

Enviro-Mend-All 2013_ Leading from the Green.

The Scenario: Tribals and the Bauxite Mine.

Large deposits of bauxite, the raw material of aluminum, in the mountains near a village in the Niyamgiri Hills in Orissa state, India, have been found and two companies have emerged as the favourites to win the contract tender: Alcoa Incorporated and Hindalco Industries Limited. The village, *which is two hours from the nearest town*, is inhabited by a primitive tribal community, the Dongria Kondh, who have worshipped the mountain god for centuries, live within the ecology of the region and depend on the river for fish and to irrigate their crops such as rice. Work and religious customs revolve around the land, the river and the forests, which have provided tribal villagers with exotic fruit and game.

The mining companies want to build a mine upstream and a refinery downstream near the plains and have applied for a license. The National Mining Licensing Association of India (NMLAI), will hear representations from a range of stakeholders and will subsequently make recommendations to the government for a 20 year lease. The stakeholder groups include: the tribal elders, mining companies, both local and international, an environmental watch group, an animal rights group, a human rights group, a political party and a group representing the aluminum lobby.

Proponents consider the execution of the project to be important for the economic development of the State, while opponents are concerned by the possible disenfranchisement and dispossession of the tribals and the damage to the environment.

TASK 1: In your stakeholder groups, draw the landscape of the village, mountain and proposed mine using A3 paper.

1. Alcoa Incorporated
2. Hindalco
3. The Aluminum Association of India (AAI)
4. Bharatiya Janata Party. (BJP)
5. Survival International.
6. Tribal Elders: The Dongria Kondh
7. International Union for the Conservation of Nature. (IUCN)
8. Born Free Foundation. (BFF)
9. National Aluminum Company Limited. (NALCO)

ISLC 2013 PRESENTATION TASK

Adopt the role of your assigned stakeholder group, and prepare a 15 minute presentation plus 5 minutes questions without warning from the floor. Your presentation will be delivered to the National Mining Licensing Association of India and will aim to persuade the NMLAI to make a decision aligned with your particular solution and point of view.

Requirements

As part of your presentation, you will need to:

1. Draw the landscape of the village, mountain and proposed mine and refinery using A3 paper and submit this to the judges prior to the presentation
2. Include a hard copy A4 one sided summary, conceptual flyer explaining your stakeholder position. This flyer, graphic plus text, to be given to the NMLAI prior to the presentation.
3. Identify the various roles each person in the group will adopt such as: Mining Engineer, Environmental Consultant, Anthropologist, Media Consultant, Financial Advisor, Logistics Co-ordinator, to name a few.
4. Make use of appropriate programs including Adobe Photoshop, Fireworks, Adobe In-Design, Desktop Publisher, Google Earth, Google Sketch Up, Flash Animation, PowerPoint or a combination of the above, to name a few.

Presentation Guidelines

In the process of completing your research and preparation for the presentation, you will need to consider the following points:

- (a) How will you assess the environmental and socio-cultural impact of constructing a mine in the area?
- (b) How reliable are your sources given the partiality of knowledge on official organizational websites?
- (c) What is the quality of the incentives promised by the mining companies and does this address local needs?
- (d) What research would you need to do in order to refute the counter arguments of other stakeholder groups?