- 3. The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
- 4. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Govt. of Jharkhand for information.
- 5. The User Agency for information.
- 6. Monitoring Cell.
- 7. Guard File.

Shiv
(Shiv Pal Singh)
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of forests

T. C.
(Signature)



JHARKHAND STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, HEC COMPLEX, DHURWA, RANCHI 834004
Telephone: 0651-2400850 (Fax)/ 2400851/2400852/2401847/2400979/2400139

Ref No. JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-6151106/2019/2650

Dated : 2019-12-31

Consent to operate (CTO) under section 25 /26 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 21 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981

1. Application (s) dated 2019-11-28 of Vijay-II Iron Ore Mines(Tata Steel Long Products Limited), Occupier Name :Ujjwal Chatterjee for consent under section 25 (1)(b)/25 (1) (c)/26 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 21(1) of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act,1981..

2. **Documents Relied Upon:**

(a)The content of Environmental Clearance (EC), Ref No. J-11015/ 48/2001-IA.II(M) dated 19.04.2005,Corrigendum even letter dated 29.05.2006, Corrigendum even letter dated 02.02.2007 & Ref No. J- 11015/507/2007-IA.II(M) dated 22.12.2008 issued by MoEF, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

(b)The content of Consent-to-Establish (CTE), Ref No. N-227, dated 17.04.2004 & Ref. No. 3676 Ranchi, Dated 11.10.2007.

(c)The content of Consent-to-Operate (CTO), Ref No. JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-5312382/2019/1188 Dated : 2019-06-24 for Iron Ore -2.5 Million Ton/annum valid up to 31.12.2019;

(d)The content of Inspection Report (I/R), Ref No. 1909, Regional Office-Cum-Laboratory, Jamshedpur,Dated 23.08.2016.

(e) The content Forest Clearance ref. no. 12(21)51/2004-FCE dated 12.07.2005 and Forest Clearance ref. no. 8-88/2007-FC(Pt) dated 09.11.2012.

(f) The content of mining lease transfer vide ref.no. 432 dated 9-3-2019.

3. The consent is granted under section 25 / 26 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 21 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to operate the project in Mauza -Ghatkhuri RF , P S -Gua , District -WEST SINGHBHUM , as follows:

Project	Site-Area		Investment (Rs)	Product & Capacity	Period of CTO
	Plot Nos.	Area			
Before Expansion	As per EC	As per EC	13580.375 lac	Iron Ore -2.5 Million Ton/annum	31/12/2024

Specific Conditions:

1. That, the occupier shall establish and operate well equipped environmental laboratory with facilities to monitor at least all regulatory parameters and duly accredited by NABL/ISO 9001 with OHSAS 18001.
2. That, the occupier shall comply all the conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance issued vide letter no. J-11015/48/2001-IA.II(M) dated 19.04.2005, Corrigendum even letter dated 29.05.2006, Corrigendum even letter dated 02.02.2007 & Ref No. J-11015/507/2007-IA.II(M) dated 22.12.2008 issued by MOEF, Govt. of India within the consent period.
3. That, the occupier shall comply with the condition of clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 stipulated by MOEF vide letter no. 12 (21) 51/2004-FCE dated 12.07.2005 & letter no. F.No. 8- 88/2007-FC(Pt) dated 09.11.2012
4. That, the occupier shall submit a copy of six monthly report regarding compliance of conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance which is presently being submitted to Regional Office, MOEF, Govt. of India, Bhubneshwar.
5. That, the occupier shall take appropriate mitigative measures to prevent pollution of Karo river and the Koina river.
6. That, the occupier shall do sprinkling of water time to time on haul roads and dusty areas.
7. That, the occupier shall reclaim the mined out area and plantation should be done at the reclaimed site.
8. That, the over burden dump shall be made in accordance with conditions imposed in Environmental Clearance. Retaining wall shall be provided at the toe of over burden dump to check run off
9. That, the occupier shall provide adequate no. of high efficiency dust extraction system in mineral handling area, loading and unloading areas including transfer points.
10. That, the transportation shall be done through covered vehicle to avoid fugitive dust emission.
11. That, the occupier shall provide STP for colony and ETP for Workshop and waste water generated during mining operation.
12. That, the occupier shall not exceed the annual production as granted by MOEF in the environmental clearance order issued vide letter no. J-11015/507/2007-IA.II (M) dated 22.12.2008 and submit six monthly production figure duly certified by the Dist. Mining Officer, Chaibasa, West Singhbhum.
13. That, the occupier shall maintain and operate special water jets with mist water spray at dumper

and loading points to suppress fugitive emission.

14. That, the mining operations shall be restricted to above the ground water table and it should be not intersect the ground water table.
15. That, the top soil, if any shall temporarily be stored at earmarked site(s) only and it should not be kept unutilized for long. The top soil shall be used for land reclamation and plantation
16. That, the occupier shall do blasting operation only during the day time.
17. That, the occupier shall fully implement rain water harvesting system as per design approved by CGWB/State Ground Water Board.
18. That, the occupier shall grant of this Consent-to-Operate is issued from the Environmental angle only and does not absolves the project proponent from the other statutory obligations prescribed under any other law or any other instrument in force. The sole and complete responsibility, to comply with the conditions laid down in all other laws for the time-being in force, rests with the industry /unit/project proponent.
19. That, the grant of this Consent-to-Operate shall not, in any way, adversely affect or jeopardize the legal proceedings, if any, instituted in the past or that could be instituted against you by the State Board for violation of the provisions of the Act or the Rules made there under.
20. That, the grant of this Consent-to-Operate shall not, in any way, adversely affect or jeopardize the legal proceedings, if any, instituted in the past or that could be instituted against you by the State Board for violation of the provisions of the Act or the Rules made there under.
21. That, the occupier shall submit applications for renewal of consent under section 25/26 of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under section 21 of the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 again 120 days prior to the date of expiry of this consent i.e. 31.12.2024, with requisite fee and documents showing compliance of all of the above conditions.
22. That the occupier shall establish CAAQMS and shall provide online connectivity to the Board server within 90 days and will also provide online connectivity of PM 10 analyser in 60 days. IF occupier fails then environmental compensation will be levied

(B) General Conditions :

- (1) That, the occupier shall maintain the **National Ambient Air Quality Standard** given below:

S N	Pollutant	Time Weighted Average	Concentration in Ambient Air	
			Industrial, Residential, Rural and Other Area	Ecologically Sensitive Area (notified by Central Govt.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Sulphur Dioxide (SO ₂), µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	50 80	20 80
2.	Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂), µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	40 80	30 80
3.	Particulate Matter (size less than 10 µm) or PM ₁₀ , µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	60 100	60 100
4.	Particulate Matter (size less than 2.5 µm) or PM _{2.5} , µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	40 60	40 60
5.	Ozone(O ₃), µg/m ³	8 hours 1 hour	100 180	100 180
6.	Lead (Pb) µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	0.50 1.0	0.50 1.0
7.	Carbon Monoxide (CO) mg/m ³	8 hours 1 hour	02 04	02 04
8.	Ammonia (NH ₃) µg/m ³	Annual 24 hours	100 400	100 400
9.	Benzene (C ₆ H ₆) µg/m ³	Annual	05	05
10.	Benzo(a) Pyrene(BaP) Particulate Phase only ng/m ³	Annual	01	01
11.	Arsenic (As) ng/m ³	Annual	06	06
12.	Nickel (Ni) ng/m ³	Annual	20	20

**Note : Serial no. 1 to 4 – Mandatory
Serial no. 5 to 12 As applicable for specific type of industry.**

- (2) That, the occupier shall maintain the emission quality within the standard and the quantity, as follows:

S N	Parameter	Standard
1	Particulate Matter	100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{Nm}^3$
2	Sulphur Dioxide	80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{Nm}^3$
3	Oxides of Nitrogen	80 $\mu\text{g}/\text{Nm}^3$

- (3) That, the occupier shall keep process effluent in close-circuit and the quality of effluent from other sources in conformity with the standard (s) and the discharge quantity as below:

S N	Parameter	Standard
1	Total Suspended Solids	100 mg/L
2	BOD	30 mg/L
3	COD	250 mg/L
4	Oil & Grease	10 mg/L

- (4) That, the occupier shall dispose of solid wastes as follows:

S N	Waste Type	Mode of Disposal
1	Hazardous Carbonaceous Wastes	In co-processing in high temperature furnaces or kilns
2	Hazardous Non-Carbonaceous Wastes	In TSDF
3	Non-Carbonaceous Non-Hazardous solid wastes/ Mine Over Burden	As a substitute of Soil or Mineral

- (5) That, the occupier shall keep D G Set(s) within acoustic enclosure and shall keep the height(s) of exhaust pipe(s) as per Central Pollution Control Board norm.
- (6) That, the occupier shall install and maintain Central Ground Water Board/ State Ground Water Directorate approved system of rain water harvesting-cum-ground water recharge and submit the photographic view of the structures within a month.
- (7) That, the occupier shall grow and maintain greenery of the project in the periphery and other available spaces and shall continue enhancing its plant density and biodiversity.
- (8) That, the occupier shall submit environmental statement with supporting stoichiometric calculations analyses reports, every year latest by 30th September of the next financial year.

- (9) That, the occupier shall submit report(s) duly monitored and issued by an NABL accredited / ISO 9001:2008 and OHSAS 18001:2007 certified laboratory in compliance sub-para (2), (3), (4) and (5) of paragraph 3 of this CTO yearly at required periodicity.
- (10) That, this CTO is valid subjected to the validity of mining Lease/Mining Plan/Ecofriendly/Environmental Clearance, if applicable. In case of no renewal of Mining Lease/Mining Plan, this consent shall be treated as revoked automatically.
- (11) That, this CTO is issued from the environmental angle only and does not absolve the occupier from other statutory obligations prescribed under any other law or any other instrument in force. The sole and complete responsibility to comply with these conditions laid down in all other laws for the time-being in force, rests with the industry/ unit/ occupier.
- (12) That, this CTO shall not in any way, adversely affect or jeopardize the legal proceeding, if any, instituted in the past or that could be, instituted against you by the State Board for violation of the provisions of the Act or the Rules made there under.
- (13) That, the occupier shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974; the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977; the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981; and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made there under.
4. That, this CTO shall not absolve the occupier from making compliance of other statutory prescribed under any law or direction of courts or any other instrument for the time being in force.
5. That, this CTO is being issued on the basis of information/ documents/ certificate submitted by the unit. This CTO will be revoked if any of the information/documents/certificates/undertaking given by the occupier is found false/fictitious/forged in future.
6. The Order shall be valid subject to compliance of all other legal requirements applicable to the unit.
7. The State Board reserve the right to revoke, withdraw or make any reasonable variation / change / alteration in conditions of this consent.

This is issued with the approval of the Competent authority

RAJEEV LOCHAN BAKSHI
 Digitally signed by RAJEEV LOCHAN BAKSHI
 Date: 2019.12.31 18:40:21 +05'30'
 (Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
 Member Secretary

Dated : 2019-12-31

Memo No. : JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-6151106/2019/2650

Copy to: Vijay-II Iron Ore Mines(Tata Steel Long Products Limited), Vijay-II Iron Ore Mines, Ghatkuri RF, Post-Barajamda, Thana -Gua, Block Noamundi, Dist West Singhbhum/ Dy. Commissioner, West Singhbhum/D.F.O. Saranda Division, Chaibasa, West Singhbhum/Dist. Mining Officer, West Singhbhum /Regional Officer, Regional Office-CumLaboratory, Jamshedpur for information & necessary action.

RAJEEV LOCHAN BAKSHI
 Digitally signed by RAJEEV LOCHAN BAKSHI
 Date: 2019.12.31 18:40:53 +05'30'
 (Rajeev Lochan Bakshi)
 Member Secretary

76

Annexure - F'

No.J-11015/507/2007-IA II (M)
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
Impact Assessment Division

Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi-110 003

Date: 22nd September, 2021

To

M/s Tata Steel Long Products Limited
Vijay-II, Iron Ore Mines
PO & Thana: Barajamda
Dist Sepahijala- 758 034
Sikkim

Sub: Transfer of EC from M/s Usha Martin Limited to M/s Tata Steel Long Products Limited issued for Expansion of Vijay-II Iron ore mining project with production capacity to 2.5 MTPA (MLA: 155.078 ha) located in Village Ghatkuri, Tehsil: Noamundi, District: West Singbhum, Jharkhand - regarding

Ref: EC letter no.J-11015/507/2007-IA-II (M) dated 22.12.2008

Sir,

This has reference to your proposal no.IA/JH/MIN/224453/2021 on the above mentioned proposal for transfer of EC from M/s Usha Martin Limited to M/s Tata Steel Long Products Limited issued for Expansion of Vijay-II Iron ore mining project with production capacity to 2.5 MTPA (MLA: 155.078 ha) located in Village Ghatkuri, Tehsil Noamundi, District West Singbhum, Jharkhand vide EC letter no.J-11015/507/2007-IA-II(M) dated 22.12.2008.

2. The Project Proponent has submitted the application under the provisions of Rule 11 of the EIA Notification, 2006 along with the following details: -

- (a) Form-7 as per EIA, 2006.
- (b) Consent to Operate vide letter no.JSPCB/HO/RNC/CTO-6151106/2019/2650 dated 31.12.2019 in the name of present project proponent.
- (c) NOC from the previous project proponent dated 29.05.2020.
- (d) Undertaking by present project proponent dated 29.12.2020.
- (e) Copy of business transfer agreement letter written by the previous project proponent to present project proponent dated 09.04.2019.
- (f) Cover Letter duly signed by the present project proponent date 11.08.2021.
- (g) Authorization letter duly signed by the present project proponent.

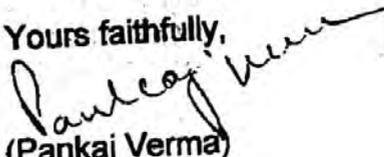
3. The matter has been examined in the Ministry and accordingly the undersigned is directed to say that the Ministry has no objection to transfer the above mentioned Environmental Clearance granted vide letter no.J-11015/507/2007-IA-II(M) dated

22.12.2008 from M/s Usha Martin Limited to M/s Tata Steel Long Products Limited issued for Expansion of Vijay-II Iron ore mining project with production capacity to 2.5 MTPA (MLA: 155.078 ha) located in Village Ghatkuri, Tehsil Noamundi, District West Singhum, Jharkhand subject to satisfactory compliance to all the stipulated specific and general conditions.

4 All other terms and conditions mentioned in the Ministry's EC letter no.J-11015/507/2007-IA-II(M) dated 22.12.2008 shall remain the same.

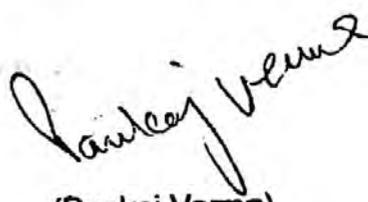
5 This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,


(Pankaj Verma)
Scientist E

Copy to

- (1) The Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi- 110 001.
- (2) The Secretary, Department of Mines & Geology, Government of Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
- (3) The Secretary, Department of Environment, Government of Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
- (4) The Secretary, Department of Forest, Government of Jharkhand, Secretariat, Ranchi.
- (5) The Chief Wildlife Warden, Forest Department, Ranchi.
- (6) The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C), Integrated Regional Office (ECZ), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bunglow No. A-2, 34, Shyamali Colony, Ranchi - 834 002.
- (7) The Chairman, Jharkhand Pollution Control Board, H.E.C., Dhurwa, Ranchi- 834 004.
- (8) The Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, Parivesh Bhawan, CBD-cum-Office Complex, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi- 110 032.
- (9) The Member Secretary, Central Ground Water Authority, 18/11, Jam Nagar House, Man Singh Road, New Delhi- 110 011.
- (10) The Controller General, Indian Bureau of Mines, Indira Bhawan, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001.
- (11) The District Collector, West Singhum.
- (12) Guard File.
- (13) PARIVESH.


(Pankaj Verma)
Scientist E