

Your (**Environment Clearance**) application has been **Submitted** with following details

Proposal No	110015/88/2006-IA.II(M)
Compliance ID	72589790
Compliance Number(For Tracking)	EC/M/COMPLIANCE/72589790/2024
Reporting Year	2023
Reporting Period	01 Jun(01 Oct - 31 Mar)
Submission Date	01-06-2024
IRO Name	V Geroge Jenner
IRO Email	tr025@ifs.nic.in
State	KARNATAKA
IRO Office Address	Integrated Regional Offices, Bengaluru

Note:- SMS and E-Mail has been sent to V Geroge Jenner, KARNATAKA with Notification to Project Proponent.

The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Limited

(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

Ref No: SMIORE/MINES/2024-25/2679/273

27 May 2024

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

Dear Sir,

Sub: Submission of six-monthly compliance status report in respect of ML. No. 2679 for the period spanning October 2023 to March 2024.

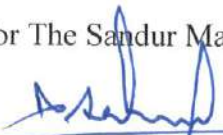
Ref: EC Id No. 110015/88/2006-IA. II (M) dated 24 January 2007.

Pursuant to the specific conditions A (ii) of the above-mentioned Environmental Clearance (EC), we hereby submit the six-monthly compliance status report for the period spanning October 2023 to March 2024 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

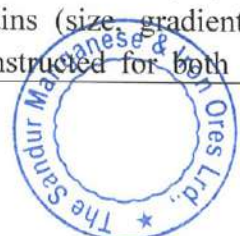
MINES OFFICE: Deogiri - 583112, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District
Tel: +91 8395 271025 / 28 / 29 / 40; Fax: +91 8395 271066

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
Mining Lease No. 2679**

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

A. Specific Conditions		
Sl. No.	Conditions	Status of compliance
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



A. Specific Conditions		
	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. Annexure – I.
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 operates its own centralized nursery, annually producing 1.00 lakh saplings, with a focus on 25-30 native species in consultation with local forest authority. A total of 3,194 native tree saplings were planted in FY 2023-24.
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.	Seven number of Rain Water Harvesting Pits (RWHP) have been constructed to augment runoff rainwater and facilitate groundwater recharge within the catchment area. A comprehensive hydrogeological study, covering Mining Lease No 2678 and 2679, was conducted by Mr. M.C. Reddy, Former Regional Director of CGWB and an accredited Consultant for hydrogeology projects in mining under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. According to the study report, it is estimated that the recharge of groundwater from the rainwater harvesting pits, based on the GEC Norms, amounts to 7350 m ³ .
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	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

A. Specific Conditions		
	(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.	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 the withdrawal of ground water has been obtained through combined NoC No. KGWAN1554866756 dated 16.02.2024 from the Karnataka Ground Water Authority.
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.	Vehicular emissions are consistently maintained within regulated limits and subject to regular monitoring. The administration diligently maintains records of all Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates for vehicles entering the mining premises, ensuring compliance with environmental standards. Preventive maintenance of machinery/tippers are being carried out by the contractors to uphold the operation efficiency. Mineral transportation trucks/tippers are covered with tarpaulins and operated within prescribed load capacities.
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 or township within the lease area, STP has not been provided. The domestic wastewater generated, approximately of 4.8 KL/day from scattered mine pits, is treated in soak pits followed by septic tanks. Since the mining machinery is contracted, maintenance of HEMM/Tippers is carried out by contractors either at the OEM facility or at garage at Sandur. Therefore, ETP within the mine lease area has not been provided.
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



A. Specific Conditions	
	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 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 ₂ , 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 SPCB.	Six ambient air quality stations in core zone and buffer zone viz. mine area, Ramghad, Dharmapura, Garaga, Yeshwanthnagar, and Subbarayanahalli are being monitored weekly twice basis as per the NAAQ Standards, 2009 and reports are being submitted to KSPCB on monthly basis. The locations of these monitoring stations are as per the approved EIA/EMP studies which has been undertaken surrounding 10 km of the mine lease area. AAQMS station location map enclosed as Annexure -II .
5	Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM SO ₂ , NO _x) should be regularly	Complied. Monthly submission of AAQ data is made to the Head Office, KSPCB, Bengaluru, and



B. General Conditions:		
	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.	Regional Office, KSPCB, Ballari. Graphical representation of the location-wise monthly average values of ambient air quality is enclosed as Annexure - III .
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. Dust suppression is carried out efficiently using three water tankers and static sprinklers have been installed along arterial haul roads and at loading points. Loaded trucks are covered with tarpaulins to ensure dust particulate containment during transit.
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Controlled blasting using NONEL, ➤ Acoustic enclosures for DG sets, ➤ Sound proof AC cabins for operators of Excavators/Tippers thereby minimizing the exposure to noise levels. ➤ Ear Plugs
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 th May 1993 and 31 st 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 Oiled and grease traps (trays) has been provided in the Hazardous Waste Storage 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 Managers and Mine 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 SMIOR at Arogya Community Health Center which has been recognized by DGMS for OHS Facility along with qualified OHS Doctors.



B. General Conditions:		
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 dedicated Environment Management Cell has been set up, staffed with qualified personnel who report directly to the Whole Time Director and Company Secretary, who serves as the Unit Head. The organization structure of the Environment Management Cell is provided in Annexure - IV .
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 environmental protection are strictly reserved and not diverted for any other purposes. Yearly compliance regarding EMP implementation in the mine lease is reported as part of the 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 with stipulated conditions, and necessary data/ information is provided as required.
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.
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 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.



B. General Conditions:

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 shall be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore.



A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a circular blue stamp. The stamp contains the text "The Sandur Manganese & Iron Ores Ltd." around the perimeter and a small star in the center.