

F.No.11-29/2004-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003

Dated: 10th February 2005

To

1. The Principal Secretary (Forests),
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(All States)/UTs.

Sub: Diversion of forest land for non-forestry purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980-*Procedure for utilizing the land for approach/exit road to petrol pumps-reg.*

Sir,

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has received several representations regarding applicability of the conditions related to distance of 5 kms. between two petrol pumps, stipulated in its guidelines issued on 15.07.2004. There was a general grievance that commissioning of the petrol pumps had been affected due to coming into force of these guidelines especially in respect of those cases wherein the formalities had already been completed, or the proposals for diversion of forest land for approach road were in final stages of processing at the State level.

After examining the issue holistically in detail, it is clarified that in respect of all those cases where, as on 15.07.2004, formalities had been completed like issuance of Letter of Intent in case of public sector Petroleum Agencies, or in case of private sector Petroleum Agencies any documentary evidence like deposition of NPV/cost of CA, or any other document to show that the case was under process in the respective State, on or before 15.07.2004, the condition of distance of 5 kms. between two petrol pumps with respect to diversion of forest land will not apply.

The Regional Offices should ascertain the admissibility of the proposals for diversion of forest land for approach/exit road to petrol pumps accordingly. The Petroleum Agencies should also take all necessary measures for strict compliance of various conditions stipulated in the guidelines.

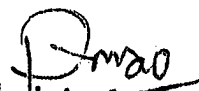
Yours faithfully,

(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Transport Bhavan, Parliament Street, New Delhi.
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum, New Delhi.
3. The Chairman, National Highway Authority of India, New Delhi.
4. Nodal Officers-All States/UTs.
5. All Regional Offices of this Ministry.
6. Director (FC)/AIGs (FC).
7. The CMD, Indian Oil Corporation.
8. The CMD, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited.
9. The CMD, Reliance Industries.
10. File No. 2-1/2003-FC.
11. Guard File.

AIG(S)


(Pankaj Asthana)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests