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Government of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)
OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
JAMMU WEST CIRCLE, RAJOURI

Full Title of the Project :- Diversion of 39.06 Ha of forest land for Sawalkote HE Project (1856 MW) NHPC Ltd in Mahore Forest Division.
Proposal No. :- FP/JK/HYD/150591/2021
Date of Proposal :- 31-12-2021

SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF CF

1. A proposal from NHPC Limited regarding Sawalkote HE Project (1856 MW) in Mahore Forest Division is recommended by DFO Mahore for diversion of Forest Land under Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for non forestry purpose. The project envisages 39.6 Ha in Mahore forest Division. The site inspection of the spot involved in the proposal has been done by the undersigned at Panchari, Udhampur and also from Siddu Village on 30.01.2024.
2. The requirement of the forest land and felling of trees as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 part -I is unavoidable.
3. No Rare Endangered species of Flora and Fauna were found in the area during the visit. However, as per working plan the area namely Leopard (Panthera pardus) ,Khaleej Pheasant (Lophurus leucomelana), White Backed Vulture (Gyps bengalensis), Himalayan Griffon Vulture (Gyps himalayensis) other Wildlife found in the area is Rhesus Macaque (Macaca mulatta), Common fox (Vulpes vulpes), Jackal (Canis aureus), Grey Jungle Fow (Gallus), Goral (Nanoceros goral) etc.
4. Defence Establishment at Maitra is located along the current alignment. The establishment will be shifted to other side.
5. Whether, site, where the forest land involved is located has been inspected by the Conservator of Forests. (Yes).
6. Whether site, the concerned Conservator of forests agree with the information given in Part- B and the recommendations of the Divisional Forest Officer (Yes).

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS: -

The proposal may be accepted as per guidelines of Govt of India as the Forest Land proposal for diversion of 39.6 Ha in Mahore Forest Division, of District Reasi of Forest Land as essentially required for Sawalkote HE Project (1856 MW) in Reasi District of the UT of J&K and is recommended for forest clearance under Forest Conservation Act 1980.

The particular location has been selected after detailed geo-technical and geological studies. The project entails not only hydro power generation in Power deficit region but also to cater to the drinking water requirements along with fulfilling the irrigation demand in the region. This will ensure the overall socio-economic development of different regions of Ramban, Reasi, and Udhampur Districts. The project will also unleash the agricultural potential of the otherwise barren regions and will improve the livelihood opportunities among the local populace.

The site is prone to landslides due to steepness of slope & continuous contact of water with surface. Water is likely to enter lower part of mountains (in contact with water) & induce earth movement.

The area is also seismically active and after construction of the dam it may increase the seismic activities. The user agency need to plan robust mechanism in place for the safety of dam and surrounding area for any unforeseen crisis keeping in view the geological structure of the area.

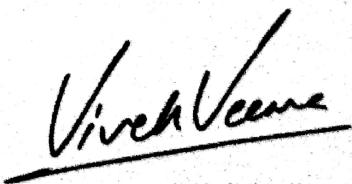
The project may be considered for approval provided the robust CAT plan in consultation with concerned CF and DFO Mahore, CA / Wildlife Management Plan is approved.

The user agency must take concrete measures to ensure that minimum earth movement takes place. Regular inspection by Forest and wildlife officials is a must.

Provision for flexible treatment plans to be decided by concerned DFO & Wildlife officials during the execution of the project must also be kept. The project is expected to maintain a balance between the Environment/Ecology and development aspirations of the country.

No:- CFW-R/FCA /3297

Dated: 31-01-2024



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