

**Full title of the Project:** Diversion of Forest Land for construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane & Nasik Districts of Maharashtra State

**File No.:** FP/ MH/HYD/153240/2022

**Date of Proposal:** 06/03/2022

(Sr. No. 18 of Checklist)

## SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Sr. No.	Items	Observations and Remarks									
1	Name of the Project and location	Construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane & Nasik Districts of Maharashtra State									
2	Name of the User Agency	JSW Energy PSP Two Limited, Mumbai									
3	Date of Site Inspection	23/12/2024									
4	Extent (in Ha) and legal status of the Forest Land proposed for diversion	243.74 Ha. Reserved Forest land falling within jurisdiction of Shahapur & West Nasik Forest Division, Maharashtra State. Of which, about 181.45 Ha. is falling within the jurisdiction of Shahapur Forest Division.									
5	a. Details of Forest Land proposed for diversion and activity wise break-up of Forest Land  b. Density-wise Eco-Value Class	<p>Detailed Area Statement of Forest/ Non- Forest land is appended hereto as Appendix- I.</p> <p>Required Total Forest Land: 243.74 Ha. NF: 31.08 Ha. Shahapur Forest Division: 181.45 Ha.; NF: 0 Ha. W. Nasik Division: Forest Land: 62.29 Ha.; NF: 31.08 Ha.</p> <p>Eco-Value Class- I, Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Area</th><th>Category</th><th>Density</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>73.85</td><td>0.2</td><td>Open Forest</td></tr><tr><td>107.600</td><td>0.6</td><td>Dense Forest</td></tr></tbody></table>	Area	Category	Density	73.85	0.2	Open Forest	107.600	0.6	Dense Forest
Area	Category	Density									
73.85	0.2	Open Forest									
107.600	0.6	Dense Forest									
6	Whether the requirement of Forest Land as proposed by the User Agency in Col. No 2 of Part- I is unavoidable and the barest minimum for the project? If no, recommended area item-wise with details with alternatives examined	Yes. The requirement of Forest Land is unavoidable and restricted to the barest minimum.									
7	Whether the area involves construction of building (Including residential) or not. If yes, details thereof.	The project involves construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW). Components of the project are furnished in the Area Statement attached hereto.									
8	a. Whether the Forest Area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not.	A part of project within the jurisdiction of West Nasik Forest Division is falling within the limits of Igatpuri Conservation Reserve.									

	<p>b. Details of any rare or endangered or unique species of flora and fauna found in proposed Forest Land. If so, details thereof.</p> <p>c. Areal distance from nearest boundary of protected area (km)</p> <p>d. Remark about sensitivity of the Forest Area likely to be affected due to the project</p> <p>e. Whether Wildlife Mitigation Plan is required? If yes, reason thereof</p>	<p>No any conspicuous flora and fauna observed or reported so far. Presence of wild animals like hyaena, wolf, jackal, leopard, angulates like Nilgai, Four Horned antelopes, spotted Deer, Barking Deer and numerous species of avifauna in the forest as well as in the revenue areas is not uncommon.</p> <p>The Kalsubai Harishchandra Gad WLS and its ESZ is located 2.21 Kms and 12.5 m. away respectively from the closest point on the boundary of the project. Part of project falling within the jurisdiction of West Nasik Forest Division is coming within the recently declared Igatpuri Conservation Reserve.</p> <p>Insensitive. Forest Area is unlikely to be affected by the project.</p> <p>Yes. Wildlife &amp; Bio-diversity Conservation Plan is approved by the Competent Authority. Copy attached with the proposal.</p>
9	<p>Details of vegetation:</p> <p>a. Total no. of trees to be felled</p> <p>b. No. of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cm.</p> <p>c. No. of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cm.</p> <p>d. Effect of removal of trees on general ecosystem in the area</p>	<p>57646</p> <p>51188</p> <p>6458</p> <p>Loss of tree cover in submergence area is envisaged. However, the CAT Plan is proposed by the Project Proponent will compensate the losses and ameliorate the eco-system.</p>
10	Background Note on the proposal (Short summary)	The project is, principally, a brainchild of Government of Maharashtra. Initially, the proposed site was identified by the Government of Maharashtra. The Government of Maharashtra has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with JSW on 14 <sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021, for facilitating setting up of a Hydro Energy Project in Thane & Nasik districts of Maharashtra State as per existing policy framework.
11	Whether the proposal involves violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980? If yes, detailed report on violation, including action	No work has been carried out in violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

	taken against the concerned officials to be attached	
12	Whether the proposal involves rehabilitation of displaced persons? If yes, whether the Rehabilitation Plan has been approved by the State Government?	The project consists of construction of two dams & reservoirs. A survey & study of the people likely to be affected by the project is being carried out by the Project Proponent and submitted that the claims, if any, will be processed expeditiously in conformity with National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy and applicable laws.
13	Details on Catchment and Culturable Command area under the project (If applicable)  Status of Catchment Area Treatment Plan to prevent siltation of reservoir (If applicable)	The proposed project is a pumped storage project and hence no consumptive use of water has been envisaged for power generation. The proposal envisages creation of two new reservoirs- upper & lower, with a gross storage capacity of 0.436 TMC & 0.468 TMC respectively. Since, the upper reservoir and the lower reservoirs are away from any river course and not located across any major stream, they have negligible catchment draining into the reservoir. However, to comply with statutory requirement, a Catchment Area Treatment Plan has been prepared by the Project Proponent and submitted to the Competent Authority for necessary approval.
14	Utility of the project	The project will provide cheap energy option to the State of Maharashtra and Government of India, which in-turn would be able to provide real time, cheap and clean energy for domestic, agriculture and industrial use.  The project will generate permanent & temporary employment opportunities for the local folks for the decades together. The project will provide ample opportunities of career development to the people, having different skills and expertise, from all over the country. The project will be contributing its resources for socio-economic development of the local area.
15	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural / religious value? Whether any sacred groove or very old grown trees/ forest exist in the areas proposed for diversion?	No
16	Any other important information related to the project (separate note may be attached, if required)	No
17	Details of documents and photographs attached	Annexed hereto as below:  Detailed Area Statement (Appendix- I) and Geo- tagged photographs of Site Inspection (Appendix-

		II)
18	Recommendations of the Inspecting Officer (CCF/CF/DCF)	<p>The project is site specific. The demand made for the Forest Land is the barest minimum and unavoidable.</p> <p>The project is a step towards bringing self- sufficiency in energy sector of the State of Maharashtra and will help reduce the demand- supply gap in the State. The project will help improve the local area infrastructure and socio-economic conditions of the local population.</p> <p>Hence, the proposal is recommended for acceptance.</p>

Date: 01/02/2025

Place:

Shahapur

Office Seal:



  
 Dipesh Malhotra, IFS  
 Dy. Conservator of Forests  
 Shahapur Forest Division  
 Shahapur

**Full title of the Project:** Diversion of Forest Land for construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane & Nasik Districts of Maharashtra State  
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(Sr. No. 18 of Checklist)  
**JOINT INSPECTION REPORT**

**A) Details of Inspection**

1.	<b>Name of Project</b>	:	Diversion of 243.74 Ha. Of Forest Land for Construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane & Nasik Districts of Maharashtra State
2.	<b>Date of Inspection</b>	:	23 / 12 /2024
3.	<b>Inspecting Officer</b>	:	
	a) Forest Department	:	Smt. B. M. POLE Assistant Conservator of Forest (Afforestation & Wildlife) Shahapur
	b) Implementing/ Project Agency	:	(Lalit Parab) Authorized Signatory JSW Energy PSP Two Limited, Mumbai
4.	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	:	JSW Energy PSP Two Limited, Mumbai
5.	<b>Whether work has been started in violation of Forest Conservation Act 1980, if yes officer from implementing agency will furnish the date of commencement of work done and amount spent.</b>	:	No.
6.	<b>Whether the area forms part and National Park, wildlife sanctuary, Nature reserve biosphere reserve etc.</b>	:	No.
7.	<b>Whether rare and endangered habitats of migratory found or in a heading of them if so, give scientific names</b>	:	No
8.	<b>Whether forest area of a habitats of migratory found or in heading for them if so, give scientific name</b>	:	No
9.	<b>Details of existing forest:</b>	:	

	a) Density	:	Area	Category	Density
			73.85	0.2	Open Forest
			107.600	0.6	Dense Forest
	b) Important species	:			
10.	Trees expected to be felled	:	57646		
11.	Other forest produce from the forest involved	:	Nil		
12.	Effect of the proposal expected on	:			
	<b>a) fuel wood supply to rural population</b>	:	Nil		
	<b>b) Economy &amp; livelihood of tribal &amp; Backward community</b>	:	Nil		
13.	Attempts made to find out alternate non-forest land and its result.	:	There is no suitable alternate Non-Forest land is available other than Reserved Forest, Protected Forest & Restored Private Forest Suy. No. 62, 66/2, 66/1, 67/4, 71/1, 71/7, 71/6, 71/2, 70/3, 72/3, 72/2, 70/2, 70/1, 73/2, 72/1, 73/1, 86, 75/1, 75/2, 75/3, 75/4, 75/5, 75/6, 74, 77/1, 77/2, 68/16, 68/14, 68/12, 68/13, 68/6, 68/1, 68/3, 70/4, 67/3, 71/3, 71/5, 69/3, 70/3, 78/1, 78/2, 78/3, 73/1, 76, 80/2 of village Kalbhonde and Suy. No. 40, 51, 53 pt. of village Kothale, Tehsil Shahapur, District Thane ad measuring area of 181.45 ha. for the execution <b>Of Forest Land for Construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane</b>		

**B) INFORMATION RELATED WITH THE FOREST LAND INVOLVED**

1.	Legal Status of forest land	:	Reserved Forest	-	97.92 Ha.
			Protected Forest-	-	9.68 Ha.
			Pending Inquiry Pri. Forest-	-	73.85 Ha.
			Total	-	181.45 Ha.
2.	Location				
	A) Circle	:	Thane		
	B) Division	:	Shahapur		
	A) Range, round, beat, village	:	<u>Range</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Beat</u>
			Washala	Fugala	Kothale
			Dolkhamb	Hinglod	Kalbhonda
					Kalbhonda

	D) Compartment No.	:	-----
3.	Boundaries on 4 sides	:	As follows
	a) North	:	Gut. No.42, Jamunde, Reserved Forest, Nasik Division
	b) South	:	Kalbhonda Private Forest
	c) East	:	Sr. No.53, Kothale, Protected Forest & Sr. No.51, Kothale, Reserved Forest
	d) West	:	Kalbhonda Private Forest
	e) Latitude & Longitude of the proposed land	:	The Latitude & Longitude of the proposed forest land are enclosed on the Village Map.
4.	Vulnerability to erosion whether it from seriously eroded area	:	No.

**B) INFORMATION RELATED WITH THE PROJECT AGENCY**

1.	Description of Project	:	Diversion of 243.74 Ha. Of Forest Land for Construction of Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in Thane & Nasik Districts of Maharashtra State
2.	Benefit expected	:	<p>The project will provide cheap energy option to the State of Maharashtra and Government of India, which in-turn would be able to provide real time, cheap and clean energy for domestic, agriculture and industrial use.</p> <p>The project will generate permanent &amp; temporary employment opportunities for the local folks for the decades together. The project will provide ample opportunities of career development to the people, having different skills and expertise, from all over the country. The project will be contributing its resources for socio-economic development of the local area.. Due to this skilled and unskilled employment to local labours will be available for long time.</p>
3.	Location	:	As per statement
4.	Details of area expected to be used	:	
	a) Non forest area	:	-----
	b) forest area in Hectors	:	<p>Reserved Forest - 97.92 Ha.</p> <p>Protected Forest - 9.68 Ha.</p> <p><u>Pending Inquiry Pri. Forest- 73.85 Ha.</u></p> <p><u>Total - 181.45 Ha.</u><u>Total</u></p>

5.	Unqualified commitment of project official to bear the cost	:	
	a) Exploitation	:	The project Authority agreed to pay the Cost of removal of trees, Compensatory Afforestation, Net Present Value at the prevailing rates and the certificates are enclosed in the proposal.
	b) Compensatory afforestation	:	
	c) Net Present Value	:	
6.	Availability of non forest alternative land	:	Not available.
7.	Any other note worthy features of the area relevant to proposal	:	NIL

Information furnished in this report is correct according to the data available with the Deputy Conservator of Forest, Shahapur Forest Division, and the Project Agency.

Date: 06/02/2025

Place: Shahapur

  
(Lalit Parab)

Authorized Signatory  
JSW Energy PSP Two Limited, Mumbai

  
(B. M. POLE)

Assistant Conservator of Forest  
(Afforestation & Wildlife) Shahapur



