

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT

FOR

SARBHANJA BAUXITE MINE

**Proposed Production Capacity: 230769.23 TPA (ROM),
Mineral: 195652.18 TPA, Mineral Reject: 35,117.05 m3 TPA**

Mining lease Area 207.87 ha.

At

**Near Village-Sarbhanja, Tehsil - Manipat,
District- Surguja, Chhattisgarh**

By

M/s. Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation Limited

Project Cost: Rs. 10 CRORE

Category-B1

PROJECT PROPONENT

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Table of Content

S. No.	Particulars	Page No.
1.0	Introduction	b
2.0	Project Description	b
3.0	Project Proponent	b
4.0	Location of the Project	b
5.0	Salient Features of the Project	c
6.0	Topography	d
7.0	Drainage in the study	d
8.0	Quality of Reserves	d
9.0	Proposed Method of Mining	e
10.0	Land Environment Mine Lease Area	f
11.0	Description of Environment	f
11.1	Meteorological Data	f
11.2	Air Environment	f
11.3	Noise Environment	g
11.4	Water Environment	g
11.5	Soil Quality	h
11.6	Biological Environment	h
12.0	Anticipated Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures	h
12.1	Impact on Ambient Air Quality	h
12.2	Impact on Noise Level	i
12.3	Mitigation Measures for Water Pollution	j
12.4	Impact on Flora & Fauna	j
12.5	Social Environment	j
13.0	Analysis of Alternatives	k
14.0	Budgetary Provision for Environment Protection	k
15.0	Conclusion	k

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 Introduction

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a systematic and integrative process for considering possible impacts prior to a decision being taken on whether or not a proposal should be given approval to proceed.

The proposed project has mining lease area of 207.87 hectare and as per EIA Notification of the MoEF&CC dated 14.09.2006, as amended on 1.12.2009, 4.04.2011, 20th April, 2022; the proposed project falls under Category "B" and obtaining prior environmental clearance is mandatory. Accordingly, ToR was applied in the Month of May 2022 and the project was granted Terms of Reference (TOR) by State Expert Appraisal Committee (Mining), MoEF&CC on 25.07.2022 (Refer Annex 1.1) bearing file number SIA/CG/MIN/77027/2022.

2.0 Project Description

The proposed project is bauxite mining project. The total mining lease area is 207.87 ha and consists of revenue private and land with mineral deposit of Bauxite, occurring in the ML area. The proposed capacity of the mines is 2,30,769.23 TPA. The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 10.0 crores. The lease area falls under the Survey of India topo sheet no. 64N/1. The state govt. has issued Letter of Intent (LOI)- vide order no F 3-19/2021/12, dated 12/01/2022

3.0 Project Proponent

Chhattisgarh Mineral Development Corporation (CMDC), Raipur has been allotted Mining Lease (ML) at Sarbhanja for Bauxite Mining is a fresh grant located in Village- Sarbhanja, under Tehsil- Mainpat, District- Surguja, Chhattisgarh. The lease area is of 207.87 Ha and project Category is B1. Opencast Mechanized Mining method will be adopted for this project.

4.0 Location of the Project

The proposed mine is located near village- Sarbhanja, Tehsil- Mainpat, District- Surguja, State-Chhattisgarh over an area of 207.87 Ha.

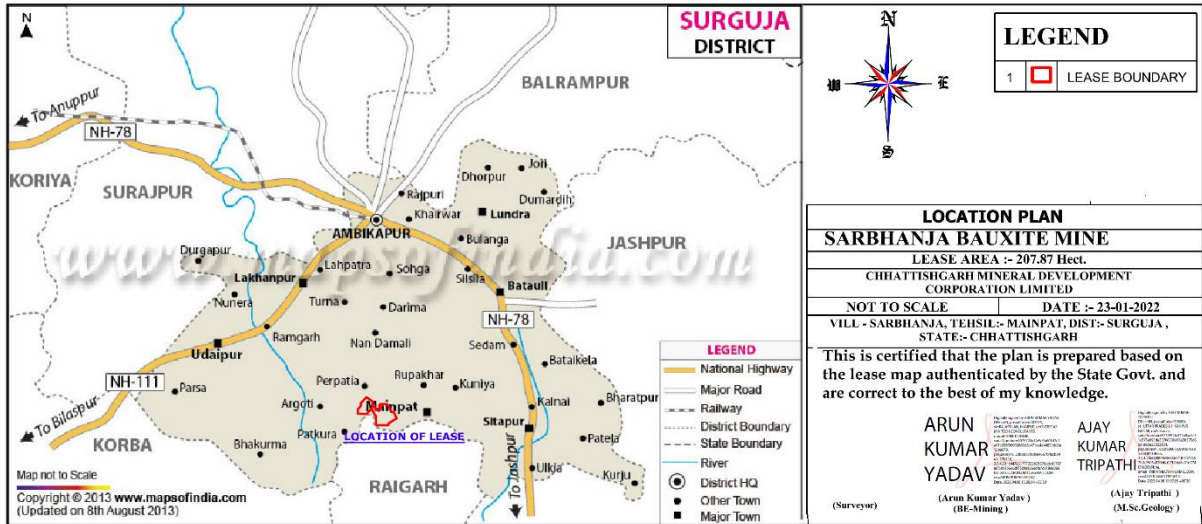


Figure ES-1: Location of Mine in Surguja District

5.0 Salient Features of the Project

Table ES-1: Silent Features of the Project

S. No.	Particulars	Details
1	Total Mine Lease Area	207.87 Ha
2	Lease period validity	2022-2023 to 2072-2073
3	SOI Topo Sheet	64N/1
4	Elevation above MSL	Highest MSL 1110 m Lowest MSL 1078 m
5	Present Land Use	Agriculture
6	Nearest Highway	Tar road near the mine area with good condition. NH 43 at 25 km, Raipur-Ambikapur - NH-30 approx. 14 km
7	Nearest Railway Station	Ambikapur Railway station approximately 45 km.
8	Nearest Airport	Ambikapur Airport approximately 22 km
9	Nearest Port	Dhamra Port Approx. 440 Km.
10	Nearest Town/City	Mainpat Tehsil at 7 km (approximately)
11	Nearest Villages	Sarbhanja Village within 3.0 km from project boundary, Kesra village approx. 4 km and Ropakhar, Kudaridih approx. 6 to 9 Km
12	Villages with ML area	Nil
13	Archaeologically important places	Nil in ML Area. Tibetan Pagodas (Temples) approx. 20 km.
14	National parks/ wildlife sanctuaries	Nil
15	Reserved/protected forest	Kumarta Reserved Forest 500m away from ML area in south of Mainpat Block
16	State and national boundaries	Jharkhand State Boundary-91.0km; Maharashtra-315 km; Madhya pradeh-136 km; Uttar Pradesh -120km Odisha – 80 km; National Boundary 450 km SE
17	Streams / Rivers/Drainage Pattern	Nil within ML The main drainage of the area is through different seasonal water courses originating from the plateau. A main nala Ghunghutta nala is about 03 km on the NW side of the area, flowing towards

S. No.	Particulars	Details
		northern direction. Drainage pattern is Dendritic & Radial, Second order more than 3 km away
18	Power transmission lines/telephone lines	Electric line passing with in the mining lease area mark in Surface plan. Ropakhar sub-station approx. 2 km.
	Défense Installations	Nil
19	Seismicity	Seismically, this area is categorized under zone-II as per IS-1893 (Part-I)-2002.
20	Nearby mines	Nil
21	Cost of the Project	1000 lacs
22	Water Requirement	7 KLD
23	Source of Water	Will be fulfilled from local supplier.

6.0 Topography

In the regional topography, elevation of Mainpat Plateau is about 1060 m AMSL. The highest elevation in the plateau is 1,116 m to the north of Kamleshwarpur. The plateau extends about 40 kms in length towards east-west direction and about 14 kms in width towards north-south direction and is characterized by steep scarps along its edges. At places, these scarps are dissected by steep valleys which in certain places are up to 150 m deep. The applied lease area is a part of Mainpat Plateau; the topography is a dissected plateau and sloping towards southern direction. The lease area has been surveyed during prospecting by DGM on a scale of 1:4,000 with contour interval of one meter. The mining site has a slope towards south direction and no rain water pools in the lease area.

7.0 Drainage in the study

Surguja district forms a part of Mahanadi basin with rivers viz. Hasdeo, Gej, Chornai and Mand as well as Ganga basin with rivers viz Mahan, Gagar and Bichri. The Ganga basin covers 65 % of the area however the remaining area is drained by the Mahanadi basin. The drainage pattern in the district is dendritic to sub-dendritic and the drainage density is high in central and southern parts. Direction of Flow has also been indicated on the same. The major drainage is towards south and few natural drains can be seen away from mine lease area towards North-North East.

8.0 Quality of Reserves

The reserves and resources have been estimated as per the data given in the Prospecting Report. During prospecting the cut-off grade of bauxite is considered as Al₂O₃ minimum 40%, while for the preparation of this Mining Plan the reserve has been estimated as per the threshold value of Al₂O₃ 30% with reactive silica 5%. Geological mapping and exploratory drilling were done in the year 2009-11 by DGM Chhattishgarh, 25 bore holes were explored of 322.5 meters depth in 207.87 HA area and showed the presence of bauxite, 25 samples were collected and analysed. Bauxite deposit occurs as pocket and lenses form. The strike length of the ore body is 2400m approx. and width of the ore body is 1280m in East & 1120m in West and thickness of the ore body is 3.8 m (average).

Table ES-2: Mineral reserve along with cut off Grade

Classification	Quantity (tonnes)			Grade	
	Forest	Non-Forest	Total	Forest	Non-Forest
Probable Mineral Reserve (A)	--	3888313.34	3888313.3	--	Cut-off grade Al ₂ O ₃ 40% & above
Prefeasibility Mineral Resource (B)		760006.81	760006.81	--	Cut-off grade Al ₂ O ₃ 40% & above
Total Mineral Resources (A+B)	0.0	4648320.15	4648320.11		

Source: Consultants Team

9.0 Proposed Method of Mining

The proposed mining will be open cast. The Semi-mechanized method with drilling and blasting will be adopted. The infrastructure facilities like office, rest shelter, maintenance shed, urinal etc will be provided before commencement of the mining operation. A haulage road already exists for movement of vehicles.

Work related to overburden removal, production and dispatch of bauxite will be carried out in systematic manner, smaller size excavator of 2.0 cum bucket size, and dumper 18 tonne will be used for overburden removal, and 100 mm dia DTH drills of 25t capacity will be used for drilling. The working will be carried out in single shift. The blast holes of 3 to 4 m depth shall be drilled by DTH drills, for blasting required for loosening of hard overburden and ore bench.

Thereafter where the soft overburden is available; it is excavated by excavator dumper combination and used for backfilling of mined out area. The top soil and soft overburden (SOB) shall be scrapped separately, but there is a single bench for both.

The hard overburden shall be drilled, blasted for loosening and shifted by excavator dumper combination to backfill the mined-out area. After removal of the overburden, the exposed ore zone having grade above 40% Al₂O₃ shall be excavated, after loosening by drilling blasting. Thereafter, sizing & sorting of blasted ore is being done at working face itself. The boulder above 600 mms size is reduced to (-) 600 mms size by hydraulic rock breaker before manual sizing/ sorting.

After removal of bauxite the mined-out areas are concurrently backfilled with generated OB (hard /soft laterite), reject material, and top soil. The backfilling of materials shall be done in same sequence as it is found in the nature, i.e., hard laterite in bottom, then soft laterite and top soil. Levelling and compaction of backfilled area is being done from time to time by dozer so as to restore the topography in its original shape.

During the mining it is found that, the estimated recovery factor of saleable grade bauxite is 65% of total material. Out of total 100% ore zone, the 65% material will be saleable bauxite and rest 35% will be waste/rejects. The material of quality above 38% alumina will be stacked after it's sizing & sorting. During the mining of graded bauxite, the cut-off grade quality 40% alumina if encountered will be separated out and blended with high grade mineral, hence no separate stock is required. The left-out material will be as reject and will be transported to mined-out area for backfilling use.

10.0 Land Environment Mine Lease Area

The entire lease holds area of 207.89 Ha. Private land is mostly rain-fed agriculture Land.

11.0 Description of Environment

This section contains the description of baseline studies of the 10-km radius of the area surrounding the site. The data collected has been used to understand the existing environment scenario around the proposed mining project against which the potential impacts of the project can be assessed. Baseline data was generated for various environmental parameters including air, water (surface and ground water), soil, noise, meteorological, ecology and socio-economic status to determine quality of the prevailing environmental settings. The baseline data for study was conducted during summer (March to May, 2022) season.

11.1 Meteorological Data

The study area is part of tropical monsoon climate with long humid summer and short winters. The rainfall is heavy during monsoon and light in pre monsoon season. The annual average total rainfall recorded in the region was found to be 1526.9 mm. The maximum average rainfall (460.9 mm) was recorded in the month of July. This month also had the maximum number of rainy days. The average maximum temperature was recorded in the month of May at 39.5°C and the minimum temperature was 8.8°C in December. The highest temperature recorded in the area was 44.9°C in June 1988 while the minimum was 0.9°C in January 1989. The Relative Humidity was highest during the monsoon season with the month of August recording the highest average at 88%.

The maximum average wind speed was found to be 7.8 kmph in the month of June. The predominant wind direction recorded at the IMD station was from North followed by South-west and West.

11.2 Air Environment

Seven Ambient Air Quality Monitoring (AAQM) Stations were selected. Criteria used for designing the network were principally governed by the wind rose pattern for pre-monsoon seasons and the accessibility of the selected sites. The value of parameters at all the location is found within the limits prescribed by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

- PM₁₀: The highest (98th percentile) value i.e., 66.18 µg/m³ was observed for PM₁₀ at Project site and minimum value of 54.57 µg/m³ for PM₁₀ was observed at Kumarta. The 24 hours applicable limit for industrial, Residential Rural and other Areas is 100 µg/m³.
- PM_{2.5}: The highest (98th percentile) value for PM_{2.5} i.e., 32.25 µg/m³ was observed at laleya and minimum value of 23.49 µg/m³ for PM_{2.5} was observed at Kumarta. The 24 hours applicable limit for industrial, Residential Rural and other Areas is 60 µg/m³.
- SO₂: The highest (98th percentile) value for SO₂ of 13.05 µg/m³ was observed at

Laleya village and minimum value for SO₂ is 11.79µg/m³ which was observed at Kesara, Kumarta and Kuma. The 24 hours applicable limit for Industrial, Residential, Rural and other Areas is 80 µg/m³.

- NO₂: The highest (98th percentile) value for i.e., 15.55 µg/m³ was observed at Project site and minimum value for NO_x is 12.57µg/m³ was observed at Kuma and at Kesara village. The 24 hours applicable limit for Industrial, Residential, Rural and other Areas is 80 µg/m³.

11.3 Noise Environment

The noise level in area varies from 51.0 dB (A) to 63.4 dB (A) during day time and 38.4 dB (A) to 42.6 dB (A) during night time. Traffic movement was found due to the vehicular movement & mining activities in nearby areas. In general, Noise level in study area was found well below to the standards.

11.4 Water Environment

Drainage Pattern of Mine Lease Area

No perennial nala is flowing within the lease area. The main drainage of the area is through different seasonal water courses originating from the plateau. Streams of the plateau exhibit a combination radial and dendritic pattern. A main nala Mangadra is about 3 km on the northern side of the area, flowing towards northern direction and meets to Gungata Nala.

There is a gentle slope from northern direction to southern direction, no stream crosses the mine area. Drainage within the mine lease area, as it can be seen that the flow is towards south contributing to nala in the south.

Water Quality

One surface water and Seven ground water samples were collected and tested to know the water quality of study area. The samples collected were examined for relevant physical and chemical parameters. Analysis of the parameters like pH and alkalinity were carried out at the sampling stations immediately after collection of samples with the help of Field Analysis Kits. The metallic constituents like Fluorides, chromium, iron and Magnesium were analyzed with Atomic Absorption Spectroscope. The samples were collected and analyzed as per the procedures specified in 'Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Waste Water' published by American Public Health Association (APHA). The results were compared with the guidelines given by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). The water quality of the surface water samples collected were analysed and found well within the desirable limits as per IS: 2296 Class C & IS: 10500:2012, and fit for drinking after conventional treatment and disinfection.

The colour and turbidity of the samples were normal. Total Dissolved Solid was 246.0 – 382.0 mg/l range which is within the maximum permissible limit of 1500 mg/l.

Chlorides, sulphates and fluoride concentration of the samples were well below the permissible limits. The magnesium concentrations was of the range 9.26 -13.15 mg/l.

Biological contamination of surface water bodies were observed due to stagnant nature of water bodies. The heavy metals were found to be below detectable limits. In general, the water quality of the sampling location was found complying acceptable tolerance limits as per IS: 2296 Class C considering the concentrations of relevant parameters and can be used for drinking purpose after conventional treatment.

11.5 Soil Quality

To understand the soil quality in the proposed study area, 7 locations were selected for soil sampling. Composite sampling of soil up to root depth (30 cm) was carried out at each location. The important properties of soil are bulk density, porosity, infiltration rate, pH and organic matter, kjeldahl nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium.

11.6 Biological Environment

Flora

The project site is an open scrub land devoid of thick vegetation. The common trees observed in the study area and in the reserved forests in the study area are Tendu, Bael, Amla, Khair, Aam, Sal, Champa, Teak, Pakri, Kekad, Mahuwa etc.

Fauna

The mine lease area is Agricultural land and the area is devoid of significant faunal existence. A primary field survey was conducted through random observation in the study area and data was also collected from local persons of the area and forest officials. The common mammals observed in the study area and in the reserved forests in the study area are jackal, squirrel, fruit bat, field rat, Bengal monkey, barking deer, jungle cat etc. The common birds observed in the study area are common myna, house crow, spotted dove, Jungle crow etc.

12.0 Anticipated Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures

12.1 Impact on Ambient Air Quality

The mining is proposed to be carried out by opencast mechanized method. The air borne particulate matter generated by ore and handling operations, transportation and screening of ore is the main air pollutant. The emissions of Sulphur dioxide (SO₂), Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x) contributed by vehicles plying on haul roads are marginal. Prediction of impacts on air environment has been carried out taking into consideration proposed production and net increase in emissions. The maximum incremental ground level concentration of PM_{2.5} will be 3.76 µg/m³ in the project site. This shows that the adverse impact of mining outside the ML area will be marginal and will not have any adverse effect on health of human and animals and also on the flora of the area. For PM₁₀ the incremental value is 13.0 µg/m³ at mining pit and it is confined to only mine area hence there will be no major impact on the environment.

Mitigation Measures for Air Pollution

Bauxite is a hydrated oxide of aluminum. It is a mixture of two or more hydroxides corresponding to Gibbsite ($\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$) and Boehmite ($\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$). The moisture content in Bauxite is around 3% to 7%. Therefore, emissions due to mineral handling, during mining operations are not much and restricted to the lease area only. Air pollution is caused mainly due to dust generation added with gaseous emission from transportation activities along with mining operation like loading etc.

Control of Fugitive Emission

- Use of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) like dust masks, ear plugs etc by the mine workers.
- Regular Water sprinkling on haul roads & loading points will be carried out.
- Development of green belt/plantation around the lease boundary, roads, dumps etc should be developed.
- Ambient Air Quality Monitoring conducted on regularly basis to assess the quality of ambient air.

Preservation and Control of Gaseous Pollution

In mining activities, the sources of gaseous emissions would be vehicle movements. Proper maintenance of machines improves combustion process & makes reduction in the pollution. Good maintenance and monitoring of fuel and oil will not allow significant addition in the gaseous emission.

12.2 Impact on Noise Level

Noise generated at the mine is due to truck transportation activities. The noises generated by the mining activity will dissipate within the mine. There may be noise pollution due to drilling, blasting and movement of trucks. This may go beyond the threshold value i.e. 90dB (A), but will be momentary. No major impact of the mining activity on the nearby villages is envisaged. The pronounced effect of noise will be felt only near the active working area. The impact of noise on the villages is negligible as the villages are located far from the proposed mine lease area or mine workings. Since there is no involvement of major machinery, the impact of noise levels will be minimal.

Mitigation Measures for Noise Pollution

The mitigation measures for Noise Pollution are suggested as follows:

List of all noise generating machinery onsite along with age to be prepared. Equipment to be maintained in good working order. Generation of vehicular noise to be minimised by proper maintenance of the vehicles and keeping records of the same. Implement good working

practices (equipment selection and siting) to minimize noise and also reduce its impacts on human health (ear muffs, safe distances and enclosures).

Adopt good blasting practices to reduce impact on flora and fauna. Muffling will be done at the time of blasting Noise to be monitored in ambient air near blasting shelter and at the lease boundaries

12.3 Mitigation Measures for Water Pollution

The following mitigation measures are suggested for water management and water pollution control. However, priority relevance depends on the location and type of mining and minerals.

- Garland drains will be constructed on all side of quarries and external dumps. All the outlets from garland drains will be routed through adequately sized settling pits to remove suspended solids from flowing into storm water drains. The design of settling pits would be calculated on the basis of silt loading, slope and detention time required.
- The vehicle washing and maintenance wastewater will be suitably treated for suspended solids and oil & grease.

Water Conservation Measure

Rain water will not be harvested in mine Pits as it is agricultural land which will be reclaimed after mining and will be handed over to farmers.

12.4 Impact on Flora & Fauna

The proposed mine lease area is away from any type of sensitive area. Mine site preparation will involve removal of vegetation cover which may impact the biodiversity of the area. The impact on terrestrial ecology will be due to emission of gaseous pollutant like NO₂ from vehicles. For the mining operations, NO₂ emissions are mainly due to burning of diesel in mining vehicles. As described in the baseline on air quality, the low concentrations of NO₂ due to operation of the mining operations will have insignificant impact on ambient air quality and NO₂ concentration will remain much below the NAAQ standards. Therefore, the impact of these emissions on the surrounding Agro-ecosystem will be insignificant.

12.5 Social Environment

The mine area does not cover any habitation. Hence the mining activity does not involve any displacement of human settlement. No public buildings, places, monuments etc exist within the lease area or in the vicinity. The mining operation will not disturb/ relocate any village or need resettlement. Thus no adverse impact is anticipated. The impact of mining activity in the area is positive on the socio-economic environment of the region. The negative impact will be limited to some sporadic health problems, which may occur due to increase in fugitive emission in the vicinity of the mines. The proposed mine project is providing employment to

local population and it will be give preference to the local people whenever there is requirement of man power. The local skilled labour will have additional opportunity to enter into automobile maintenance profession to cater to the needs of the transport trucks.

13.0 Analysis of Alternatives

In the proposed project, opencast mechanized mining method will be carried out. Hence, no new methodology is explored. So, all the parameters of EMP will be implemented as per the open cast mechanized mining.

14.0 Budgetary Provision for Environment Protection

Sufficient fund allocation will be made towards environmental management and monitoring program. In order to implement the environmental monitoring, timely funds will be released as per requirement. Per annum capital cost is 6.0 lakh per and recurring cost is 8.0 lakh.

15.0 Conclusion

The proposed facilities are not likely to cause any significant impact to the environment and ecology of the area, as adequate preventive measures will be adopted to keep the various pollutants within the permissible limits. Green belt development around the area will also be taken up as an effective pollution mitigation technique, as well as to serve as biological indicators for the pollutants released from the premises of Sarbhanja Mining Project.