

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

Letter No.1073/Section-II/2023/2093229

Dated: 02.06.2023

From
The Special Chief Secretary to Government
EFS&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

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: EFS&T Dept. - Diversion of 2.72 ha of forest land in compartment no.393 of Ravuru RF and compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam in Nellore Division for laying Petroleum pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad–Clearance under Section-2 of F(C)Act, 1980- Requested – Reg.

Ref: From the PCCF & HoFF, Lr.Ref.no.EFS02-15026/2/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated:26.05.2023.

I inform that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, in the reference cited, has stated that the Project Leader, Krishnapatnam-Hyderabad Pipeline Project, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hyderabad has submitted proposal in PARIVESH portal (Online proposal No.FP/AP/Others/144722/2021) for diversion of 2.72 ha of forest land in compartment no.393 of Ravuru RF and compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam in Nellore Division for laying Petroleum pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad. Accordingly, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur Circle, Guntur has processed the proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and submitted the statutory proposal in the prescribed proforma for necessary approval. The details of the proposal are as follows:

i i) The User Agency has furnished the following information in Part-I.

- Forest area to an extent of 2.72 ha is required in compartment no.393, Ravuru RF, Compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam, SPSR Nellore for laying Petroleum Pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad.
- Cost of the project is mentioned as 204600 lakh
- The user agency has justified that, various considerations for alternative routes were explored and the final route selected on the basis of Avoidance of wildlife Sanctuaries, Reserved forest, Mining area and Defence establishment to the best possible. Avoidance rocky marshy and low-lying areas. Safety of people and environment, Easy access to route during construction and operation and the route was selected based on least disturbance to environment, forests, human habitation and aquatic bodies. It avoids National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- The user agency has furnished undertakings for payment of NPV, Addl. NPV, tree extraction charges etc.
- Cost benefit analysis does not arise, as the area proposed for diversion is less than 20 ha(i.e 2.72 ha.)
- No human displacement is involved due to construction of this project.
- No loss of public facilities involved in this project.

(Contd.P.-2)

- Employment will be generated through Contractors & Sub-Contractors during construction and operation.
- The user agency has stated that, clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required.

ii) The District Forest Officer , SPSR Nellore has submitted the following information in Part-II.

- Forest area to an extent of 2.72 ha is required land in compartment no.393 of Ravuru RF and compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam in Nellore Division for laying Petroleum pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad.
- Legal status of the forest is Reserved forest.
- The density of vegetation is 0.4.
- There are 3505 no. of Eucalyptus plantation raised by APFDC ltd. to be felled in the Ravuru RF and the value of the trees is Rs. 14,77,946/- and no tree felling is required except clearing of bushes in Ramayapatnam RF.
- The area is not vulnerable to erosion.
- Approximate distance of the proposed site for diversion from boundary of RFs is 0.3 to 0.5 km.
- The proposed alignment does not form a part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere reserve, Tiger reserve, Elephant corridor etc.
- No Rare / endangered/ unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area.
- No protected archaeological heritage sites / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
- The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is un-avoidable and barest minimum for the project.
- No violation has been carried out by the User Agency.
- The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps are furnished.

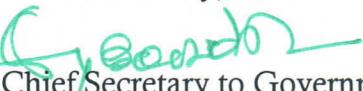
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has stated that the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has inspected the area proposed for diversion on 31.01.2023. The density of the adjacent RFs is 0.4. Copy of site inspection report of the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore is enclosed. Accordingly, in column no. 13 of Part -II, the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has **Recommended**" the proposal. In Part -III, the Chief Conservator of Forests, Guntur Circle, Guntur has agreed with the information furnished by the District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore and Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land. In Part -IV, the Prl. Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) & Nodal Officer, Andhra Pradesh has also Recommended the proposal for diversion of forest land.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, has further stated that as per para 2.5 (i) (f) of Chapter-2 of Comprehensive guidelines issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi in F.No.5-2/2017, FC, dated:28.03.2019, degraded forest land for Compensatory Afforestation has been identified to an extent of 5.48 ha in compartment no.391, Kavali Range, Veerapalli RF, SPSR Nellore which is double the extent of RF proposed for diversion (2.72 ha.). The District Forest Officer, SPSR Nellore has prepared CA scheme to an extent of 5.48 ha for raising Compensatory Afforestation with a financial outlay of Rs.59.90 lakh for a period of 12 years including Advance operations, Maintenance of Nurseries and Raising of Plantations commencement from 2023-24 to 2034-35. Site inspection report, Land suitability certificate of the degraded forest land identified for raising CA is enclosed. The Location map in (S.I) Sheet in 1:50,000 scale, authenticated DGPS maps of degraded forest area are furnished with the proposal.

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force has also stated that as per Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi in F.no.5-2/2017-FC, Dt.28.03.2019, under RoFR Act, 2006, the User Agency has furnished an undertaking to submit RoFR Certificate issued by the District Collector, SPSR Nellore before processing Stage-II.

5. I enclose herewith the statutory proforma proposal along with necessary enclosures duly recommending in Part-V and request you to obtain and communicate the approval of competent authority for diversion of 2.72 ha of forest land in compartment no.393 of Ravuru RF and compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam in Nellore Division for laying Petroleum pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, 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, Mangalagiri, Guntur.

The Project Leader, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited,
264/1, 1st floor, GHB house (above Canara Bank), Road No.10,
Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad-500033.

SC

PART-V

Proposal for diversion of 2.72 ha of forest land in compartment no.393 of Ravuru RF and compartment no.392 of Ramayapatnam in Nellore Division for laying Petroleum pipeline with OFC from Krishnapatnam – Hyderabad in favour of BPCL, Hyderabad.

18.	Recommendation of the State Government	Recommended
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Signature 

Name & Designation
D.P.V. CHALAKATHIRAO, I.F.S.,
Special Secretary to Government
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522238.

Date: 02.06.2023

Place: AMARAVATI