Name of Proposal: Proposal for diverting 1.705 ha. of Forest Land for construction of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line

PART - IV

(To be filled by the Nodal Officer or Principal Chief Conservator of Forests or Head of Forest Department)

17. Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance otherwise of the proposal with remarks. (While giving opinion, the adverse comments made concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon).

Specific recommendation at frincipal Chief Conservator at forests (Head at Forest Force) (Hahazas Hra State, Nagpur is enclosed on page No. 16/A to 16/C

Place:

Dated:

Addt. Principal Energy Conservator of Forests
AName & Designation

MahaOffice Seal Nagpur

Proposal for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur.

Specific Recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State (Head of Forest Force) with regard to acceptance or otherwise of the proposal supported by reasons.

1) The proposal is diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur. The details of forest land proposed for diversion are as under-

Nagpur Forest Division						
Range	Tahsil/ District	Village	Survey no/ Gut No.	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status	
Ramtek	Parseoni/	Mehandi	4	0.356	Zudpi Forest	
Parseoni	Nagpur	Pipla	9	1.349	(Forest Department	
	7 %	Grand Tota	I	1.705 ha		

The proposal has been initiated by Chief Manager, Power Grid, WR-I, Nagpur for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur, sanctioned vide 11/02/2011-PGM (Mouda) Dated 16th September 2013 under section 68 of the Electricity Act-2003. This transmission line is routed through different Tehsils/Villages of Nagpur district in Maharashtra State. In the Nagpur district, the line is routed through Mauda, Parsivni, Kalmeshwar, Saoner, Katol and Narkhed etc.

The proposed work for construction & laying of 400 KV D/C (QUAD) Mauda-Betul (Part-I) transmission line is associated with Mauda Stage –ii (2 x 660 MW) generation project for evacuation of power from IPP in Chhattisgarh. The proposed line will strengthen the western Grid and will provide power to Maharashtra state.

- 2) Density of forest land is less than 0.1 and it is open forest with eco value class-III.
- 3) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur is of the opinion that the forest land required is minimum.
- 4) There are 92 trees (non teak species) in the area proposed for the project in Nagpur Forest Division. Girth class wise abstract is given as under:-

23/30	31/45	46/60	61/75	76/90	91/105	106/120	121/150	Total
cm	cm	cm	cm	cm	cm	cm	cm	
24	29	17	11	4	1	3	3	92

- 5) The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion.
- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur has certified the area of 3.416 ha. from Survey No. 47 of Protected Forest Comptt No. 382 (PF) of Village Sasegaon, Tal. Kuhi, District Nagpur as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Mauda-Betul Transmission line-2 project of Village Mehandi and Pipla, Tahsil Parseoni, District Nagpur is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.

- 7) The proposed area does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, and Nature Reserve etc. as certified by concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur.
- 8) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that the area proposed for construction of 400 KV D/C Mauda –Betul Transmission Line is beyond 10 kms. of the boundaries of the Protected Area (Sanctuary and National Park).
- 9) As per the certificate of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur, the area involved does not affect any monument site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- 10) There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, as certified Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur.
- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur has certified that the non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provisions of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forests 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 dated12/12/1996.
- The User Agency has not submitted the resolution under Schedule tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dweller's (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 duly approved by the District Collector. Which shall be complied before final approval or giving working permission to the project.

In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section -2 (II) of Forest (Conservation) Act- 1980 subject to the following conditions –

- i) The legal status of the land required will remain unchanged.
- ii) Compensatory afforestation will be raised at the cost of the User Agency on 3.416 ha. double degraded forest land in survey No.47, Compartment No. 382 (PF) made available by the forest department.
- iii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the project.
- iv) The User Agency will defray cost of Net Present Value of 1.705 ha. of Forest land as per the latest guidelines of Government of India.
- v) The User Agency will defray the cost of removal of 92 trees in the area proposed for diversion. However, only the required and minimum number of trees will be felled.
- vi) All necessary precautions should be taken to protect the area from fire.
- vii) If in future, the need arises for felling, pruning or pollarding of any standing trees under the transmission line for maintenance, the User Agency shall obtain necessary permission as per existing guidelines.
- viii) The User Agency will defray the additional/revised cost of Net Present Value of forest land as per the latest guidelines of Government of India.
 - ix) The User Agency will seek environmental clearance if required for this project.
 - x) The Project Authority shall submit the certificate duly approved by District Collector as required under Forest Rights Act,-2006 before the final approval or giving working permission to the project.

xi) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) Maharashtra State, Nagpur

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HEAD OF FOREST FORCE), MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR

ADDITIONAL PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND NODAL OFFICER, MAHARASHTRA STATE, NAGPUR, First Floor, 'B' Wing, Van Bhavan, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.

Tel no. (0712) 2530166, 2556916, Fax no. (0712) 2550675 E-mail- apecfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

Sub:- Proposal for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur.

No.: Desk-17/NC/I/I.D- /1510 /15-16 Nagpur - 440 001, Dated: 18 11 2015

To.

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central),

Government of India,

Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change,

Regional Office, Ground Floor, East Wing,

New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur-440001.

Sir,

Chief Manager, Power Grid, WR-l, Nagpur has submitted the proposal for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur. The location of proposed area is as given below –

		Nagpur I	Forest Division		
Range	Tahsil/ District	Village	Survey no/ Gut No.	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
Ramtek	Parseoni	Mehandi	4	0.356	Zudpi
24012114	/ Nagpur	Pipla	9	1.349	Forest (Forest Department
		1.705 ha			

The proposal has been initiated by Chief Manager, Power Grid, WR-I, Nagpur for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur, sanctioned vide 11/02/2011-PGM (Mouda) Dated 16th September 2013 under section 68 of the Electricity Act-2003. This transmission line is routed through different Tehsils/Villages of Nagpur district in Maharashtra State. In the Nagpur district, the line is routed through Mauda, Parsivni, Kalmeshwar, Saoner, Katol and Narkhed etc.

The proposed work for construction & laying of 400 KV D/C (QUAD) Mauda-Betul (Part-I) transmission line is associated with Mauda Stage –ii (2 x 660 MW) generation project for evacuation of power from IPP in Chhattisgarh. The proposed line will strengthen the western Grid and will provide power to Maharashtra state.

Following documents as prescribed in Government Circular, Revenue and Forest Department No.FLD-1081/2041/(A)/F-3, dated 20/03/1982 and according to Government of India's instructions issued from time to time are enclosed in two copies.

1) Prescribed form dated 10/01/2003.

- 2) Certificate regarding minimum demand of forest land for the project,
- 3) Area Statement,
- 4) Index map in suitable scale,
- 5) Density of forest land is less than 0.1 and it is open forest with eco value class-III.
- 6) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur is of the opinion that the forest land required is minimum.
- 7) There are 92 trees (non teak species) in the area proposed for the project in Nagpur Forest Division. Girth class wise abstract is given as under:-

23/3	31/45	46/	61/75	76/90	91/105	106/1	121/1	Total
0 cm	cm	60	cm	cm	cm	20 cm	50	
24	29	17	11	4	1	3	3	92

- 8) The User Agency has submitted an undertaking to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed for diversion.
- 9) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur has certified the area of 3.416 ha. from Survey No. 47 of Protected Forest Comptt No. 382 (PF) of Village Sasegaon, Tal. Kuhi, District Nagpur as alternate land for compensatory afforestation in lieu of forest land required for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Mauda-Betul Transmission line-2 project of Village Mehandi and Pipla, Tahsil Parseoni, District Nagpur is contiguous, suitable for afforestation and management purpose and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances.
- 10) The proposed area does not form part of any existing National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, and Nature Reserve etc. as certified by concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur.
- 11) Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division Nagpur has certified that the area proposed for construction of 400 KV D/C Mauda –Betul Transmission Line is beyond 10 kms. of the boundaries of the Protected Area (Sanctuary and National Park).
- 12) As per the certificate of Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur, the area involved does not affect any monument site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance.
- 13) There is no violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, as certified Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur.
- Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur has certified that the non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provisions of Maharashtra Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forests 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 dated12/12/1996.
- 15) The User Agency has not submitted the resolution under Schedule tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dweller's (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 duly approved by the District Collector. Which shall be complied before final approval or giving working permission to the project.

In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under section -2 (II) of Forest (Conservation) Act- 1980 subject to the following conditions –

- The legal status of the land required will remain unchanged.
- Compensatory afforestation will be raised at the cost of the User Agency on 3.416 ha. (ii) double degraded forest land in survey No.47, Compartment No. 382 (PF) made available by the forest department.
- The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than specified in the project. iii)
- The User Agency will defray cost of Net Present Value of 1.705 ha. of Forest land as per iv) the latest guidelines of Government of India.
- The User Agency will defray the cost of removal of 92 trees in the area proposed for V) diversion. However, only the required and minimum number of trees will be felled.
- All necessary precautions should be taken to protect the area from fire. vi)
- If in future, the need arises for felling, pruning or pollarding of any standing trees under the vii) transmission line for maintenance, the User Agency shall obtain necessary permission as per existing guidelines.
- The User Agency will defray the additional/revised cost of Net Present Value of forest land viii) as per the latest guidelines of Government of India.
 - The User Agency will seek environmental clearance if required for this project.
 - x) The Project Authority shall submit the certificate duly approved by District Collector as required under Forest Rights Act,-2006 before the final approval or giving working permission to the project.
 - xi) All other conditions as may be mandatory under relevant Acts, Rules and guidelines shall be complied with by the user agency.

It is therefore, requested that Government of India may kindly be moved for approving the proposal for diversion of 1.705 ha. forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act-1980 for construction and laying of 400 KV D/C Mauda-Betul Transmission line from Mauda substation Village Mehandi and Piple Tal. Parseoni, Dist. Nagpur. under section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Encl.:- Proposal 2 copies

Yours faithfully,

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests

& Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur.

Copy submitted to The Secretary (Forests), Revenue & Forest Department. Mantralay, Mumbai-400032 for information.

Copy to Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Nagpur for information.

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nagpur Division, Nagpur for information.

Copy to Chief Manager, Power Grid, WR-I, Nagpur for information.