

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd, has applied for TOR in order to prepare EIA report for grant of Environmental Clearance as per MOEF Notifications S.O. 1533(E) dated 14-09-2006 for extraction of Belur Sand Block No.1 having leases area of 12-03 Acres located adjacent to Sy. No - 124(P), 133, 134, 135 & 136, Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk & Haveri District, Karnataka.

As the proposed project is coming under cluster situation and in the cluster as the total area extent is greater than 5 Ha & as per the Hon'ble NGT order dated 13th September 2018 and 11th December 2018 it is considered as "B1" category. The application to grant prior Environmental Clearance for the proposed project was considered by the KSEAC in its 265th SEAC meeting dated 31st August 2021. SEAC for determination of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report. The Committee has suggested specific Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of the EIA report and Environmental Management Plan and for conducting public hearing vide its letter No. SEIAA 339 MIN 2021.

Location of the Project

The Sand Block with an extent of 12.03 Acres of quarrying lease area located adjacent to Sy. No. 124(P), 133, 134, 135 & 136 , Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk & Haveri District, Karnataka.

TABLE 1: SALIENT FEATURES OF THE PROJECT SITE

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details		
		Corner Point No	Latitude	Longitude
1.	Latitude/Longitude	BP-A	N 14 ⁰ 44' 9.30"	E 75 ⁰ 45' 12.69"
		BP-B	N 14 ⁰ 44' 13.84"	E 75 ⁰ 45' 9.40"
		BP-C	N 14 ⁰ 44' 6.50"	E 75 ⁰ 44' 57.87"
		BP-D	N 14 ⁰ 44' 4.54"	E 75 ⁰ 44' 58.70"
		BP-E	N 14 ⁰ 44' 7.34"	E 75 ⁰ 45' 4.18"
		BP-F	N 14 ⁰ 44' 6.18"	E 75 ⁰ 45' 4.48"
		WGS - 84 DATUM		
2.	Site elevation above MSL	518m to 515m MSL		

Lessee: Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd

Sr. No.	Particulars	Details		
3.	Land use at the proposed project site	Type of land use	Existing / present (Acre)	End of lease (Acre)
		Area to be Excavated	--	10.15
		Buffer Zone	--	1.88
		Area Un-utilized	12.03	--
		TOTAL	12.03	12.03
4.	Nearest roadway	Belur Village Road – 0.806 kms NH 48 – 18.94 Kms (SW) (Haveri to Davanagere Road) SH 57 – 12.93 Kms (W) (Ranebennur to Guttal road)		
5.	Nearest Railway Station	Ranebennur Railway Station – 17.48 Kms (SW)		
6.	Nearest Railway line	Ranebennur Railway line- 17.10 Kms (SW)		
7.	Nearest Air Port	Hubbali Air Port (NW) at a distance of about 94 Kms.		
8.	Nearest village/major town	Belur Village – 1.60kms (S)		
9.	Hills/valleys	None within 10 kms		
10.	Ecologically sensitive zone	None within 10 kms		
11.	Reserved/ Protected forests	Ranebennur BlackBuck Sanctuary (5.25 kms) SW		
12.	Historical/tourist places	None within 10 kms		
13.	Nearest Industries	None within 10 kms		
14.	Nearest water bodies	This is a river sand mining project. The site is in Tungabhadra River Bed		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Method of Quarrying

An open cast method will be adopted to operate the area. Since, the annual production is about 57,257 Tons per annum for five years; the Open cast method will be followed during the plan period.

Anticipated life of the quarry

Life of the quarry in this is not applicable, as the extraction and replenishment is a continuous process. Depletion and addition of ordinary sand is to be balanced by keeping the production level always low comparing to the replenishment.

Conceptual Quarry Plan

Based on reserves of River Sand as Production capacity of 57,257 Tons per annum for the 5 years plan period, thus the anticipated life of the will be till the reserves get exhausted.

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Waste Generation & Disposal

There is no such reduction of waste / mineral reject processing possibilities are proposed during plan period. There is no proposal of dumping during the proposed ensuing quarrying period, & concurrent backfilling is proposed.

Water Requirement & Source

Total water requirement for the project will be 10.0 KLD, Requirement is met by procurement of water from the bore well nearby Tankers.

Manpower Requirement

The said quarry provides direct employment to 10 people and generate indirect employment for 20 more people. Most of the directly employed manpower falls under skilled category Preference will be given to the local people as per their eligibility.

Site Infrastructure

The Quarry will have its own office premises, canteen, first-aid center etc. Quarry office is well connected with wireless and telephone, internet & e-mail facilities for communication. The Quarry is provided with a workshop to undertake repairs and regular maintenance of quarrying machinery deployed.

EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL SCENARIO

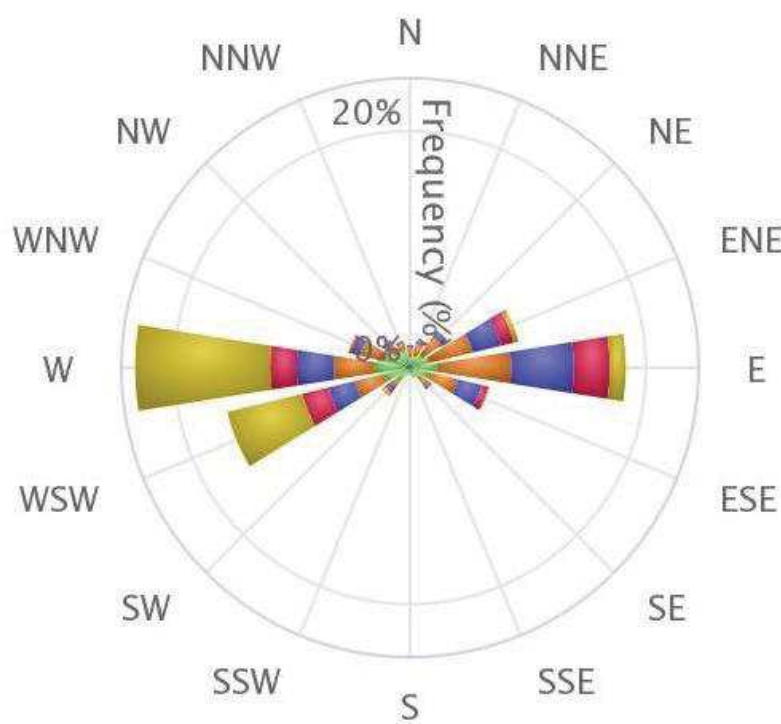
Baseline Environmental Studies

Meteorology & Ambient Air Quality

Summary of Meteorological data generated at site (March 2021 to June 2021)

Temperature (°C)	40.4 to 14.4°C
Relative Humidity (%)	74 to 22%
Wind Direction	W
Calm wind %	11.15%

Lessee: Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd



Speed Range m/s

- < 0.5
- 0.5-1
- 1-2
- 2-3
- 3-4
- 4-5
- > 5

Ambient Air Quality Status

From the results, it is observed that the ambient air quality with respect to PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, and NO_x at all the monitoring locations is within the permissible limits specified by CPCB.

Ambient Noise Levels

Ambient noise level monitoring was carried out at the 9 monitoring locations; those were selected for ambient air quality monitoring. The monitoring results are within limits.

Biological Environment

There is Ranebennur BlackBuck Sanctuary (5.25 kms) SW and the site is outside Eco sensitive zone.

Proposed Biological Environment Conservation Measures

- Thick Green belt will be developed around Quarry lease area and along transport road.
- Periodic maintenance of mineral transport road
- Regular sprinkling of water through mobile tanker on mineral transport road
- Mineral carrying trucks are loaded with only the stipulated quantity to avoid overloading and covered with tarpaulin to avoid spillage.

Socio-economic Environment

- There is no habitation or private land in the River Sand. There is no rehabilitation and resettlement involved in the project.

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- The said Quarry provides direct employment to 10 people and generates indirect employment for 20 more people. Most of the directly employed manpower falls under skilled category and the respective distribution / numbers is follows. Preference will be given to the local people as per their eligibility.
- The existing infrastructure facilities are sufficient to cater the needs of the Sand Block. However, the Quarry management will take efforts as a part of CER for improvement in civic amenities like sanitation, drinking water facilities, transport road, etc in the nearby villages.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM

An Environmental Management Cell (EMC) will be established in the Quarry under the control of Quarry Manager. The EMC will be headed by an Environmental Officer having adequate qualification and experience in the field of environmental management regular and periodic. Environmental monitoring of Ambient Air Quality, Water table depth, Water quality, Ambient Noise Levels, Soil Quality, CSR activities etc will be carried out through MOEF accredited agencies and reports will be submitted to KSPCB/ Regional office of MoEF&CC.

RISK ASSESSMENT & DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The assessment of risk in the Sand Blocking project has been estimated for Slope failure, Movement of HEMM, Inundation due to surface water, Dust hazards, Hazards associated with use of Diesel Generator Sets and flooding of lower benches and corresponding mitigation measures are suggested in the EIA/EMP report.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The Sand Blocking project would generate additional employment opportunities which would finally result in improvement in the quality of life of people of the nearby villages. In line with this CER policy, Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd will carry out community welfare activities in the following areas:

- Community development
- Education
- Health care
- Drainage and sanitation
- Roads

A budget of Rs. 0.64 Lakh per annum as recurring expenses has been proposed for implementation of Socio-economic welfare activities in the nearby villages.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Judicious use of the environmental management plan addresses the components of environment, which are likely to be affected by the different operations in the project. The capital cost of the project is approx. Rs 161 Lakhs. It is proposed to provide an amount of Rs. 9.63 Lakhs per annum as recurring expenses towards implementation of the environmental action plan.

Lessee: Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd

CONCLUSION

The Sand Block project of Hutti Gold Mines Co Ltd will be beneficial for the development of the nearby villages. Some environmental aspects like dust emission, noise, siltation due to surface run-off, etc. will have to be controlled within the permissible limit to avoid impacts on the surrounding environment. Necessary pollution control equipment like water sprinkling, plantation, personal protective equipments etc., will form regular practice in the project. Additional pollution control measures and environmental conservation measures will be adopted to control/minimize impacts on the environment and socio-economic environment of the area. Measures like development of thick green belt and plantation within quarry lease area and along transport road, adoption of rainwater harvesting in the quarry etc. will be implemented. The CSR measures proposed to be adopted by the quarry management will improve the social, economic status of the nearby villages.

The overall impacts of the Sand Block will be positive and will result in overall socio-economic growth of nearby villages.