



No.5-ORC320/2017-BHU

26<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

To

The Addl. Chief Secretary,  
Forest & Environment Deptt.,  
Govt. of Odisha,  
Bhubaneswar.

Sub:-

Diversion of 24.424 ha of forest land for construction/laying of LILO of both Circuits of Rourkela – Raigarh 400 KV/DC Transmission Line (2<sup>nd</sup> Line) from existing 765/400 KV Pooling Sub-station at Kenapali, Sundargarh to existing 400 KV/DC Rourkela- Raigarh transmission line at village Majhapara by M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Govt. letter No. 10F(Cons)163/2017-13239/F&E dated 22.06.2017, wherein prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change for diversion of 24.424 ha of forest land for construction/laying of LILO of both Circuits of Rourkela – Raigarh 400 KV/DC Transmission Line (2<sup>nd</sup> Line) from existing 765/400 KV Pooling Sub-station at Kenapali, Sundargarh to existing 400 KV/DC Rourkela- Raigarh transmission line at village Majhapara by M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, was sought in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After due consideration of the proposal by the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and on the basis of decision of Regional Empowered Committee meeting held on 24.07.2017, the in-principle approval for diversion of the said forest land was accorded by Ministry vide this office letter of even number dated 04.08.2017, 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 to grant final approval of the proposal.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the APCCF (Nodal), Odisha vide their letter No.12010/9F(ET)-45/2017 dated 08.07.2019 and uploading of the Stage-I compliance report in Parivesh web portal on 26.07.2019, **Stage-II/final** approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change is hereby granted under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 24.424 ha of forest land for construction/laying of LILO of both Circuits of Rourkela – Raigarh 400 KV/DC Transmission Line (2<sup>nd</sup> Line) from existing 765/400 KV Pooling Sub-station at Kenapali, Sundargarh to existing 400 KV/DC Rourkela- Raigarh transmission line at village Majhapara by M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- ii) Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over to the user agency.
- iii) Additional amount of NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, shall be charged by State Govt. from the user agency.

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- iv) Compensatory Afforestation shall be raised over 48.84 ha of degraded forest land identified in Palsani Dongar RF of Padmapur Range under Bargarh Forest Division. Further, as proposed by the State Govt. additional compensatory afforestation shall also be taken up by the Forest Department over 12.213 ha of degraded forest land identified in Lamdunguri PRF of Kolabira Range under Jharsuguda Forest Division. The above compensatory afforestation shall be raised within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of Stage-II clearance and maintained thereafter in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department at the cost of user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
- v) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- vi) The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits.
- vii) The user agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter No.7-25/2012-FC dated 05.05.2014 and 19.11.2014.
- viii) The State Forest Department shall implement the approved scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of local dwarf species (preferably ziziphus species) in right of way under the transmission line. Copy of the scheme shall be sent to Regional Office, MoEF&CC immediately.
- ix) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- x) No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- xi) The user agency shall provide LPG to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
- xii) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for any activity related to the project work.
- xiii) Earth or any material shall neither be brought from nor the debris resulting during construction be disposed of in the adjoining forest area by the user agency.
- xiv) The user agency while executing works, shall not fell any tree or damage forest growth in the surrounding forest area in any manner.
- xv) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other user agency, department or person without prior approval of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- xvi) 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.

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- xvii) The user agency shall submit annual self monitoring report on compliance of stipulated conditions to the Nodal Officer (FCA) of the State and Eastern Regional Office of this Ministry.
- xviii) The State Govt. and user agency shall ensure compliance to provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, NGT Order (s) & Hon'ble Court Order (s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
- xix) Violation of any of these conditions will be dealt as per Para 1.21 (iii) of Chapter-1 of Handbook of Guidelines issued under F.C. Act, 1980 vide Ministry's letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.
- xx) Any other conditions that Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate, from time to time, in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests and wildlife shall be complied by the user agency.

Yours faithfully,

  
(A.K. Jena) 26.7.19

Technical Officer (Forestry)

Copy to:-

1. The Director, ROHQ, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Agni Block, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Addl. PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Govt. of Odisha, Aranya Bhawan, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar.
4. The Divisional Forest Officer, Sundargarh Forest Division, Sundargarh, Odisha
5. The Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, 765 KV/400 KV Pooling Station, At: Kenapali, PO: Kurga, Dist: Sundargarh-770 002, Odisha.
6. Guard file.

  
Technical Officer (Forestry)