

By On-line/e-mail.

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

To

Dr. H. Malleshappa, I.F.S.,  
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department),  
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,  
Chennai - 600 015.

The Principal Secretary to Government,  
Environment and Forests Department,  
Secretariat,  
Chennai 600 009.

C.No. TS3/11384/2017 Dated: 03.05.2018.

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri RF of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2- Online Submission of proposal by the User Agency - Regarding.

- Ref: 1 Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2 represented by Executive Engineer / Civil, Transmission Projects, TANGEDCO, A-10, Thiru. Vi. Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai 32 - Proposal No. FP/TN/TRANS/23761/2017.
- 2 Part II of Form A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division, Kancheepuram on 16.06.2018 and re-submission of proposal on 15.12.2018 and Revised Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division on 09.03.2019
- 3 Part III of Form A uploaded by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai on 14.08.2018 and re-submission of proposal on 27.12.2018 and Resubmission of proposal and EDS reply of Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle on 03.04.2019
- 4 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Ref. No. TS3/11384/2017. Dated 24.08.2018 & 15.11.2018 & 06.02.2019

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I wish to state that, in the reference 1<sup>st</sup> cited above, Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2 represented by Executive Engineer / Civil, Transmission Projects, TANGEDCO, A-10, Thiru. Vi. Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai 32, has submitted online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 6.026 ha of forest land in Paranur RF and Thirutheri RF of Chengalpattu Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2.

2) The User Agency has requested diversion of forest area for a period of 30 years.

3) The User Agency has submitted following details / undertakings along with the proposal.

i) Note containing justification for locating the project in forest area and no alternate suitable non forest land is available for the project.

ii) Location map of the proposed diversion of forest area in kml file of google earth has been up-loaded

iii) Scanned copy of Survey of India toposheet indicating boundary of forest land proposed to be diverted.

iv) Scanned copy of Geo referenced location map along with GPS reading of the proposed diversion of forest area for formation of road marked in the google earth.

v) Undertaking to deposit the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently.

vi) Undertaking to pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed by the guidelines of Supreme Court of India.

vii) Undertaking to bear the additional amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed by the guidelines of Supreme Court of India as fixed by Forest Department in future.

viii) Undertaking to pay the cost towards lease rent as fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the forest land to be diverted of the above project.

ix) Certificate to effect that no violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 occurred.

x) Undertaking to bear the cost along with any escalation for exploitation of trees in lieu of forest land to be diverted to the project.

xi) Certificate from the Project authority (User Agency) that demands for forest land for the project is minimum.

xii) Certificate to effect that no suitable alternative non forest land is available for the project.

xiii) The User Agency has uploaded certificate obtained from the District Collector stating that, there is no suitable and technically approved alternate non-forest land available for the project.

xiv) The User Agency has uploaded certificate issued by the District Collector about completion of process for settlement of rights under Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the forest land proposed for diversion.

4) After getting additional essential details from the User Agency, the proposal was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division on 23.11.2017 for necessary follow up action.

5) The District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division, Kancheepuram has submitted the proposal with rectification of defects and additional details called for on the proposal along with his Site Inspection report and recommendation of the proposal to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai on 16.06.2018 and resubmitted the proposal on 15.12.2018 & 09.03.2019

6) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle, Chennai has forwarded the proposal on 14.08.2018 and resubmitted the proposal with EDS reply on 30.10.2018, 27.12.2018 & 03.04.2019 and furnished hard copies of the report.

7) The User Agency has submitted proposal for diversion of 6.026 ha of forest land in Paranur RF and Thirutheri RF of Chengalpattu Forest Division for

erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli.

The District Forest Officer has reported that, initially the user agency submitted proposal for diversion of 6.026 ha of forest land in Paranur RF (0.966 ha) and Thirutheri RF (5.06 ha) for erection of 230 Kv transmission line. During inspection on 05.02.2018, it was suggested to the Assistant Engineer TNEB to shift the location of tower No. C 56/0 out of Paranur RF, since it was on the boundary area of RF. Accordingly, the Assistant Engineer agreed for the suggestion and the Executive Officer in his letters dated 03.09.2018 & 12.10.2018, shifted the tower location No. C 56/0 to nearby lake of non-forest area and submitted a report that their revised requirement of forest land is 5.06 ha in Thirutheri RF in which 5 towers will be erected. Accordingly, the area required for the project-diversion of forest area revised to 5.06 ha and corrected site inspection report has also been uploaded.

8) The District Forest Officer has uploaded detailed CA scheme for the project along with abstract of the scheme. As per Government of India guidelines, Compensatory Afforestation work has to be taken up in the non-forest area with 7-10 years of maintenance. In the CA land, 1000 seedlings per ha of diverted forest area has to be planted. Minimum of 5060 seedlings has to be planted for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest area proposed for diversion in the identified 10.12 ha of degraded forest area.

As per abstract of CA scheme uploaded, the District Forest Officer has proposed CA scheme for planting of 6325 seedlings planting in the 10.12 ha of CA degraded forest area identified for the project with maintenance of plantation for 10 years in the Appur RF of Kancheepuram Division.

Detailed CA scheme proposed including planting of dwarf species in the transmission path and protection of diversion area and CA scheme area is for Rs. 6,10,17,770/-

9) The District Forest Officer has uploaded the site suitability certificate of proposed CA Scheme land of degraded forest area in Appur RF.

10) In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer has furnished following particulars.

i) The District Forest Officer has reported that, density of the forest area is 0.30 and Eco class four.

ii) The District Forest Officer has furnished the list of trees available in the project area and stated that there are 214 numbers of trees are existing in the proposed diversion area, which are required to be felled before taking up the project. In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has stated that the plantation available along the stretch of the transmission line is manmade plantations and there is no spontaneous growth along the transmission line.

iii) The District Forest Officer has reported that, Wild pig, Mongoose, Peacock are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.

iv) The forest area proposed for diversion is not forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor, Wildlife migration corridor etc., and not located within 1 km boundary of NP/WLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion and not located within the eco-sensitive zone of the protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

v) There is no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.

vi) There is no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

vii) Requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project and no work in violation of the Act or guidelines has been carried out.

11) In the site inspection report, the District Forest Officer has stated that, he Inspected the proposed site for erection of this transmission line which falls in Thirutheri RF of Chengalpattu Range on 01.06.2018.

The proposed area is a linear stretch of RF land to a length of 1100 mts and a width of 35 mts (revised to 46m based on Government of India guidelines) on the North Western part of Thirutheri RF. Five towers are to be erected in this stretch inside the RF. There is no any water body along the stretch of the proposed

transmission line. The project of erection of 230 kv DC transmission line is very important to ensure reliable electricity supply generated from Neyveli Thermal Power Station to Kancheepuram District to meet the growing demand of power in Kancheepuram District.

This diversion is proposed for a project which may lead to the industrial development of Kancheepuram District. Diversion of the particular stretch may not cause much disturbance to wildlife and will not adversely affect eco system.

The plantations available along the stretch of the transmission line are manmade plantations and ascertained that there is no spontaneous growth available along the transmission line.

12) Taking in to the consideration of above facts, the District Forest Officer has recommended the proposal submitted by the User Agency for diversion of forest land in Thirutheri RF.

13) The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle has also inspected the site on 21.06.2018 and stated that considering the importance to meet the growing power needs in Kancheepuram District, the Chief Conservator of Forests has also recommended the proposal.

14) The User Agency has requested forest area diversion for a period of 30 years. The District Forest Officer, Kancheepuram Division has not indicated any time frame for diversion of forest land in the web portal. However in the EDS reply section, the District Forest Officer has reported that forest area diversion has been recommended for 30 years and component of protection mazdoor below the transmission line has also been included for 30 years.. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle has recommended the forest area diversion for a period of 20 years

Based on the recommendation made by the District Forest Officer and provision of protection mazdoor below the transmission line, diversion of forest land has been recommended for a period of 30 years.

15) Based on recommendations made by the District Forest Officers and Chief Conservator of Forests, the proposal is recommended subject to the following conditions.

- a) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- b) The demarcation of the proposed forest land shall be carried out by the User Agency by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at their cost.
- c) The User Agency has to pay the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation, protection of plantation etc., as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently.
- d) The User Agency has to pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- e) The User Agency has to bear the additional amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as fixed by Forest Department in future.
- f) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards lease rent as fixed by the Forest Department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the forest land to be diverted of the above project in future for the entire project period.
- g) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards felling and transportation of trees in the proposed forest area division area.
- h) Period of lease can be thirty (30) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before six months of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

16) The proposal is sent herewith duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation Act)/ Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 of the State of Tamil Nadu. I request that the proposal may kindly be considered and Government of India approval may please be obtained for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 Kv DC transmission line from

Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli by Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limitd, Chennai-1 for a period of 30 years.

Encl : As stated above.

Yours faithfully

  
for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department)

6/5/2016



Proposal No. FP/TN/TRANS/23761/2017.

Proposal for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserved Forests in Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 Kv DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) in Kancheepuram District - Online proposal Submission by the User Agency ie., Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited (TANGEDCO), Chennai-2.

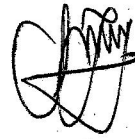
PART - IV

(To be filled in 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 of otherwise of the proposal with remarks
	(While giving opinion, the adverse comments made by concerned Conservator of Forests or Deputy Conservator of Forests should be categorically reviewed and critically commented upon)

— Recommended —

Signature :



Name, Designation :

**Principal Chief Conservator of Forests**  
(Forest Conservator Act)  
S/o PCCF (HoD), Chennai-600 016.

Date : 03.05.2019

Place: Chennai