

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.1486/Section-II/2022/1764447

Dated:01.07.2022

From
The Special Chief Secretary to Government,
EFS&T Department,
A.P.Secretariat,
Amaravati.

To
~~The~~ Inspector General of Forests (Central),
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office,
Green House Complex,
Gopal Reddy Road, Vijayawada-520010 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 12.58 ha of forest land in Compartment Nos. 93, 94, 106, 111, 112, 113 & 114 of Gani RF, Kurnool Division for construction of Integrated Corridor (Laying Transmission Line, Water Pipe Network and Road) from Gorakallu Reservoir to Pinnapuram Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in Panyam (M), Kurnool District in favour of M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited, Hyderabad - Proposal submitted for Forest Clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Reg.

Ref: From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15029/38/2019-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, Dated: 26.12.2021.

I enclose herewith a copy of the letter cited along with statutory proforma proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur, for diversion of 12.58 ha of forest land in Compartment Nos. 93, 94, 106, 111, 112, 113 & 114 of Gani RF, Kurnool Division for construction of Integrated Corridor (Laying Transmission Line, Water Pipe Network and Road) from Gorakallu Reservoir to Pinnapuram Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in Panyam (M), Kurnool District in favour of M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited, Hyderabad.

2. I am to inform that the User Agency i.e., AGM/Director, M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited, Hyderabad has uploaded the subject proposal (Unique No.FP/AP/Others/153264/2022) in the www.parivesh.nic.in web portal for prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980.

(Contd..)

The User Agency has justified that, they have studied three alternative layouts for the project, which are as follows:

In alternative – 1, it is proposed to lift water from the existing Gorakallu Reservoir to the proposed upper reservoir of Pinnapuram PSP. The total length of the pipeline in this alternative is 12.76 km. The pipeline is not crossing any villages / houses. The total area required is worked out to about 21.87 ha. The maximum length of the pipeline about 9.11 km coming in forest area. In this alternative maximum forest area i.e., 16.41 ha is required and private land required is very minimum i.e., 5.47 ha.

In alternative – 2, it is proposed to lift water from the existing Gorakallu Reservoir to the proposed lower reservoir of Pinnapuram PSP. The length of the pipeline in this alternative is too long and is crossing many existing seasonal nala's and main roads. However, the pipeline is not crossing any villages / houses. The pipeline is also crossing the existing Srisailem Right Bank Canal (SRBC) at two locations. The total area required is worked out to about 40.33 ha. The maximum length of the pipeline about 10.12 km coming in forest area. In this alternative, maximum area of 24.26 ha of private land and forest area required of about 16.06 ha is required for the project.

In Alternative – 3, it is proposed to lift water from the existing Gorakallu Reservoir to the proposed lower reservoir of Pinnapuram PSP. The length of the pipeline for pumping water between the existing Gorakallu Reservoir to the proposed lower reservoir of Pinnapuram PSP is about 15.107 km. The topographical profile of this alternative is most suitable to lay the pipeline. The pipeline is crossing few seasonal nallas (very small in size) and 1-2 minor roads. The pipeline is not crossing any villages / houses. The total area required is worked out to about 25.34 ha. The maximum length of the pipeline about 7.92 km coming in forest area. In this alternative, maximum area of 12.76 ha of private land and minimum forest area 12.58 ha is required for the project.

Out of the above alternatives, the user agency has proposed to adopt alternative-3 as it is having least forest land requirement, cost construction and minimal or no hindrance to local population. The User Agency has stated that the requirement of forest land is unavoidable and barest minimum. Regarding the RoFR Certificate, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking stating that the RoFR Certificate is under process and it would be submitted before Stage-I approval and also submitted undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation in non-forest land, NPV and addl.NPV as fixed by the Forest Department.

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3. Further, I am to inform that the District Forest Officer, Kurnool has recommended the proposal in Part-II. The Conservator of Forests, Kurnool has agreed with the information given in Part-II by the District Forest Officer, Kurnool and also recommended the proposal in Part-III. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Andhra Pradesh has recommended the proposal in Part-IV. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh recommend the proposal in Part-V, which is enclosed herewith.

4. I request you to obtain and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 12.58 ha of forest land in Compartment Nos. 93, 94, 106, 111, 112, 113 & 114 of Gani RF, Kurnool Division for construction of Integrated Corridor (Laying Transmission Line, Water Pipe Network and Road) from Gorakallu Reservoir to Pinnapuram Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in Panyam (M), Kurnool District in favour of M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited, Hyderabad, at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,


for Special Chief Secretary to Government

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

The AGM/Director, M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited,
Corp.Office:Plot No.226, Road No.78, Phase-III,
Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana State – 500 096


PART-V

Proposal for diversion of 12.58 ha of forest land in Compartment Nos. 93, 94, 106, 111, 112, 113 & 114 of Gani RF, Kurnool Division for construction of Integrated Corridor (Laying Transmission Line, Water Pipe Network and Road) from Gorakallu Reservoir to Pinnapuram Pumped Storage Project (PSP) in Panyam (M), Kurnool District in favour of M/s. Himachal Infracon Private Limited, Hyderabad.

18.	Recommendation of the State Government	Recommended
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Signature

Name & Designation


CH. S. LALAPATHI RAO, I.F.S.,
Special Secretary to Government
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522238.

Date: 01/07/2022

Place: AMARAVATI