

Your application has been **Submitted** with following details

<b>Proposal No</b>	110015/88/2006-IA.II(M)
<b>Compliance ID</b>	28432950
<b>Compliance Number(For Tracking)</b>	EC/M/COMPLIANCE/28432950/2023
<b>Reporting Year</b>	2023
<b>Reporting Period</b>	01 Dec(01 Apr - 30 Sep)
<b>Submission Date</b>	01-12-2023
<b>IRO Name</b>	P Subramanyam
<b>IRO Email</b>	agmu102@ifs.nic.in
<b>State</b>	KARNATAKA
<b>IRO Office Address</b>	Budgam

**Note:-** SMS and E-Mail has been sent to P Subramanyam, KARNATAKA with Notification to Project Proponent.

# The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores

(An ISO 9001:2015; ISO 14001:2015 and 45001:2018 certified company)

CIN: L85110KA1954PLC000759; Website: www.sandurgroup.com

## REGISTERED OFFICE

'SATYALAYA', No.266  
Ward No.1, Palace Road  
Sandur - 583 119, Ballari District  
Karnataka, India  
Tel: +91 8395 260301/ 283173-199  
Fax: +91 8395 260473



## CORPORATE OFFICE

'SANDUR HOUSE', No.9  
Bellary Road, Sadashivanagar  
Bengaluru - 560 080  
Karnataka, India  
Tel: +91 80 4152 0176 - 79 / 4547 3000  
Fax: +91 80 4152 0182

RefNo: SMIOR/HO/ENV/MINES/2023-24/2679/ 78

28 November 2023

To,  
Integrated Regional Office (IRO),  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Kendriya Sadan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, E & F Wing,  
17<sup>th</sup> Main Road, II Block, Koramangala,  
Bengaluru - 560034.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Submission of six-monthly compliance status report for EC Id No. 110015/88/2006-IA. II (M) dated 24 January 2007 in respect of ML. No. 2679 for the period April - September 2023.

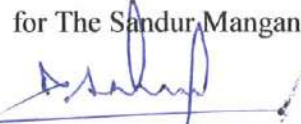
Ref: EC Id No. 110015/88/2006-IA. II (M) dated 24 January 2007.

As per specific conditions A(ii) of the above-mentioned Environmental Clearance (EC), we hereby submit the six-monthly compliance status report for the period from April 2023 to September 2023 regarding the Mining Lease No.2679 of The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Limited.

We trust that the measures taken towards environmental safeguard comply with the stipulated environmental conditions.

Thank you,

for The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Limited.,

  
Md. Abdul Saleem  
Whole Time Director and Company Secretary



Encl: Compliance report

**MINES OFFICE:** Deogiri - 583112, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District

Tel: +91 8395 271025 / 28 / 29 / 40; Fax: +91 8395 271066

**PLANT OFFICE:** Metal & Ferroalloy Plant, Vyasankere, Mariyammanahalli - 583 222, Hosapete Taluk, Ballari District

Tel: +91 8394 244450 / 244335

**Compliance Report to the Conditions Stipulated in the Environmental Clearance  
Accorded by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).**

**EC Id. No. 110015/88/2006-IA. II (M) dated 24 January 2007  
for SMIORE M.L. No. 2679.**

<b>A. Specific Conditions:</b>		
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Conditions</b>	<b>Status of compliance</b>
1	Top soil shall be stacked properly with proper slope with adequate safeguards and shall be backfilled for reclamation and rehabilitation of mined out area.	Presently, topsoil has been stacked at Neerlabbi Mine Pit. Earthen bund has been provided at the toe of the topsoil stack. The stacked topsoil is being used for spreading on dump slopes for afforestation and in the backfilled terrace slopes for afforestation.
2	Over burden shall be stacked of earmarked dump site(s) only and shall not be kept active for long period. The maximum height of the dump shall not exceed 20 m, each stage shall preferably be 10 m and over all slope of the dump shall not exceed 28°. The mine pit area shall be reclaimed by back filling the OB in a phased manner. The OB dumps shall be scientifically vegetated with suitable native species to prevent erosion and surface run off. 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 on six monthly basis.	Overburden dumps are stacked as per the approved Production and Development Plan by IBM. The height and width of dumps of are maintained as per the Approved Dump Management Plan prescribed by the ICFRE which has been approved by Hon'ble Supreme court appointed Central Empowered Committee. A total of 42.40 Ha of the lease area has been covered under dumps out of which 32.92 Ha has been fully reclaimed and rehabilitated using native species, grasses, herbs, shrubs. 2,71,648 saplings of all varieties have been planted on these dumps. Bio-Engineering measures as prescribed in the R&R Plan have been undertaken. Progressive backfilling of the mined out exhausted portions of the mine pits has been undertaken and 6.55 hectares of mine pits has been covered by backfilling. Toe wall/Retaining wall of 2499 meters has been constructed below the dumps.
3	Garland drains shall be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from soil and mineral dumps. The water so collected shall be utilized for watering the mine area, roads, green belt development etc. The drains shall be regularly de-silted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly. Garland drains (size, gradient and length) shall be constructed for both mine pit and	Garland drains have been constructed along haul roads, toe of waste dumps. 3546 meters of garland drain has been constructed within the mine lease area. The water from the garland drain is channelized through Gulley Plugs, loose boulder check dams to the Silt Settling Pond and Rainwater harvesting Pits. The Design parameters of the garland drain, silt settling tanks, rainwater harvesting pits are


<b>A. Specific Conditions:</b>		
	for waste dumps and sump capacity 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 shall 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.	as per the engineering design prescribed by the Domain experts of ICFRE during the R&R Plan preparation. Desilting of the Garland drain is being made post monsoon.
4	The project authorities shall obtain Forest Clearance under the provisions of Forest (Cons.) Act 1980 for diversion of forest land.	Forest Clearance has been obtained from MoEF&CC vide letter No F.No. 8-15/94-FC dated 12 March 2007 over an extent of 142.58 Ha.
5	Plantation shall be raised, including green belt of adequate width, by planting the native species around the ML area, roads, OB dump sites etc. in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2000 plants per hectare.	SMIORE is developing and maintaining its own nursery with a capacity of 1.00 lakh saplings per annum. 25-30 native species are being raised annually in the nursery and procurement of saplings is being done from the Forest Nursery also in consultation with local RFO. Safety Zone (7.5m) along the mine lease boundary has been developed and maintained over an extent of 11.97 Ha and dump plantation covering 32.92 Ha has been carried out, Avenue Plantation on haul roads also has been carried out. 1.484 Ha of Mined out pits have been planted with native species. On Dumps 2.71 lakh saplings under green belt safety zone 43215 saplings, 4918 saplings under avenue plantation have been made which includes Herbs/Shrubs/native species. Density is more than the prescribed density of 2000 plants.
6	Wet drilling should be adopted.	Wet Drilling has been adopted
7	The project authority shall implement suitable conservation measures to augment ground water resources in the area in consultation with the Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.	7 number of Rainwater harvesting pits have been constructed based on the catchment to augment the surface runoff rainwater and facilitate recharge to ground water. Combined detailed Hydrogeological Studies in the Mining Lease No 2678 and 2679 has been carried out by Mr. M.C. Reddy, Former Regional Director CGWB and Ministry of Jalshakti accredited Consultant for

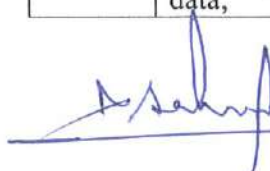

<b>A. Specific Conditions:</b>		
		Hydrogeology Projects in Mining where in it is estimated that based on the GEC Norms from the rainwater harvesting pits is 7350 m3.
8	Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during mining operations 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 MoEF, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.	At Mining Lease No 2679, there are two Piezometers which are maintained one at Governor Point and another one at Central Deposit. Recently one piezometer at Central Deposit has been fitted with Digital Water Level Recorder with telemetry facility to monitor the ground water fluctuation. Regular monitoring of the groundwater levels is carried out once in every quarter and water quality is tested once in a year (post monsoon) and the reports are submitted to Karnataka Ground Water Authority and KSPCB.
9	Prior permission from the competent authority shall be obtained for drawal of ground water, if any.	Permission for withdrawal of Ground Water has been obtained in the Combined NoC for Ground Water abstraction from the Karnataka Ground water authority vide letter No KGWA/GW/NoC/08/2020-21/1222 dated 24 August 2020 for 1225m3/day from 13 borewells from both the mining leases. From ML.No. 2679 the total water withdrawal is about 52m3/day from three borewells which are operated 3-4 hours/day. The NoC was valid till 23 August 2023. Application for renewal has been filed with KGWA on 28 June 2023 and application is under Process.
10	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 minerals. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be overloaded.	PUC certificates of HEMM/Tippers used in the mine are monitored and records are maintained. Preventive Maintenance of Machinery/Tippers are being carried out by the contractors. The Ore transportation trucks/tippers are covered with tarpaulins and are not overloaded.
11	Sewage Treatment Plant shall be installed for the colony. ETP shall also be provided for workshop and wastewater generated from mining operation.	As there is no colony/township existing in the lease area, STP has not been provided. The generated Domestic wastewater of 4.8 KL/day from toilets in scattered mine pits are being treated in Soak pits followed by septic tanks. As the mining machinery are contractual the maintenance of such HEMM/Tippers are carried out by contractors either at OEM



The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Ltd.

A. Specific Conditions:		
		Facility/Garage at Sandur and hence ETP within the mine lease area has not been provided with.
12	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.	As per the amended rules No 24 and 25 of MCDR 2017, The Final mine closure plan must be submitted two years prior to expiry of the mine lease, thus the Final Mine Closure for the said mining please will be prepared in October 2030 upon which the duly approved copy of the same will be submitted to IRO of MoEF&CC.


B. General Conditions:		
Sl. No.	Conditions	Status of Compliance
1	No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of Ministry of Environment & Forests.	There is no change in Mining Technology. Open cast method of mechanized mining followed by manual sorting of manganese Ore is undertaken in the mine lease. Prior approval will be obtained if any change in technology is envisaged in future.
2	No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral and waste shall be made.	Production from the mine lease has been restricted to 32,000 tonnes of Manganese Production as per the Maximum Permissible Annual Production by the CEC accordingly the CFO and approved Mining plan also has been approved for the same production. The quantities are well within the approved Production and Development Plan duly approved for the Financial Year by the IBM.
3	Conservation measures for protection of flora and fauna in the core & buffer zone shall be drawn up in consultation with the local forest and wildlife department.	SMIORE has developed and is maintaining its own centralized nursery to cater to needs of afforestation. The species prescribed in the R&R Plan by ICFRE are being raised at the Nursery and Fruit bearing species are given more importance. Procurement of Saplings from the local forest nursery is also made as per guidance from local Range Forest Office.
4	Four ambient air quality monitoring stations shall be established in the core zone as well as in the buffer zone for RPM, SPM, SO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> monitoring. Location of the stations should be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and	Six Ambient Air Quality Stations in Core Zone and Buffer Zone Viz Mine Area, Ramghad, Dharmapura, Garaga, Yeshwanthnagar, Subbarayanahalli are being monitored weekly twice on every month basis as per the NAAQ Standards-2009 and reports are being submitted to KSPCB on quarterly basis. The Locations of these

<b>B. General Conditions:</b>		
	environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets and frequency of monitoring should be undertaken in consultation with the SPCB.	monitoring stations are as per the approved EIA/EMP studies which has been undertaken surrounding 10 km of the mine lease area.
5	Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM SO <sub>2</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> ) should be regularly submitted to the Ministry including its Regional Office located at Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board/ Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.	Complied with. Regular submission of AAQ data is made on quarterly basis to Regional Office at KSPCB Bengaluru and to the SPCB at Ballari.
6	Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangements on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.	Fugitive emissions from the point sources are controlled regularly. Three Water tankers are engaged for dust suppression at mines, Static Sprinklers has been installed on some portion of haul roads and at the loading points, Closure of loaded trucks with tarpaulins is mandatory before leaving the mine lease.
7	Measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in the operation of HEMM etc. shall be provided with ear plugs/muffs.	Some of the measures undertaken for reducing the noise are as follows 1) Controlled Blasting Techniques using NONEL are put to use, 2) Diesel Generation put in operation are provided with acoustic enclosures 3) AC cabins have been provided for operators of Excavators/Tippers thereby minimizing the exposure to noise levels. 4) Ear Plugs are provided to workers exposed at the mobile screening plant.
8	Industrial wastewater (workshop and the wastewater from the mine) should be properly collected, treated so as to conform to the standards prescribed under GSR 422 (E) dated: 19 <sup>th</sup> May 1993 and 31 <sup>st</sup> December 1993 or as amended from time to time. Oil and grease trap shall be installed before discharge of workshop effluents.	The mining machinery engaged in the mine lease area from Contractual sources, the maintenance and repairs are being carried out by Contractor with at the OEM/Garages at Sandur. There is no workshop which is maintained in the mining lease area. For collection of used Oil from DG Sets/Light Motor Vehicles Oil and grease traps (trays) has been provided in the Hazardous Waste Room.
9	Personnel working in the dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.	Initial trainings and refresher trainings are conducted regularly to workers engaged and briefings are made on Health and Safety aspects. Personnel working at the mine are being provided with all the personal protective equipment's including the dust mask which is being strictly supervised by the Asst. Mine Manager and Mine


<b>B. General Conditions:</b>		
		Foremen.
10	Occupational health surveillance program of the workers shall be undertaken periodically to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures.	Initial and Periodic Medical Examination is carried out as per The Mines Rules 1955 by SMIORE at Arogya Community Health Center which has been recognized by DGMS for OHS Facility along with qualified OHS Doctors.
11	A separate environmental management cell with suitable qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of a Senior Executive, who will report directly to the Head of the Organization.	A separate Environment Management Cell is setup with qualified personnel reporting to Whole Time Director and Company Secretary who is the Unit Head.
12	The Project Authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development works.	Not Applicable
13	The funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in a separate account and should not be diverted for other purposes. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.	Funds earmarked for Environment Protection are not diverted for any other purpose. Yearly compliance w.r.t to EMP implementation in the mine lease is reported under Progressive Mine Closer Plan / Environment Statement.
14	The Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore shall monitor the compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend the full co-operation to the officer(s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the requisite data/information/monitoring reports.	Agreed. Full co-operation is being extended to the concerned authorities for monitoring of compliance to stipulated conditions and necessary data/ information are provided.
15	A copy of clearance letter will be marked to concerned Panchayath/local NGO, if any from whom suggestion/ representation has been received while processing the proposal.	Not Applicable
16	State Pollution Control Board should display a copy of the clearance letter at the Regional Office, District Industry Centre and Collector's Office / Tehsildar's Office for 30 days.	Action to be taken by respective departments.

**B. General Conditions:**

17	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 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 <a href="http://envfor.nic.in">http://envfor.nic.in</a> and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore.	The advertisement was given in Kannada Prabha dated 31 January 2007 in vernacular language (Kannada) and in English daily of Indian Express on 31st January 2007.
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