

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO M/S MARWA MINING COMPANY AT JIGINAHALLI VILLAGE, SANDUR TALUK, BALLARI DISTRICT FOR PROPOSED MANGANESE ORE MINE OF CAPACITY 0.2688 MTPA OVER AN AREA OF 22.45 HA HELD ON 29-03-2022 AT 11:00 AM AT THE PROJECT SITE.

VENUE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING MEETING		Project Site: M/s Marwa Mining Company, Jiginahalli Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District
DETAILS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING COMMITTEE		DESIGNATION
1	Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate	Chairperson
2	Dr. Doddashanaiah, Senior Environmental Officer (I/c) and Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Regional Office, Ballari.	Member Convener
Officers of KSPCB present:		
1	Sri Hanumanthappa H, Assistant Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Ballari District.	
Others Officers present:		
1	Sri Kiran Kumar - Police Sub Inspector, Chorhanuru.	
2	Sri AYerriswamy - Revenue Inspector.	
3	Sri Muradabasappa H – PDO, Yeranahalli	
1.	Sri Shivamurthy – Data Entry Operator, Yeranahalli	
Representatives present on behalf of M/s Marwa Mining Company		
1.	Sri Pavan Kumar K – Manager.	
2.	Sri Venkata Rao K – Manager.	
3.	Sri Markandeyalu – Foreman.	
4.	Sri Siddappa – Supervisor.	
5.	Sri B Yerriswamy – Supervisor.	
6.	Sri Sitaraman Kemmanu – Consultant Horizon Ventures, Bangalore.	
7.	Sri Sachin – Consultant Horizon Ventures, Bangalore.	
8.	Sri Aruna – Consultant Horizon Ventures, Bangalore.	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Copy of extract Register containing signatures of officials participated in the public hearing is enclosed as Annexure-1. 2. A copy of extract of registers containing addresses and signature of public participants are enclosed as Annexure-2. 		




PREAMBLE:-

The Project Proponent had proposed to undertake Manganese Ore Mining of capacity 0.2688 MTPA over an area 22.45 Ha at Jiginahalli Village of Sandur Taluk, Ballari District, Karnataka. The project proponent is required to obtain Environmental Clearance as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated 14.09.2006 (as amended till 01.12.2009) issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.

As the proposed project schedule under EIA Notification 2006 and subsequent amendments made there on. As per the Notification, Environment Clearance is to be obtained from the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority Bangalore (SEIAA)

Accordingly, the Project Proponents have made an application to the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority Bangalore (SEIAA) in prescribed format. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority Bangalore (SEIAA) authorities after scrutiny of the application made by the project proponents, has issued Terms of Reference (TOR) vide letter No. SEIAA 655 MIN 2021 Dated: 05-01-2022. As per the terms of reference issued, conducting of Public Hearing is mandatory.

In order to comply with the TOR, the project proponents have submitted Rapid Environment Impact Assessment(REIA) Report and Executive Summary both in Kannada and English prepared by M/s Horizon Ventures, Bangaluru to The Member Secretary, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore requesting to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing vide their letter dated 11-01-2021.

Considering the request made by the project proponents, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bangalore vide letter Dated 14-01-2022 requested the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari to render suitable date and time for conducting the Environmental Public Hearing.

Further The Deputy Commissioner has given the consent to conduct Environmental Public Hearing on 29-03-2022 at 11.00 am at the project site. The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board published Environmental Public Hearing meeting notice through paper notification in state level newspapers namely Hosadiganta (Kannada) and The Times of India (English) on 26-02-2022 in the local Newspaper namely "E Namma Kannada Nadu" on 27-02-2022 by informing the public to submit their objections/suggestions /opinions/ if any with regard to the proposed project within 30 days. **(Annexure-3)**

In continuation to the above, the Draft Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment Report and copies of the executive summary in Kannada and English were kept in the following places for the information of the public.

- Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari District.
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Ballari District.
- District Industries Centre, Ballari District.
- Tashildhar Office, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.

- Office of the Town Municipal Council, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.
- Office of the Gram Panchayat, Jiginahalli Village, Sandur Taluk, Ballari District.
- Zonal Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari.
- Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ballari.
- SEIAA Karnataka (Ecology and Environment) Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment M S building Bangalore.
- Help Desk, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Parisara Bhavana, Ground Floor, # 49, Church Street, Bangalore - 560001.

All the above departments have been informed about the environmental public meeting vide dated 28-02-2022 and also informed about the newspaper notification.

Deputy Commissioner Ballari has issued the letter Dtd: 25-03-2022 to Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari to conduct public hearing (The copy of letter is enclosed as **Annexure -4**).

After observing the statutory formalities as specified in the Notification, the environmental Public Hearing commenced on 29-03-2022 at 11.00 AM under the Chairmanship of Sri P. S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari at the proposed project site.

Proceedings of Public Hearing:-

Dr Doddashanaiah, Member Convener of the Public Hearing Committee, Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Ballari and Senior Environmental Officer (I/c), Zonal Office, Ballari welcomed Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari. He also welcomed Government Officers, officers of the M/s Marwa Mining Company, General public & press representatives and he informed the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. It was informed that the proposed Project Proponents have to obtain Environmental Clearance and also informed that all required procedure mentioned in the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006(as amended till 2009) before conducting public hearing have been followed with. Further he requested Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari to chair the meeting and to conduct the process of public hearing.

Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari has addressed the gathering and briefed about the provisions of the Environment Impact Assessment Notification dated 14.09.2006. He also informed that all the oral & written statements will be recorded in the proceedings in Kannada & English. Further, the chairperson of the Public Hearing Panel informed the project proponent to present the technical details of the proposed project.



Accordingly, on behalf of M/s Marwa Mining Company, Sri Seetharam Kemmanu has explained the details with respect to Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment Report prepared by M/s Horizon Ventures, Bangalore which is comprising of Study area Map, salient features of the site, land use details, infrastructure demands, rain water management, the environmental aspects viz., land, water, noise, environment, economic and financial status, environment management plan, environment management programme, income, expenditure and total environment management plan and briefed about the CSR activities through power point presentation.

After the presentation, The Chairperson of the Environmental Public hearing panel requested the public gathered at the meeting to express their views/opinions/objections/Suggestions if any and informed to restrict their views to environmental issues only.

Accordingly, the public expressed their views/opinions/objections/Suggestions as below:-

- 1. Sri M. Subhan Sab - Former Taluk Panchayat President - Tyagadahalu Village - Sandur Taluk – Ballari District –** Speaking on the occasion he said that the company has proposed to take care of the forest without being destroyed. They have also informed through screen presentation that wildlife will be protected. He said they have been mining here for hundreds of years. The mine is surrounded by Tyagadahalu, Jignehalli, Swamihalli, Mallapur, Ankumanahalli, Yerranahalli villages. He said Manganese should be extracted to ensure both quality and quantity remains intact. He said there are hundreds of Lorries in this region and their Lorries must be employed first. He said the company should take the advice of people who have worked in manganese mines in the past. He said that three people die of tuberculosis every two minutes in this area, hence the company should emphasis more on health. He said all classes of people should be given job based on their educational qualification. He said they will fully cooperate with the company for mining activity. He said the company should have concerns towards farmers. He said the mango, peanuts, and corn plants should be taken care as not to cause damage to them. He said they don't want to protest and develop enmity with them. He said there are many pumpsets around here, and pumpsets in this area must be given priority. He said the farmers, traders, truck owners and mine owners should make a living from this mining activity. He said they will cooperate if the mining authorities employ all aspects and carryout mining in disciplined manner.
- 2. Sri K. B. Umesh - Vice President - Yaryayanahalli Grama Panchayat -** Speaking on the occasion he said farmers surrounding the mining area are facing much trouble. He said there is problem of drinking water in the region and there are no concrete roads, drainage etc. He said developmental work should be done in schools. He said he has faith that company will facilitate by all means to everyone, hence the mining should be allowed.



3. **Sri Praveen - Member of Gama Panchayat - Jiginehalli Village** - Speaking on the occasion he said starting mine is a good development and it should be useful. He said he is submitting an appeal. He said there is shortage of teachers in schools in this area, and asked to make arrangement for teachers for school through CSR fund. He said the CSR fund that comes from mining in the region should be used there. He said health camp should be organized for people every month and infrastructure for water utilization should be provided. He said drinking water facilities should be provided to all the villages in the panchayat jurisdiction. He said locals should be provided with employment opportunities. He said trees should be planted along side private and government land in all villages within the panchayat jurisdiction. He said plants should be grown inside and outside the school compound.
4. **Sri Shivanna Talwar – M. Thumburaguddi Village - Sandur Taluk – Ballari District** - Speaking on the occasion he wished only one outcome from this environmental public meeting. He has worked as driver and cleaner in all the mining companies from Devagiri to Ramgarh. He said he is not getting job in mines now. He said everyone is going to Bangalore for work, hence he requested the work should be provided according to their qualifications. He said that Valmiki Bhavan should be built by the Mines in the village of M. Tumburaguddi. He said toilet and infrastructure facilities should be provided at Government High School. He said the high school has 10 acres, and toilet should be built. He said the school should be provided with clean drinking water facilities, and Auditorium. He said all school children in all villages under the panchayat jurisdiction should be provided with uniforms by the mining company. He said sports equipment, and laptop should be provided. He said all those who have worked in the past should be given full week's work.
5. **Sri M. Mohammed Mukhtiar - Jiginehalli Gram Panchayat** - Speaking on the occasion he said he has attended 5 to 6 environmental public hearings in Sandur Taluk and all authorities just make promises/ give hope. He said mining can be allowed, but all roads must be sprinkled with water.
6. **Sri Anand - Member of Ballari District Minerals Association and Trade Union Center of India - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said that this mine should be allowed to mine, and he has no objection for it. He said the life of the workers are miserable and have come to streets without jobs since 2011. He said if more such mining is encouraged then more and more employment will get generated. He said he fully supported the proposed project.
7. **Sri Prashant Kumar - Jiginehalli Village** - Speaking on the occasion he said that farmers are living here depending on groundwater. He said there has been no rain in this region for the past 3 years and they are facing problem even for drinking water. He said the root cause for this situation is there are no plants/trees.



Hence if mining activity is allowed then they should emphasis more on planting trees and developing the environment. He said due to increased rainfall the infestation of wild animals has also increased. During the night, wild animals are damaging the farmers crops. He said they need wild and wild animals. But the wild animals should be restricted to the wild by growing more trees. He said heavy blasting in the jungle can cause wild animals to come to villages, and all check dams are destroyed by blasting and they are facing water problem. Wild animals also come to the farmers fields at night for drinking water purposes. Now all the water bodies in the forest have dried up. Work for lifting the silt in the lakes should be done. He said drinking water was going to Sandur town when the Ankmanahalli Lake was filled. Now all the lakes have dried up and they are facing drinking water problem. He said during summer there is a lot of water problem and the reason for all this is mining. He said during mining the dredging work of the lake should be done and it should be ensured that groundwater does should not get dried. He said there are many large mining companies in the north and west of Sandur and the funds from these companies should be used in this region only. He said it was getting too late for them to get to work in that part of Sandur, hence the industry should be established here and people should benefit from this mining. The Company should develop the region by using their profits. Overall due to mining activity the forest should grow. The animals of the forest and the water resources should be protected. He said if all these are fulfilled then mining should be allowed.

8. **Sri Subhan Saab - Jai Hind Lorry Owners Association - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said that there are about 3,000 to 4,000 lorries in Ballari District. I mining is started then all these lorries will get work. He said water should be sprinkled on haulage roads to control dust pollution. He asked for all lorries to be employed.
9. **Sri Khaja Hussain – Secretary – Karnataka Rakshana Vedike - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said they need Mines, and their children and moving to Andhra, Tamil Nadu for work. He said if mines are operated they will get job locally and everyone will be employed. He said the Mines should be given permission.
10. **Sri Gangappa - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said there are many unemployed people and unemployed laborers here. He said they will get employment by starting the mines and it will benefit the workers, hence mines should be given permission.
11. **Sri Parasurama - Grama Panchayati member - D. Mallapura village - Kalingeri Grama Panchayat - Sandur Taluk** - Speaking on the occasion he said they will be benefit from this mining activity. He appeal that all unemployed people in the region should be given work. He approved for the proposed Mining



project.

12. **Sri Chandrappa - Former Taluk Panchayat President - Swamihalli Village - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he opined that it would have been better if this meeting was arranged in the village as more people could have attended the meeting. He said, he was aware that there is a rule that environmental public hearing should be organized at the project site and said it is good precedence. He said all his friends including Grama Panchayat members, former Taluk Panchayat Presidents and the public who have spoken earlier opined that mining should be allowed. They hoped that the surrounding villages will be helped by this mining activity and people will get jobs directly which improves their economic situation and also basic infrastructure facilities will be developed. Hence, he said mining needs to be approved. He also opined that such mining projects should be given opportunities. He said the mines should be operated legally to save the environment. He said the infrastructure as asked by surrounding villages should be provided. He said good work should be done for the villages on priority. He said by mining activity the government will receive funds and with this fund the surrounding villages will be developed. He said the Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner should put more emphasis on development in this area. He said as like everyone else even he too opined that mining should be allowed.
13. **Sri Sivalingappa - President, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Sangha - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said that as like everyone else he too agrees for mining activity in the region. He said that in this mining region S.C., S.T., and minority people are in majority. They don't have any land. If Mining is carried out then they all will get work. If mining is carried out it will not only create jobs to everyone but also reduce dependency on the upper classes. If the mental and economic harassment of the lower castes in the villages needs to be avoided then such mining companies should be given licenses. The mining will provide economic benefit to all the underprivileged sections and education to children. He said there are several contractors in the Scheduled Caste, and those contractors should be employed in this mine. He said that he is also a contractor and the main reason he become a contractor is because of mining activity. He said if people in villages get jobs there will be economic empowerment, hence such mining should be given maximum opportunities.
14. **Sri Baba Khalandar - Tyagadahalu Village** - Speaking on the occasion he said that people of this region should be employed. The Lorries have to be employed. He said he fully supported the Mining Company.
15. **Sri Bendi Kumaraswamy - Ankamanahalli Village - Vice President - Panchayat** - Speaking on the occasion he said he give his consent for providing license to the company.

16. **Sri Omkarappa, Swamihalli Village** - Speaking on the occasion he said that previously applications were given through mining company to Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner for development of the school, but this has not been implemented till date. He said he has no objection for starting this mining company, and agreed to the proposed project. He said the villages should get all infrastructure facilities as like the other members have asked earlier whether mining is operating or not. He said the laborers should be emphasized more while giving employment and work should also be provided to the people who live nearby.
17. **Sri Raju – President - Karnataka Rakshana Vedike - Sandur** - Speaking on the occasion he said that they have been fighting for long time to start mining in the region. The CEC team, UBC Team and the Central Government team the mines in this region have been stopped and again, they have applied for obtaining new license legally. He said when the central team headed by Sri Jayakrishna Sir, visited here, he said illegal mining was taking place in the region. He said they through their organization demand for action against illegal mining and grant permits for only legal operated mines. He said they have submitted appeal even when the central team has visited. He said there is nothing left except for mining work in the region. He said since the Iron content in this area is more the crops don't grow properly, hence by allowing mines to operate the farmers and the laborers will get employment. He said that many organizations are demanding that Marwa Mining Company should carryout mining activity here. He said the mining in the region should be started by keeping in mining the paralyzes infrastructure facilities in the region. He asked the mining company to give more priority to the people and employees to all the villages in this area. He hoped that the company's general manager pawan sir will help them in all kinds of work.
18. **Sri M. Satish – Chairman - Environmental Protection Forum – Ballari and Member of Biodiversity Committee – Ballari** - Speaking on the occasion he said that as the Gram Panchayat Members and general public opined earlier the mining activity should be allowed. He said around 20 lakh people in the surrounding villages of Swamihalli, Tyagadahalu, Jignehalli, Yerranahalli villages are migrating for work to the coffee plantation and to Bengaluru. The present mining companies are not capable of giving employment to everyone. Now, if these mining companies are started, they could give work for a small number of people which will improve the employment in the region and their economic conditions. He said around 850 people will get work as shown by the company in their presentation. He said by getting a job here will make them financially and academically empowered. The Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner should give advice to the mining company so that people in this area can get development work, mainly filling the lakes with water and increasing the groundwater level, preventing wild animals from entering into the villages and planting trees. He said for collective economic change and for making people live happily the mining



should be allowed. He said the Marwa mining company should be given permission. He said around 40 different organization/association in Sandur Taluk are collectively submitting appeal in favor of the company for approving this mining project.

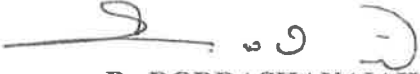
19. **Sri Honnuruswamy - Thumburugiddi Village** - Speaking on the occasion he said that he has worked for a mining company for about 10 years. Everyone here talks about health, but there is no nursing college here. That nursing college should be established here. He thanked the mining company for setting aside Rs 50 crore for their education. But no mining companies offer free education in Sandur Taluk they will not give in future also. He said earlier a total of 53 mines have been stopped by the government, all employees who worked there have become unemployed. He appealed to the company that whoever is employed now should be given all kinds of financial benefits till they reach 60 years. He said that this region should get a Nursing College or Teachers Training College. He said the people of this part are deprived of education. He said there was no unemployment problem in the Sundar taluk since 2006, but now they are facing unemployment. He said due to the nationally renowned mining region in Sandur taluk the villages should get facilities like drinking water, education and all kinds of infrastructure. He said the company should follow the Environment Department guidelines, and plant 10-acre of plant, if 1 acre of plantation is destroyed. He questioned all the mining companies where had they grown plants in the region?. He said it was unfortunate that this environmental public hearing is being conducted outside of the village. He said he came to know about the public hearing when he was working in his agricultural land. He said no mining companies in Sandur are providing clean drinking water facilities. He said even though the Sandur is filled with all kind of natural resources the unemployment problem had not diminished. He said no one is offering education properly and for free. He said the company has proposed the fund for education but they have not shown how they will use this fund. He said previously Hagari Agricultural University had been paid crores by the mining department to study agriculture in the region. But the government wasted the money by putting that money in unproductive land. He said he is not against the mining activity, but advised to carry out mining scientifically. He said one person at this meeting told that 3 people die every day from tuberculosis and asthma, but all the people of Sandur Taluk have tuberculosis and asthma, hence he opined that nursing college is required in this region. He said that there is no objection for mining in the region. He asked the company to provide good roads within their jurisdiction. He advised to use water for suppression of dust along the haulage roads. He urged the company to use 30% of your profits from the mining for providing basic infrastructural facilities.

The Chairman of the public Hearing Sri P .S. Manjunatha, KAS (Sr Scale), Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Ballari District in



his presidential address informed to the public that, No decisions will be made in the Public hearing, all the oral and written statements will be recorded in the Proceedings in Kannada and English. The same will be forwarded to the Member Secretary, Karnataka state Pollution Control Board, Bangalore along with photographs (taken during public hearing is enclosed as **Annexure-6**) and Video (Documents enclosed as **Annexure-7**) so as to forward the same to the competent Authority for further necessary action.

He rendered vote of thanks for gathering and the Public Hearing is completed.



Dr DODDASHANAI AH
Senior Environmental Officer (I/c),
KSPCB, Zonal Office,
Ballari



P. S MANJUNATHA.(KAS.(Sr. Scale)
Additional Deputy Commissioner &
Additional District Magistrate,
Ballari

ANNEXURE

1. A Copy of extract Register containing signatures of officials participated in the public hearing is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.
2. A copy of extract of registers containing addresses and signature of public participants are enclosed as **Annexure-2**.
3. The Newspaper advertisement in the leading state level newspapers Kannada (Hosadigantha – 26-02-2022) and English (The Times of India – 26-02-2022) and also local newspaper (E-namma Kannada nadu – 27-02-2022) regarding public hearing is enclosed as **Annexure – 3**.
4. Approval letter Dtd:25-03-2022 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Ballari to the Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate Ballari to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing is enclosed as **Annexure -4**.
5. 62 No's of written statement/objection received directly from the public during public hearing and 2 No's of written statement/objection received at Regional Office, Ballari is enclosed as **Annexure-5**.
6. The photographs taken during the Public Hearing Proceedings is enclosed as **Annexure-6**.
7. The CD's containing Audio and Video on public hearing proceedings is enclosed as **Annexure-7**.


Dr DODDASHANALIAH
Senior Environmental Officer (I/c),
KSPCB, Zonal Office,
Ballari


P. S MANJUNATHA. (KAS. (Sr. Scale)
Additional Deputy Commissioner &
Additional District Magistrate,
Ballari

