Government of Maharashtra

No.FLD-1923/CR-44/F-10 Revenue and Forest Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 032.

Dated: 06.03.2023

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Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Government of India, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

Subject: Forest Land-Pune

Diversion of 0.0440 ha. Reserved Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for replacement of existing tower no.24 of 110 KV Khopoli-Davde-Bhira transmission lie at village Pimpari, Taluka Mulshi, Dist. Pune in the State of Maharashtra.

The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State, Nagpur has submitted proposal for diversion of 0.0440 ha. Reserved Forest land under section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for replacement of existing tower no.24 of 110 KV Khopoli-Davde-Bhira transmission lie at village Pimpari, Taluka Mulshi, Dist. Pune in the State of Maharashtra.

The details of forest land proposed for diversion are as under:-

| Sr. | Item work | District | Name | Taluka | Compt | Survey | Length | Area | Legal |
|--|----------------|----------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|
| No | purpose | | of | | No. | No. | & | (in | Status |
| | | | Village | | | | Width | ha.) | |
| 1 | Replacement | Pune | Pimpari | Mulshi | 141 | 132 | 20 x | 0.0440 | Reserved |
| | of existing | | | | (Part) | | 22 | | Forest |
| | tower no.24 | | | · | | | | | |
| | of 110 KV | | | | | | | | |
| | Khopoli- | | | | | | | • | |
| | Davde-Bhira | | | | | | | | |
| | transmission | | | | | | | | |
| | lie at village | | | | | | | | |
| | Pimpari, | | | | | | | | • |
| | Taluka | | | | | | | | |
| . ' | Mulshi, Dist. | | | | | | | | |
| | Pune | | | | | | | | |
| Total Forest land involved in the project (in ha.) | | | | | | | | 0.0440 | |

2. The Tata Power has proposed to replace Tower No.24 of its 110 KV Khopoli-Davdi-Bhira Transmisson Lines in Pimpari Village. Tower no.24 of the said line in Pimpari Village of Mulshi Taluka has been damaged due to extreme weather conditions

over the years. Due to the towers and tower foundations have got corroded and run the risk of collapse, prolonged interruption to the power supply and possibility of black out to the city of Mumbai. Additionally, due to tower collapse, there is chance of fire hazard and risk to the forest area, life and property in nearby areas.

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3. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pune has certified that:-

- 3.1) No alternate alignment is possible and the forest land required is barest minimum.
- 3.2) The area belongs to Eco-value class-III having density is 0.4
- 3.3) There is no tree felling involved in the project.
- 3.4) The area involved in the project does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Nature Reserve etc.
- 3.5) Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- 3.6) There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
- 3.7) Proposed project distance from Sudhagad Wild Life Sancutary is 0.370 Km & ESZ within 10.00 Km and Tamhini Wild Life Sanctuary is at 2.076 Km.
- 3.8) The non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996.
- 3.9) The proposed project involves Forest Land to the extent of 0.0440 ha. Which is less than 1.00 ha. No tree is required to be felled for the purpose of the extant project. In this context, as per para 2.6 (1) (b) & (e) of the Handbook of FCA, 1980 & FCR, 200 (Guidelines and Clarifications), no compensatory afforestation is to be insisted upon.
- 3.10) No alternative alignment in this project.

4. The User Agency has submitted undertakings:-

- 4.1 to bear the cost of Net Present Value.
- 4.2 to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation.
- 4.3 to submit compliance under FRA-2006.

- 5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur has recommended the proposal subject to the conditions, given in his specific recommendations, under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. His specific recommendations are enclosed in the proposal.
- 6. In the circumstances explained in the aforesaid paragraphs and enclosures, the State Government recommends that the said forest land may be allowed to be diverted subject the conditions proposed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur as well as following additional condition:-

"User agency shall obtain Wildlife Clearance, if required."

The matter may kindly be placed before the Government of India for its approval under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, be obtained and communicated to this Government.

(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the
Government of Maharashtra

Encl: A) Set of case papers

- B) The following documents are enclosed:-
- 1. Prescribed form as per Rules.
- 2. Area Statement
- 3. Commitment from the Applicant for defraying the cost of Net Present Value & Compensatory Afforestation.
- 4. Brief note of the project
- 5. Site Inspection Report.
- 6. Certificate in Part V.

Copy:

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- 1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi
- 2. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Nagpur
- 3. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & C.E.O, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur
- 4. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State Nagpur with reference to his letter No.Desk-17/Nodal/Pune/ID-14073(25)/3029/2022-23, Dt. 09.02.2023.
- 5. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Pune
- 6. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Pune.
- 7. Head Transmission Line, TATA Power Co. Ltd., Mumbai-400001.

Select File (F-10)

Sub: Forest Land-Pune

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PART - V

(To be filled up by the Secretary In charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

1. Recommendation of the State Government

The proposal is recommended vide Government letter No.FLD-1923/CR-44/F-10 Dated:- 06 March, 2023

(Ganesh Jadhao)
Under Secretary to the
Government of Maharashtra

Under Secretary
Revenue and Forests Department
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk
Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya

Mumbai 400 032

Place: Mumbai

Date: - 6 March, 2023