

## भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001 & CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (WCZ) Ground Floor, East Wing New Secretariat Building

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F.No. FC-II/MH-65/2017-NGP/7271

Date: 29.09.2020

To.

The Secretary (Forests), Revenue and Forest Department, Hutatma Rajguru Chowk Madam Cama Marg Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032.

Sub: Diversion of 27.846 ha of Forest land in favour of Power Grid Parli Transmission Ltd for construction of 765 KV D/C Warora-Parli Transmission Line in Pandharkawada, Yavatmal and Pusad Forest Division in Yavatmal District and Hingoli Forest Division in the State of Maharashtra - Regarding.

Sir.

The undersigned is directed to refer to State Government of Maharashtra letter no. FLD-3217/CR-202/F-10 dated 02.06.2017 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, 'in-principle' approval was accorded by the Central Government vide its letter of even number dated 02.09.2017. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA). Government of Maharashtra has now submitted a report on the compliance of conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle' approval and requested the State Government to grant final approval to the proposal.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of compliance report submitted by the Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra vide his letter No. Desk-17/NC/RS-I/ID-12364/1298/18-19 dated 29.09.2018, letter No. Desk-17/NC/I/I.D-12506/1933/18-19 dated 17.01.2019, letter No. Desk-17/NC/RS-I/ID- 12558/185/19-20 dated 10.05.2019, letter No. Desk-17/NC/I/ID-12506/226/20-21 dated 10.07.2020 and letter No. Desk-17/NC/RS-I/ID-12558/447/18-19 dated 01.09.2020 forwarded additional information as sought by this Office vide letters of even number dated 26.10.2018, 07.03.2019, 28.05.2019 and 22.07.2020. The Central Government hereby accords 'final approval' under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 27.846 ha of Forest land in favour of Power Grid Parli Transmission Ltd for construction of 765 KV D/C Warora-Parli Transmission Line in Pandharkawada, Yavatmal and Pusad Forest Division in Yavatmal District and Hingoli Forest Division in the State of Maharashtra subject to following conditions:

- i. Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged:
- ii. Compensatory afforestation:
  - a. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 55.692 ha degraded forest land (Comptt, No. 774, Survey No. 56, 57, 58, 59, 60 & 61, Village- Rohana, Tal- Digras, District- Yavatmal) at the cost of the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species along

with 10% RET species of Kolhapur Division shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided:

- iii. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- iv. User Agency shall develop a separate nursery at one or more places to raise at least 15,000 seedlings of forestry species along with bamboo, fruit bearing, medicinal, ornamental and indigenous/local every year. At least 50% of seedlings shall be planted by User Agency in the vicinity of project area including forest area and for better relation with local people residing in vicinity of proposed area, User Agency shall voluntarily distribute remaining 50% of seedlings to them free of cost. A compliance report including species wise details of seedlings raised, location of plantation area and details of villagers to whom seedlings have been distributed need to be prepared every six month and submitted to Regional Office of MoEF&CC;
- v. The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
- vi. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter no. 7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014;
- vii. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;
- viii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- ix. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- x. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xi. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer:
- xii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xiii. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less;
- xiv. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal:
- xv. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project:
- xvi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
- xvii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt 29/01/2018;

xviii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

This issues with the approval of DDGF (Central), Regional Office (WCZ), MoEF & CC, Nagpur.

Yours faithfully,

(C.B. Tashildar) AIGF (Central)

Copy to:

7. The PCCF (HoFF), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur

- 2. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur.
- 3. User Agency.

4. Guard File.

AIGF (Central)