

F. No. 8-102/2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi – 110003
Dated: 25th May, 2015

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Madhya Pradesh,
Bhopal. Madhya Pradesh

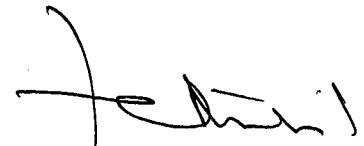
Sub: Diversion of 77.80 hectares of forest land in favour of M/s. Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. for construction of 765 KV Gwalior-Jaipur Double Circuit Transmission Line in Gwalior and Murena Districts, Madhya Pradesh.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Land Management) and Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of Madhya Pradesh's letter No. F-4/6/8/ 2014/10-11/ Vidhyut/ 2394 dated 4th September 2014 on the above-mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted by the Central Government under Section 3 of the said Act, 'in-principle' approval for the said diversion was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 4.02.2015 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions prescribed therein. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Addl. PCCF (Land Management) - cum - Nodal Officer (FCA), State Government of Madhya Pradesh vide his letter No. F-4/6/8/2014/10-11/Power/1102 dated 20th April, 2015, final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 77.80 hectares of forest land in favour of M/s. Power Grid Corporation of India Limited for construction of 765 KV Gwalior-Jaipur Double Circuit Transmission Line in Gwalior and Murena Districts in the State of Madhya Pradesh, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (ii) Compensatory afforestation over the degraded forest land, twice in extent to the forest land proposed to be diverted, shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds already provided by the user agency;

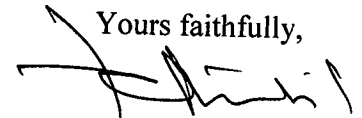


- (iii) The user agency shall pay additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
- (iv) The user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- (v) To minimize the felling of for construction of transmission line, user agency shall comply with the following guidelines:
 - (a) Below each conductor, width clearance of 7 mts. would be permitted for taking the tension stringing equipment. The trees on such strips would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, the natural regeneration will be allowed to come up.
 - (b) One outer strip shall be left clear to permit maintenance of the transmission line;
 - (c) In the remaining width the right of way felling/pollarding/pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest officer whenever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance, trees shall be allowed to be felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining the minimum clearance, as may be stipulated by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), between conductors and trees. The sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while working out the minimum clearance mentioned as above;
 - (d) User agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall implement approved scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in right of way under the transmission line, and provide funds for execution of the said scheme by the State Forest Department; and
 - (e) In case a portion of the transmission lines to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut.
- (vi) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- (vii) User agency shall provide alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- (viii) The user agency shall provide a vehicle of an appropriate model to facilitate the Ministry to undertake field visits to monitor and ascertain status of compliance to conditions stipulated in approvals accorded under the FC Act for diversion of forest land required for projects of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited and other user agencies
- (ix) The boundary of the forest land being diverted shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, DGPS coordinates, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar;



- (x) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- (xi) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xii) User agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall create and maintain alternate habitat/ home for the avifauna, whose nesting trees are to be cleared in this project. Bird nests artificially made out of eco-friendly materials shall be used in the area, including forest area and human settlements, adjoining the forest area being diverted for the project;
- (xiii) Any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- (xiv) The user agency shall submit the annual self compliance report in respect of the above conditions to the State Government and to the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry regularly.
- (xv) Any other condition that the concerned Regional Office of this Ministry, Bhubaneswar may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife; and
- (xvi) The User agency and the State Government shall ensure compliances of Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project of and also compliances of conditions of Stage-I approval for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency.

Yours faithfully,




(T. C. Nautuyal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

- 1 The PCCF, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
- 2 The Addl. PCCF (Central), Regional Office (Western Zone), Bhopal.
- 3 The Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.
- 4 User Agency.
- 5 Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF, New Delhi.
- 6 Guard File.



(T. C. Nautuyal)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests