



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),

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F.No. 4-APC056/2018-CHN

Date 05th April, 2018

To

The Principal Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block,
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Guntur District-522238

Subject: Diversion of 74.486 ha of forest area (i.e. 17.722 ha in Nellore Division and 56.764 ha in Proddatur Wildlife Management Division) for construction of 765 KV Double Circuit Power Transmission Line from Kadapa-Chilakaluripeta by PSTSL (100 %Subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd) in favour of Manager (CAO), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Badvel-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.1388/Section-II/2018 dated 23.03.2018 and online application No. FP/AP/TRANS/26388/2017 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

As recommended by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am directed to convey the Central Government's in-principle approval (*Stage-I*) under Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **46.742 ha** of forest area (**except 27.744 ha of forest area falls in Tiger Corridor of Kancherlamoram RF out of 74.486 ha proposed for diversion**) for construction of 765 KV Double Circuit Power Transmission Line from Kadapa-Chilakaluripeta by PSTSL (100 %Subsidiary of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd) in favour of Manager (CAO), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Badvel, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. The demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters *by* the User Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned at the project cost before the Stage II approval;
3. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over **154.93 ha** of degraded forest area in Compt No 200, 201, 245, 254, 230 & 237

Signature

in Porumamilla Range, Compt No 27 of Muddanur Range and Compt No 73 of Proddatur Range of WLM Proddatur Division at the cost of the User Agency; Minimum of 1000/ plants / ha of diverted area (minimum 21420 plants in total) shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency and map along DGPS co-ordinates of such forest area shall be furnished along with the compliance report;

4. The degraded forest land identified for CA and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
5. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **46.742 ha** from User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos. 826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995;
6. Additional amount of Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
7. The funds received from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value under this project etc shall be deposited in the Corporation bank account of the Andhra Pradesh State CAMPA. **The User Agency shall compulsorily deposit the CA and other levies only by generating challan through the Ministry's website;**
8. The User Agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall prepare a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) under the transmission line, and provide funds for execution of the said scheme to the State Forest Department;
9. In case the Standing Committee of NBWL does not approve the clearance under WL Act for an area of 27.744 ha falling in Tiger Corridor, then UA shall choose alternative alignment to execute the project and no work shall be commenced before the final approval;
10. The maximum width of right of way for the proposed transmission line on the forest land shall not be more than 67 mtrs;
11. The State Government / UA shall intimate the Regional Office about the actual number of Red Sanders trees to be removed for the project, in the 27.744 ha of Tiger Corridor area and in the rest of the areas separately;

12. The Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate number of Red Sanders trees to compensate the felling of the species involved in this project;
13. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sub let to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
14. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
15. The user agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling;
16. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the user agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
17. All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees from the proposed forest area and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible at the cost of User Agency;
18. In case the portion of the transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
19. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to Ministry's guidelines F.No 7-25/2012-FC dated 5th May, 2014 and provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulation and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to the transmission line projects;
20. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **46.742 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
21. The State Government shall comply with the instructions issued by the REC and conveyed vide this office letters dated 02.02.2018 & 09.03.2018 with regard to implementation of compensatory afforestation and uploading of proposal details including general approval in the Ministry's web portal;
22. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFO, Nellore Division in SI No 6 (v) (a) & (b) of part II i.e 1036.99 ha of forest land and



7260.25 ha of non forest land and DFO, Proddatur (WLM) Division in SI No 12 (v) (a)&(b) of part II i.e 259.62 ha of forest land and 4099.739 ha of non forest land shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office;

23. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Addl. PCCF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency;
24. The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Govt. and to the Regional Office, regularly;
25. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. K. Ganesh Kumar)

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Sankuratri Residency, M.G.Inner Ring Road, Agatavarapadu, Guntur-522509
3. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, , Sankuratri Residency, M.G.Inner Ring Road, Agatavarapadu, Guntur-522509.
4. The Director, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.



5. The Manager (CAO), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Flat No.107,
Balaji Harivillu Apartments, Nellore Road, Badvel, Andhra Pradesh-516227.

6. Guard file.


(Dr.K.Ganesh Kumar) 05/04/18

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)