



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, हाउसेड इमारत, जी एस रोड, रुक्मिणी गाँव, गुवाहाटी- ७८१०२२  
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F.No. 3 AS C 040/2021-GHY /967-68

28<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

सेवा में,

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 13.43 ha of forest land for laying of underground Oil & Gas pipeline portion of **Duliajan-Digboi Road** in Upper Dehing Reserve Forest (West Block) under Digboi Forest Division in favour of OIL India Ltd.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government's letter No. FRS.41/2021/65 dated 25.07.2021 and eCF No. 170875/281 dated 16.02.2024 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 30.03.2022 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

In this connection and on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter eCF No. 170875/281 dated 16.02.2024 and No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Pipeline/OIL/Digboi dated 10.02.2025 and its uploading on Ministry's portal on 27.03.2025 and confirmation of compensatory levies amount by NCAMPA vide its letter dated 24.03.2025, **Final Approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 13.43 ha of forest land for laying of underground Oil & Gas pipeline portion of **Duliajan-Digboi Road** in Upper Dehing Reserve Forest (West Block) under Digboi Forest Division in favour of OIL India Ltd, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (2) Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency.

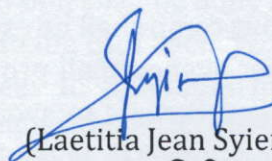
- (3) The Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised and maintained on over double the degraded forest land i.e. 27 ha in compartment No. 44 & 46, Block No 1, Margherita East Range, Digboi Forest Division in Tinsukia district of Assam as per the fund deposited by the User Agency & scheme furnished by the State Govt. 20% of the plantation shall be carried out of indigenous medicinal plant, aromatic plants, shrubs, herbs and trees.
- (4) The charges for felling, logging and transportation of project affected trees should be collected from the User Agency at the rates approved by the State Govt and deposited with the DFO concerned for utilization immediately following the diversion of forest land and State Govt shall intimate immediately about the compliance with respect to the amount deposited as per the undertaking furnished by the user agency.
- (5) 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.
- (6) The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- (7) Overburden shall not be dumped outside the proposed area. The muck, if generated in the earth cutting will be disposed off at the designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be allowed to roll down the hill slopes.
- (8) The muck dumping area shall be stabilized and plantation of suitable species shall be carried out over stabilized dumps on the cost of the user agency under the supervision of State Forest Department.
- (9) The user agency shall provide suitable under / over pass in Protected Area / Forest Area as per recommendations of CWLW / NBWL / FAC / REC, wherever applicable.
- (10) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- (11) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- (12) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
- (13) The User Agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.
- (14) Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Deptt.).

- (15) The User Agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surrounding forests and forest land by their actions/activities.
- (16) 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.
- (17) The user agency will undertake comprehensive soil and water conservation measures at the project cost.
- (18) Tree felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any, shall be done under the supervision of the Forest Department.
- (19) No damage to the flora fauna of the area shall be caused.
- (20) No labour camp shall be established inside the forest area.
- (21) The user agency shall provide fuel wood preferably alternate fuel to the labourers working at the site to avoid damage/felling of trees or buy the fuel wood from the extracted timber from the Forest Department to be used by labourers.
- (22) The user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance under Environment Protection Act, 1986, if applicable.
- (23) The user agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for removal, if any, of the stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land.
- (24) The user agency shall monitor the pipeline at regular interval to ensure safety and to avoid any accident. The user agency shall submit such monitoring reports to the DFO concerned;
- (25) The proposal will be implemented under the overall supervision of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- (26) The layout plan shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- (27) 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.
- (28) 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.
- (29) An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions of the Human-elephant conflict mitigation and conservation management 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 to the concerned Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- (30) The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT

Order(S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project

- (31) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 & Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, guideline & clarification, 2023.
- (32) Any other conditions that the Regional Office, Shillong, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

भवदीय,

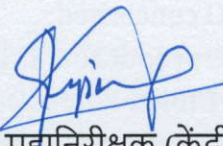


(Laetitia Jean Syiemiong)  
वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

Copy to:

1. प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक/ 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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Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)