

Scrutiny comments on review of mining plan of Red Hills magnesite mine GO No.853 over an area 622.69 ha in Thathaiyengarpatti, Moongipadi, Karuppur Vellakkalapatti and Mallamoopantti villages in Omalur and Salem taluk of Salem district Owned by M/s Sail Refractory Co Ltd., formerly Burn Standard Co Ltd., submitted under rule 12 of MCDR-1988 for the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20.

General:

1. Para 2.0: Name of the mine need to be indicated. In view of new MMDR Act-2015 expiry of ML need to be furnished including the status of lease. Description of the mining lease area 622.69 hect which is under non forest should be as per format area of distribution in patta, govt., land etc.

2. The latitude and longitude range for blocks I-III in red hills and west hills ie block IV need to be indicated as lease is non-contiguous spreading as two blocks also to be mentioned in introduction.

3. Para. 3.3: The heading of the para not included and the review of exploration which is missing also to be discussed under the para.

Part-A

4. Para 1.0(a) Briefly describe the topography, drainage pattern, vegetation, climate, rainfall data: Planation and rainfall data of previous period of the document need to be furnished, instead of proposed plantation and the average yearly rainfall of previous years instead of month wise.

5. Para 1.0(e) Details of prospecting/exploration already carried out :It is mentioned in the page no. 41 that no drilling has been carried out under exploration, whereas table no.13 shows the year of proposals in June 2015 is confusing, should be corrected and the proposals should be clearly chalked out block-wise, keeping in view of reclamation indicating block and its present RL of the pit. Details of expenditure incurred furnished in page no.45 may be omitted as there no exploration has been carried out in previous document period.

6. Geology and Exploration Para 1.0(i-j):It is mentioned under the para that geological cross sections are prepared in 1:1000 scale ,but geological cross section of Block-II is prepared in 1:2000 scale. Therefore, the statement should be modified.

7. Method used for reserve calculation and the important parameters such as bulk density, recovery of magnesite and associated mineral dunite should be briefed under the para. It is mentioned in the text that rich, moderate and poor magnesite area besides, it may be indicated grade or % of MgO and SiO₂. It is observed that only reserve calculation tables shows the different varieties of reserve(magnesite), but table no.15 is not showing any such classification should be clarified.

8. Table no.15 shows the 5337976tonnes of magnesite mineral resource having (221)UNFC code, that was blocked under benches may be shown as (211) UNFC code as it is, as good as proved, but hidden under benches. Further, reserve calculation table nos.15 A -15 L shows only one section name and it was observed that the length considered has been from geological plan. This may be suitably indicated with a note for easy understanding. Summary of resource table at page nos.53,62,68,75,76,80,81 for blocks I-IV wrongly titled as reserve summary should be corrected.

09. Mining 2.0: It is mentioned in the para that, mining carryout by manual method should be corrected as all the operations except mineral sorting by manual method.

10. It was observed all the blocks-I-IV having mine pits but the table no.16 shows only 2 pits. Block wise no of pits and its dimensions indicating the status of pit active or non-active need to be furnished under the para. Further, pit advancement need to be discussed either by laterally or depth wise or both under the para.

11. Para 2.0(b): Year wise tentative excavation table shows 6% recovery of ROM without mentioning the mineral/s. Further, 6% recovery of ROM shown as in m³(cum) whereas, para no VI, shows the same m³ as quantity of production in tonnes example: 10243cum in table 21-A of text for 2016-17, para no-VI of block-1 need to be verified and corrected. Tentative excavation table may also indicate quantity of mineral in addition to cum area or a separate table need to be included. The quantity of waste figure and 2% recovery of dunite occurring as associated mineral included as supplemental may be verified and corrected.

12. Para 4.0: The composition of mineral reject and the grade/% of MgO and SiO₂ need to be discussed under the para.

13. Para 8.2 (vii) Socio-economics: Amount spent on community development may be depicted year wise.

14. All chapters of PMCP, feasibility report, UNFC report should be reconciled as per scrutiny of the paras of mining plan.

15. Consent letter/Undertaking/Certificates by the lessee need to be submitted as per the guidelines for uniformity as part "B" of the document.

Annexures:

16. Photo ID of the Owner/Authorised person of the company need to be annexed in the report.

17. Annexure VIII: Chemical analysis report dated 28.6.2013 is partly illegible, and not matching with radicals such as MgO as 88.79%, 87.67% as per table no.12B in page no 43, MgO shown as 45% and 45% -49% for refractory and non-refractory grades. Hence, a clear recent report from NABL accredited laboratory or similar accredited laboratory need to be furnished.

18. Few photographs showing land use i.e. systematic mining and plantation showing the environmental status of the lease area, block wise also be annexed.

Plates:

19. Plate no.1 Key Plan: The other block of ML located on the western side i.e. west hills need to be specified with colour as per legend. Range of latitude and longitude of entire ML need to be furnished.

20. Plate no.III: No of proposed bore holes marked on the geological plans block-wise and in the report are not tallying, should be corrected.

21. Plate no.IV: Colour code with symbol for rich, moderate and poor magnesite or low silica or high silica magnesite may be marked on the plan.

22. Plate no. VI-VIC: All production plans of block I&II for the proposed period need to be verified in view of scrutiny of year wise tentative excavation.

23. Soft copy of the report in the pdf form of CD need to be submitted as per the guidelines.