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Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Issued by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority(SEIAA), KARNATAKA)

To,

The GeneralManager SRI KUMARASWAMY MINERAL EXPORTS PRIVATE LIMITED No.61, Cunningham cross road, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore -560052

Subject: Grant of Environmental Clearance (EC) to the proposed Project Activity under the provision of EIA Notification 2006-regarding

Sir/Madam,

This is in reference to your application for Environmental Clearance (EC) in respect of project submitted to the SEIAA vide proposal number SIA/KA/MIN/439308/2023 dated 11 Aug 2023. The particulars of the environmental clearance granted to the project are as below.

EC23B001KA163011 1. EC Identification No. **SEIAA 338 MIN 2023** 2. File No. 3. **Project Type** Expansion 4.

Category 5. Project/Activity including Schedule No.

Name of Project Ramanadurga Iron Ore Mine (M L No. 6. 2141)

1(a) Mining of minerals

7. Name of Company/Organization SRI KUMARASWAMY MINERAL EXPORTS PRIVATE LIMITED

8. **Location of Project KARNATAKA**

9. **TOR Date** N/A

The project details along with terms and conditions are appended herewith from page no 2 onwards.

(e-signed) Sri. B. P. Ravi., IFS Date: 17/10/2023 **Member Secretary** SEIAA - (KARNATAKA)



Note: A valid environmental clearance shall be one that has EC identification number & E-Sign generated from PARIVESH.Please quote identification number in all future correspondence.

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State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority-Karnataka

(Constituted by MoEF, Government of India, under section 3(3) of E(P) Act, 1986)

No. SEIAA 338 MIN 2023

To,

M/s. Sri Kumaraswamy Minerals Export Pvt. Ltd., No. 453, 14th Ward, SMIORE Colony (Behind Fire Station) Sandur, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District - 583119.

Sir,

Sub: Expansion of Ramanadurga Iron Ore Mine (ML. No. 2141) at Yeswantnagar Village of Sandur Taluk, Ballari District of Karnataka by M/s. Sri Kumaraswamy Minerals Export Pvt. Ltd., - Issue of Environmental Clearance - Reg.

This has reference to your online application dated 11th August 2023 bearing proposal No. SIA/KA/MIN/439308/2023 addressed to SEIAA, Karnataka and subsequent letters addressed to SEIAA/SEAC, Karnataka seeking prior environmental clearance for the above project under the EIA Notification, 2006. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of the provisions under the EIA Notification, 2006 on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz., the Application in Form 1, Certified Compliance Report by MoEF&CC Regional Office Bangalore, , Pre-feasibility Report, EMP /EIA Report, Mining Plan for the proposed mine of Iron Ore Mine and the additional clarifications furnished in response to the observations of the SEAC, Karnataka.

2. Iron Ore Mine: Extent: 59.36 Hectares at (ML. No. 2141) at Entire Area is Forest Land at Yeswantnagar Village of Sandur Taluk, Ballari District of Karnataka. The total mining lease area of the project is 59.36 Hectares, which is a Forest land. Out of 59.36 Ha, 40.17 Ha area is for Mining, 0.74 Ha area is for Mineral Storage, 1.33 Ha area is for Roads, 0.18 Ha area is for Infrastructures (Workshop, Administrative building etc.,), 7.11 Ha area is for OB/Waste dump, 3.48 Ha area is for Others and 6.35 Ha area is for future use. Working will be fully open cast mechanized method. The lessee has proposed the Downhill Pipe Conveyor System for the transportation of iron ore which will be operational during 2026-27. The Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore has approved mining plan on 11.07.2023. During the mining operation about 2,05,900 Tons of subgrade ore will be handled during the plan period. The capital cost of the project is about Rs. 9.57 Crores. It is reported that the lease area do not attract General Conditions specified in the EIA Notification, 2006 and the amendments made thereon.

- 3. It is inter-alia, noted that M/s. Sri Kumaraswamy Minerals Export Pvt. Ltd., got the EIA study conducted by Horizon Ventures, 4, Anaga, Devasandra, New BEL Road, Opposite MS Ramaiah Hospital, Bangalore 560 094, Karnataka, who have been accredited from NABET vide certificate No: NABET/EIA/2225/RA 0263
- 4. Based on the information submitted by you, presentation made by you and your consultant, the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) examined the proposal in the meeting held on 18th August 2023 and has recommended for issue of Environmental Clearance as per approved mine plan.
- 5. The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Karnataka has considered the application in their meeting held on 21st September 2023 in accordance with the EIA Notification 2006 and hereby accords environmental clearance under the provisions there of to the above-mentioned M/s. Sri Kumaraswamy Minerals Export Pvt. Ltd., as recommended by State Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) for production capacity of 2.8 MTPA. The working will be open cast and fully mechanized method involving mine lease area of 59.36 Hectares subject to implementation of the following conditions and environmental safeguards.

A. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS:

- 1. Validity of this Environmental Clearance is co-terminous with the lease period or 22 from the date of issue Environment Clearance letter, whichever is earlier.
- 2. Mine plan approved by The Indian Bureau of Mines, Bangalore shall be strictly implemented and shall not be operated beyond the validity period of the approved mine plan.
- 3. Baseline data on health profile of each of the workers shall be maintained.
- 4. PAs should get the health check-up done for the mine workers as per the Mines Act 1952 & Rules, regulations & the recommendations made their under & report of the same to be submitted periodically..
- 5. The SEIAA, Karnataka reserves the right to withdraw the environmental clearance subject to any change in the mining policy by the State Government as may be applicable to this project.
- 6. Mining shall be undertaken strictly in accordance with provisions of MM (D&R) Act 1957 / KMMC RULES-1994.
- 7. All the conditions stipulated in the Consent for establishment issued (If applicable) by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board should be effectively implemented.
- 8. The mining operations shall not intersect ground water table. Prior approval of the SEIAA / Ministry of Environment & Forests and Central Ground Water Authority shall be obtained for mining below water table.
- 9. The topsoil if any should be stacked at earmarked site only and should not be kept unutilized for a period more than 3 years. The topsoil should be used for reclamation and plantation.
- 10. Waste rock shall be stacked at earmarked site (s) only. The maximum height of the dump as per approved Mining plan & R&R plan with each terrace should not exceed 10m duly providing suitable measures. The overall slope of the dump shall not exceed 27 degree. A retention wall shall be built around the waste rock dump to prevent sliding.

- 11. Catch drains and siltation ponds of appropriate size should be constructed to arrest silt and sediment flows from mine working area and rock dumps. The water so collected should be utilized for watering the haulage area, roads, green belt development etc., the drains should be regularly de-silted particularly after monsoon and maintained properly.
- 12. Dimension of the retaining wall at the toe of dumps within the mine to check rum off and siltation should be based on the rainfall data.
- 13. 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 within 3 months and report be submitted to the Authority.
- 14. Appropriate mitigation measures should be taken to prevent pollution of nearby water bodies in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board.
- 15. The project proponent shall submit commitment from the competent authority for drawl of requisite quantity of water for the project before starting work on the project.
- 16. Suitable rainwater harvesting measures on long-term shall be planned and implemented in consultation with Regional Director, Central Ground Water Board for complete rain water harvesting by constructing check dams/converting quarried pits to rain water harvesting ponds.
- 17. Vehicular emissions should be kept under control and regularly monitored. Measures shall be taken for maintenance of vehicles used in mining operations and in transportation of blocks.
- 18. Digital processing of the entire lease area using remote sensing technique should be done regularly once in three years for monitoring land use pattern and report submitted to SEIAA Karnataka, Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka and the APCCF, Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore.
- 19. This environmental clearance does not confer any right to the proponent on the land proposed for mining until and unless mining lease and all other statutory clearance are obtained from the respective department/agencies.
- 20. The project authorities should undertake sample survey to generate data on preproject community health status within a radius of 1 km from proposed mine.
- 21. Consent to operate if applicable shall be obtained from State Pollution Control Board prior to start of production from the mine.
- 22. Proper sanitary facilities should be installed for the colony/work place. Domestic waste generated should be disposed in a scientific manner. Proper first aid facilities and health care facilities should be provided for the labourers.
- 23. The project proponent shall take all precautionary measures during mining operation for conservation and protection of endangered fauna spotted in the study area. Action plan for conservation of flora and fauna shall be prepared and implemented in consultation with the State Forest and Wildlife Department. The proponent shall contribute towards the cost of implementation of the plan and / or Regional Wildlife Management Plan for conservation of wild life. The amount so contributed shall be included in the project cost. A copy of the action plan may be submitted to the SEIAA, Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka, and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore within 3 months.
- 24. The project proponent shall delineate Mine Closure Plan/ exit protocol to rehabilitate the mined out land as per the provisions under MM (D&R) Act 1957 & Rules made their under including removal, storage and reuse of waste rock from lease area to cover reclaimed area. Post Mine Land Use Plan with

- rehabilitation of mined out area as approved by Indian Bureau of Mines to be (with Plan and Section) provided and submit to SEIAA.
- 25. Plantation monitoring programme during post project period for ensuring survival and growth rate of plantation in reclaimed area.
- 26. A Final Mine Closure Plan along with details of financial assurance as provided under MM (D&R) Act 1957 duly approved by Indian Bureau of Mines should be submitted to the SEIAA Karnataka, Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore before final mine closure.
- 27. Retention walls should be a minimum of 2.5 mtr height with base of 3 mtr.
- 28. Check dams and gully plugs along the smaller streamlets in the area, should be constructed to arrest the loose soil flow from the mine area.
- 29. Particulars of production and dispatch shall be provided by the lessee yearly.
- 30. The infrastructure of transport roads should be improved collectively by the lessees of the area.
- 31. Link road from mine site to main road shall be maintained and black topped by the project proponent.
- 32. The mine lease area to be properly demarcated using the last-long coordinates and duly erecting 4 feet concrete/granite pillars on the ground.
- 33. No mining shall be undertaken outside the lease area.

- 34. The project Authorities shall maintain a margin of 7.5 meters along the lease boundary except in case where common boundary working permission is obtained from the competent authority.
- 35. The project authority shall ensure that the mine pits are designed as per the Metalliferrous Mines Regulations 1961 to safety norms.
- 36. The project authority shall avoid stagnation of water in the mining pits which would turn out to be mosquito breeding centres resulting in spreading of diseases such as malaria, dengue, etc.
- 37. The project proponent shall prevent damage to adjoining land, from fire due to activities during mining operation.
- 38. Haulage approach road should not be through village till the main road is reached.
- 39. The project authorities shall get the annual health check-up of mine workers as well as people in the nearest vicinity of the mine for respiratory diseases such as silicosis and maintain records. Appropriate care shall be taken for remedy in case of prevalence of such health disorders.
- 40. Clearance/NOC from the competent authority shall be obtained for transportation of water by tankers in order to avoid hardship to the competitive users
- 41. This Environmental Clearance is granted subject to obtaining prior clearance from Forestry and Wild Life angle including clearance from the Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife as applicable. Further this Environmental Clearance does not necessarily implies that Forestry and Wildlife Clearance shall be granted to the project and that the proposal for Forestry and Wildlife Clearance shall be considered by the respective Authorities on their merits and decision taken. The investment made in the project if any based on Environmental Clearance so granted in anticipation from the forestry and wild life angle shall be entirely at the cost and risk of the project proponent and the SEIAA-Karnataka shall not be responsible in this regard in any manner.

- 42. Solid waste/hazardous waste generated in the mines/quarry needs to addressed in accordance to the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 / Hazardous & Other Waste Management Rules, 2016
- 43. Ambient air quality monitoring stations as prescribed in the statue be established for monitoring of pollutants, namely PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂ and NO_X. Location of the stations shall be decided based on the meteorological data, topographical features and environmentally and ecologically sensitive targets in consultation with the State Pollution Control Board wherever applicable.

- 44. Regular monitoring of ground water level and quality shall be carried out in and around the mine/quarry lease area by establishing a network of existing wells and constructing new piezometers during the Mining operations. The monitoring of ground water levels shall be carried out four times a year i.e. pre-monsoon, monsoon, post-monsoon and winter. The ground water quality shall be monitored once a year, and the data thus collected shall be sent regularly to MoEF&CC/RO.
- 45. Monitoring of water quality upstream and downstream of water bodies shall be carried out once in six months and record of monitoring data shall be maintained and submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change/Regional Office
- 46. Controlled blasting techniques shall be practiced in order to mitigate ground vibrations, fly rocks, noise and air blast etc., as per the guidelines prescribed by the DGMS.
- 47. The noise level survey shall be carried out as per the prescribed guidelines to assess noise exposure of the workmen at vulnerable points in the mine premises, and report in this regard shall be submitted to the Ministry/RO on six-monthly basis.
- 48. The company / project proponent shall have a well laid down environmental policy duly approved by the Board of Directors. The environmental policy should prescribe for standard operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/deviation/violation of the environmental / forest / wildlife norms / conditions. The company / Project proponent shall have defined system of reporting infringements / deviation / violation of the environmental / forest / wildlife norms / conditions and / or shareholders / stake holders. The copy of the board resolution in this regard shall be submitted to the MoEF&CC as a part of six-monthly report.
- 49. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six-Monthly Compliance Report
- 50. Self-environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental audit shall be carried out.
- 51. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly basis.
- 52. The project proponent shall submit the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as

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- prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and put on the website of the company.
- 53. The project authorities shall inform to the Regional Office of the MoEF&CC regarding commencement of Mining operations.
- 54. No further expansion or modifications in the project shall be carried out without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC)/ SEIAA, Karnataka.
- 55. The project proponent shall comply with provision contained in OM vide F.No. 22-65/2017-IA.III dated 20th October 2020, of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as applicable, regarding Corporate Environment Responsibility and shall execute action of Rain Water Harvesting in Government School & Public Areas of Yeshwanthnagar, Solar Panels & Water Heaters in Government School & Public Areas of Yeshwanthnagar, Plantation in the Government School & Public Areas of Yeshwanthnagar, Medical health checkup camps in the Government School & Public Areas of Yeshwanthnagar, Conducting Swatch Bharath Abiyan drive campaigns in nearby villages, as submitted vide letter dated 12.10.2023.

B. GENERAL CONDITIONS:

- 1. No change in mining technology and scope of working should be made without prior approval of the SEIAA Karnataka.
- 2. No change in the calendar plan including excavation, quantum of mineral and waste should be made.
- 3. It shall be ensured that the Ambient Air Quality parameters conform to the norms prescribed by the MoEF, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- 4. Data on ambient air quality (PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x) should be regularly submitted to the SEIAA Karnataka and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore and the State Pollution Control Board / Central Pollution Control Board once in six months.
- 5. Fugitive dust emission from all the sources should be controlled regularly. Water spray arrangement on haul roads, loading and unloading and at transfer points should be provided and properly maintained.
- 6. 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 earplugs / muffs.
- 7. 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 shall be installed before discharge of effluents.
- 8. 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.
- 9. Occupational health surveillance program of the workers should be undertaken periodically as per the Mines Act 1952 and Rules, Regulations and recommendations made there under is to observe any contractions due to exposure to dust and take corrective measures, if needed. Periodical report in this regard should be submitted to the Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka and the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore.

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- 10. 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. The Environment management committee should be constituted with one of the member representing nearby village.
- 11. 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 SEIAA Karnataka, the Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka, and Ecology, Government of Karnataka, and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore.

- 12. The project authorities should inform the SEIAA Karnataka, Department of Environment and Ecology, Govt. of Karnataka, and the Regional Office, MoEF, Bangalore regarding date of financial closures and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities and the date of start of land development work.
- 13. The project proponent shall submit six monthly report on the status of the implementation of the stipulated environmental safeguards to the SEIAA Karnataka, Department of Environment and Ecology, Government of Karnataka and the APCCF, Regional Office, MoEF, Bengaluru; the Central Pollution Control Board and the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board.
- 14. The Half Yearly Compliance Reports (HYCRs) with its contents of a covering letter, compliance reports, and environmental monitoring data has to be in PDF format merged into a single document. The email should clearly mention the name of project, EC No. & date, period of submission and to be sent to the Regional Office of MOEF&CC by email only at email ID rosz.bng-mefcc@gov.in Hard copy of HYCRs shall not be acceptable.
- 15. A copy of the clearance letter will be marked to the concerned Panchayat. Local NGO, if any, from whom suggestion / representation has been received while processing the proposal.
- 16. The project proponent should display the conditions prominently at the entrance of the project on a big panel board for the information of the public.
- 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 http://environmentclearance.nic.in website of the MoEF&CC. A copy of the same should be forwarded to the Department of Environment and Ecology, Government of Karnataka and the Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bangalore.
- 18. The Karnataka 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.
- 19. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data and failure to comply with any of the conditions mentioned above may result in withdrawal of this clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 20. Any appeal against this environmental clearance shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

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- 21. The SEIAA or any other competent authority may alter / modify the above conditions or stipulate any further condition in the interest of environment protection.
- 22. 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.
- 23. 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 there under.
- 24. In case of any material supported by documents/ court orders which is contrary to the claim of the applicant and material facts produced, the SEIAA reserves the right to withdraw the EC at any point of time.

Additional Conditions:

- 1. The PP should get the health check-up done for the quarry workers on half yearly basis and submit report periodically.
- 2. The PP shall provide protective respiratory devices and they should also be provided with adequate training and information on safety and health aspects.
- 3. The PP shall provide proper sanitary facilities for the colony/work place. Domestic waste generated should be disposed in a scientific manner. Proper first aid facilities and health care facilities should be provided for the workers.
- 4. Dust suppression measures have to be strictly followed.
- 5. The PP shall comply with the observations made in the Certified Compliance report of MoEF&CC
- 6. The PP shall Adhere to the compliance given to issues raised in the public hearing.
- 7. The PP shall comply with the recommendations in R&R plan.

Yours faithfully,

(**Sri. B.P. Ravi**) Member Secretary SEIAA Karnataka

Copy to:

- 1. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110 003.
- 2. The Director, Department of Mines and Geology, Khanija Bhavan, Race course road, Bangalore 560 001.

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- 3. The Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore.
- 4. The APCCF, Regional Office, Ministry of Environment & Forests (SZ), Kendriya Sadan, IV Floor, E & F Wings, 17th Main Road, Koramangala II Block, Bengaluru 560 034.
- 5. Guard File.



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The same