

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

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CORPORATE OFFICE

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Ref No: SMIORE/MINES/ENV/2022-23/2679/ 1071

31/12/2022

To,
The Director (S),
The Regional Office (Southern Zone)
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Kendriya Sadan, 4th Floor, E & F Wing,
17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block,
Bengaluru 560034

- Sub:** Submission of six-monthly compliance status report to the stipulated environmental conditions as per EC Id No. 110015/88/2006-IA.II (M) dated 24/01/2007 in respect of ML No.2679 for the period from June to November 2022
- Ref:** 1. EC Id No. 110015/88/2006-IA.II (M) dated 24/01/2007
2. Office Memorandum F.No. IA3-22/1/2022-IA-III [E-172624] dated 14/06/2022 regarding submission of six monthly compliance report through dedicated module in PARIVESH by MoEF&CC

Dear Sir,

As per specific conditions A (ii) of the above-mentioned EC, we hereby submit the six monthly compliance status report for the period from June to November 2022. As recommended in the above referenced OM dated 14/06/2022, we have tried submitting the status report on PARIVESH portal. Because of some technical issues, we are unable to submit the report online. Hence, forwarding the EC compliance status report through email and the hard copies of the same is being submitted to the Regional Office, Bengaluru.

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
Director (Mines)

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

**Six-monthly Compliance Status Report to the Environmental Conditions Stipulated by the
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)
EC Id. No. 110015/88/2006-IA.II (M) dated 24/01/2007 for SMIORE ML. No. 2679**

A. Specific Conditions		
Sl.No.	Particulars	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.	Top soil is being stacked separately, and whenever required, it is spread over the dump slope, dump top plantation for Reclamation and Rehabilitation (R&R) of mined out area.
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 of 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.	Over burden (OB) is being stacked at the designated location maintaining the stipulated standards for height and slope. Inactive dumps are stabilized by covering with native species plantation to prevent the soil erosion and surface runoff. Some of the dumps are stabilized by covering with coir mat and subsequent seeding of native grasses, shrubs and tree species as per the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) recommendations. Compliance status reports are being submitted regularly on six monthly basis to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)
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 desilted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly. Garland drains (size, gradient and length) shall be constructed for both mine pit and for waste dumps and sump capacity shall 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 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.	Sufficient numbers of garland drains are constructed for both mine pit and waste dump. Specifications like size, gradient and length are maintained as per the recommendations of ICFRE. The water so collected is being utilized for the watering/dust suppression in the mine area. Rain Water Harvesting Pits and Silt Settling Tanks are also constructed as per the recommendations of ICFRE with adequate sump capacity considering the safety margin to allow groundwater recharge and proper settling of silt material. Regular de-silting of all sedimentation pits are being carried out during pre-monsoon period.
4	The project authorities shall obtain Forest Clearance under the provisions of Forest (Cons.) Act 1980 for diversion of forestland	Forest Clearance has been accorded by the MoEF&CC under the provisions of Forest Conservation Act 1980 vide F. No. 8-15/ 94-FC dated: 12 March 2007
5	Plantation shall be raised including green belt of adequate width by planting the native species around the ML area, roads, OB dumpsites etc. in consultation with the local DFO/Agriculture Department. The density of the trees shall be around 2000 plants per ha.	Green belt has been developed by planting native species around mine lease area, roads and OB dumpsites in consultation with State Forest Department Officials and we have planted more than 2500 plants per hectare.
6	Wet drilling should be adopted.	Wet drilling is being adopted

A. Specific Conditions		
Sl.No.	Particulars	Status of Compliance
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.	Groundwater recharge pits have been constructed in the mine pits as per the recommendations of ICFRE to improve/recharge the groundwater level. A retired Regional Director of Central Ground Water Board has been appointed as our consultant to carry out these works, under his supervision.
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 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 MoEF, Central Ground Water Authority and Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board.	Network of existing wells in core and buffer zone is established and regular monitoring of water levels is being carried out during four seasons as stipulated. Regular monitoring of groundwater quality is being carried out by MoEF&CC approved laboratory on monthly basis as stipulated by State Pollution Control Board. Reports are prepared and being submitted to the concerned authorities regularly.
9	Prior permission from the competent authority shall be obtained for drawal of ground water, if any.	Permission is obtained from the Central Ground Water Board vide letter No.21-4(151)/SWR/CGWA/2011-1728 dated: 25.11.2011. Also, NOC is obtained from Karnataka Groundwater Authority (KGWA) vide letter No. KGWA/GW/ NOC/08/2020-21/1222 dated 24.08.2020 to draw groundwater.
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 mineral. The vehicles shall be covered with a tarpaulin and shall not be over loaded.	All vehicles used in mining operations & in transportations of minerals; 1. Are tested for vehicular emission (pollution under control) at every six months and copies of such certificates are maintained at mines office. 2. All necessary measures are being taken for vehicular maintenance. 3. Ore loaded vehicles are being covered with tarpaulin while transporting by roads within the capacity stipulated by the Director of Mines and Geology and Karnataka State Forest Department.
11	Sewage Treatment Plant shall be installed for the colony. ETP shall also be provided for workshop and wastewater generated from mining operations.	Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) is established in Deogiri and S.B.Halli colonies. Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) is provided for the workshop effluent at Deogiri workshop complex.
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.	Final Mine Closure Plan will be submitted with all related details to the Ministry well in advance as stipulated for approval.

B. General Conditions		
Sl. No.	Particulars	Action taken
1	No change in mining technology and scope of working shall be made without prior approval of Ministry of Environment & Forests.	Approval will be obtained from the Ministry if any change is made in mining technology and scope of work.
2	No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral iron ore and	No change has been made in the calendar plan of excavation, quantum of mineral and waste.

B. General Conditions		
Sl. No.	Particulars	Action taken
	waste shall be made.	
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 wild life department.	Conservation plan for protection of flora and fauna has been prepared in consultation with State Forest Department.
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 State Pollution Control Board.	Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) is being monitored at one station in core zone and five stations in buffer zone. Twelve parameters including RPM, SPM, SO ₂ , NO _x are being monitored by MOEF & CC approved laboratory on monthly basis as stipulated by State Pollution Control Board (SPCB).
5	Data on ambient air quality (RPM, SPM, SO ₂ , NO _x) 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.	Regular submission of Ambient Air Quality monitoring reports is being done on quarterly basis to the Regional Office of MoEF&CC, located at Bengaluru and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB), Ballari
6	Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources shall be controlled regularly. Water spraying arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points shall be provided and properly maintained.	Fugitive dust emissions from all the sources are being controlled and regular water spraying is being done at all the required places by water tankers and stationary sprinklers.
7	Measures shall be taken for control of noise levels below 85 dBA in the work environment. Workers engaged in operation of HEMM etc. shall be provided with ear plugs/muffs.	Noise levels are maintained below 85 dBA in the work environment and the workers engaged in HEMM operational area are being provided with ear plug/muffs.
8	Industrial waste water (workshop and the waste water 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.	Oil and grease traps are installed along with ETP for the collection and treatment of wastewater generated from the Workshop.
9	Personnel working in dusty areas shall wear protective respiratory devices and they shall also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.	Workers are provided with protective respiratory devices. Regular refresher training classes are being conducted on safety and health aspects in the Vocational Training Centre established in our mining lease area since 1976.
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, if needed.	Initial and Periodical Medical checkups are being carried out for all the employees working in the mines as per The Mines Rules 1955.
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 set up with suitable qualified personnel under the control of Whole-Time Director.
12	The Project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office located at Bangalore regarding	

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B. General Conditions		
Sl. No.	Particulars	Action taken
	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 separate account and should not be diverted for other purpose. Year wise expenditure shall be reported to the Ministry and its Regional Office located at Bangalore.	Funds earmarked for the stipulated purpose are not being diverted for any other purpose. The expenditure on environmental protection measures is reported as part of Environmental Audit 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.	Full co-operation is being extended to the concerned authorities while monitoring the compliance of the stipulated conditions by furnishing the requisite data/ information/ monitoring reports.
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 / Tahsildar's Office for 30 days.	Action to be taken by KSPCB
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 http://envfor.nic.in and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Regional Office of this Ministry located at Bangalore.	The advertisement was given in the following 2 widely circulated local newspapers: Kannada Prabha on 31 January 2007 and Indian Express on 31 January 2007