



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
North Eastern Regional Office,
Law-U-Sib Lumbatagen,
Near MTC Workshop, Shillong-793021,
टेली/Tel(0364)-253-7609, 7340/7395/7278.

(११३) भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, शिलांग
लॉड सीध नुम्बतगेन
एम् टी सी के पास, शिलांग - ७९३०२१
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F.No. 3- SK C 023/2019-SHI/21-22

1st April, 2019

सेवा में,

प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक- सह प्रमुख सचिव/ Principal Secretary-cum PCCF,
सिक्किम सरकार/ Government of Sikkim,
वन पर्यावरण विभाग और वन्यजीव प्रबंधन/ Department of Forests, Env. & Wildlife Management,
डेओराली/ Deorali, गंगटोक/ Gangtok,
सिक्किम/Sikkim- 737102.

Sub : Proposal for diversion of 40.9299 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line from Teesta Stage III HEP to Kishanganj Loop Out at Rangpo South District of Sikkim by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government's letter 1565/FCA/FEWMD/872 dated 19.12.2018, even no. 985 dated 11.01.2019 on the subject mentioned above, seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the FCA, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal and the recommendation of REC in the meeting held on 15.01.2019, In-principle approval (IPA) was granted vide this office letter of even number dated 23.01.2019 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. 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 and on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. 1565/FCA/FEWMD/1280 dated 12.03.2019 and submission of compensatory levies by e-challan and SBI Newtown Rajarhat confirmation of transfer of fund by RTGS in favour of Sikkim Campa vide their letter dated 05.03.2019, final approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 40.9299 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line from Teesta Stage III HEP to Kishanganj Loop Out at Rangpo in South District of Sikkim by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (2) The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained over an area of 81.90 ha identified at 2 locations i.e. 44.37 ha in Tendong RF & 37.53 ha in Ramaram RF, Namchi (T) Range in South (T) by the State Forest Department as per the funds deposited by the Agency.
- (3) The allowed maximum width of Right of Way shall be 23 mtr on either side of the

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- (4) Below each conductor, width clearance of 3 (three) meters shall be permitted for taking tension stringing equipments. However, natural regeneration shall be allowed to come up as soon as the stringing work is completed.
 - (5) The minimum clearance of 5.5 meters between conductors and trees shall be maintained. The sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while working out the minimum clearance. Regular trimming need to be carried out so that the trees do not touch the live wire.
 - (6) The trees on such strips would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration will be allowed to come up. Felling/Pollarding/Pruning of trees shall be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance. One outer strip shall be left clear to permit maintenance of the transmission line.
 - (7) During construction of transmission line, pollarding / pruning of trees located outside the above width of the strips, whose branches / parts infringe with conductors stringing, shall be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer.
 - (8) Pruning of trees for taking construction /stringing equipments through existing approach / access routes in forest areas is permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer, construction of new approach/access route will however require prior approval under the Act.
 - (9) To avoid any hazard, felling / cutting / pruning of those trees which because of their height / location may fall on conductors is also permitted, as may be decided by local forest officer.
 - (10) In the case of transmission lines to be constructed in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees will not be cut except those minimum required to be cut for stringing of conductors.
 - (11) The User Agency shall ensure erection of high towers and felling of minimum number of trees.
 - (12) The tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable under strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
 - (13) Tree felling shall be restricted to only 3 meters on either side of the Tr. Line and rest of the trees will be allowed to remain intact except some peripheral pruning.
 - (14) The User Agency shall provide retaining walls to avoid huge earth cuttings for fixing the legs of the towers wherever necessary.
 - (15) User Agency shall take necessary steps to keep the height of the transmission line such that no wild animal come in accidental contact with live wire.
 - (16) Plantation of dwarf species in right of way under the transmission lines wherever feasible may be carried out under project cost in consultation with State Forest Department.
 - (17) Regular patrolling of the transmission lines shall be carried out by the user agency to check sag and swing, and contact of the live wire with the trees.
 - (18) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
 - (19) Sufficient alternative fuel (other than fire wood) shall be provided by the user agency to the labourers at their own cost.
 - (20) The user agency shall ensure that no damage is caused to the forest and wildlife in the area.
 - (21) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposed

(22) The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.

(23) The User Agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for removal of stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land, if necessary.

(24) All other clearances / 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.

(25) In case of non-compliance of any of the above conditions the Nodal Officer, Sikkim Forest Deptt. shall suspend the non-forest use of land and submit a report to this office.

(26) In case of any violation of the stipulated conditions immediate action is to be taken by the Forest Department as per Ministry's letter No. 5-5/86/FC dated 07.12.1999 and this office letter No. 2-1-51/2004/RONE/Vol II/3181-02 dated 28.12.2006.

(27) This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval is not complied to the satisfaction of the North Eastern Regional Office, Shillong.

(28) Any other conditions as may be found appropriate in future for the betterment of environment & wildlife, may be imposed by North Eastern Regional Office.

This is issued with approval of Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C).

भवदीय,



(आर. एल. सांगा)/(R.L. Sanga)

वन संरक्षक (केंद्रीय)/ Conservator of Forests (C)

Copy to:

सीएफ.सह-नोडल अधिकारी/CF-cum Nodal Officer,सिक्किम सरकार/ Government of Sikkim,वन पर्यावरण विभाग और वन्यजीव प्रबंधन/ Department of Forests, Env. & Wildlife Management, डेओराली/ Deorali,गंगटोक/ Gangtok,सिक्किम /Sikkim- 737102.

वन संरक्षक (केंद्रीय)/ Conservator of Forests (C)

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