



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
Government of India

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, शिलांग/Regional Office, Shillong
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गुवाहाटी/Sub Office, Guwahati
चौथी मंजिल, हौसेफेड इमारत, जी एस रोड, रुक्मिणी गाँव, गुवाहाटी- ७८१०२२
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F.No.3 AS C 074/2021/GHY/5294-95

05th March, 2024



सेवा मे,

अतिरिक्त प्रमुख सचिव/ Addl. Chief Secretary,
असम सरकार/ Govt of Assam
पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/Environment and Forests Department,
दिसपुर/Dispur, गुवाहाटी/Guwahati-781006.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 19.791 ha forest land for shifting of 132 KV S/C Gohpur-Nirjuli Transmission Line from location no 42 to location no 64 due to upcoming Greenfield Airport at Hollongi in Gohpur Reserve Forest under Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath Chariali by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government's letter No. FRS.129/2021/100-A dated 18.12.2021 and No. ECF No.182707/243 dated 11.08.2023 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal, In-Principle Approval (IPA) was granted vide this office letter of even number dated 09.05.2022 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

2. In this connection and on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. ECF No.182707/243 dated 11.08.2023 and No. eCF No.182707/302 dated 22.02.2024 its uploading on Ministry's portal on 28.02.2024 and submission of compensatory levies by e-challan and online payment by user agency under CAMPA, **Final Approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 19.791 ha forest land for shifting of 132 KV S/C Gohpur-Nirjuli Transmission Line from location no 42 to location no 64 due to upcoming Greenfield Airport at Hollongi in Gohpur Reserve Forest under Sonitpur East Division, Biswanath Chariali by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., subject to the following conditions:

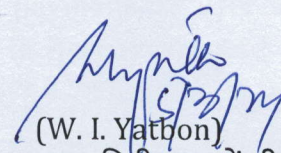
- 1) The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- 2) The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained over double the degraded forest land of 40 ha (i.e. 30 ha in compartment No. SER2C8, Biswanath RF2 Block, Pabhoi Range and 10 ha in compartment No. SER3C26, Behali RF1 Block, Borgang Range) in Sonitpur Forest Division in Biswanath district of Assam as per the funds deposited by the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local

indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

- 3) The State Govt shall ensure that the revised rates of Net Present Value amount of the forest land being diverted under this proposal is transferred through online portal by the user agency into CAMPA account of the State concerned as per the Ministry letter File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 21.03.2022 before issuing of the Final Approval.
- 4) The permanent demarcation of forest land for diversion shall be done on the ground at project cost before handing over the forest land to the user agency.
- 5) An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions of the submitted human -Elephant- Conflict mitigation and Wildlife Conservation plan shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife warden to the concerned Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- 6) The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of mitigating measures envisaged in human-Elephant- Conflict mitigation and Wildlife Conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.
- 7) The State Forest Department shall carryout creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) under the transmission line from the amount which is already realized from the user agency;
- 8) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- 9) 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.
- 10) In case the portion of transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly area, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
- 11) The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission line through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter no. 7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014.
- 12) The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- 13) The lay out of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- 14) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
- 15) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternative 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 alternative fuel.
- 16) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.

- 17) 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.
- 18) The user agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for removal, if any, of stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land.
- 19) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 20) The proposal will be implemented under the overall supervision of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 21) The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area.
- 22) 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.
- 23) 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.
- 24) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 & Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, guideline & clarification, 2023.
- 25) All other clearance/NOCs under different rules/ regulations/local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/98-FC(Pt) dated 05.02.2013 shall be complied with.
- 26) Any other conditions that the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

भवदीय,



(W. I. Yathou)

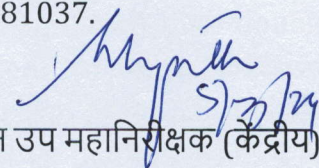
वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Govt of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad, Agarwal Path, Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra, Panjabari, Guwahati-781037.

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वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)