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Site Inspection Report of CCF, Southern Arunachal Circle, Deomali for diversion of 70.214 Ha of forest land for construction of 132 KV S/C Transmission Line from Khonsa to Changlang Net Length 26.005 Km through POWERGRID by Deptt of Power, GoAP as UA.

Proposal No: FP/AR/TRANS/145387/2021
Name of Project: 132 KV SC T/L from Khonsa to Changlang
Date of Inspection: 11.03.2022

The proposal 132 KV SC (on DC Tower) T/L from Khonsa to Longding is a sub-project which is conceived under GOI Project namely "Comprehensive Scheme for strengthening of Transmission and Distribution System in Arunachal Pradesh (a Central Govt. Project funded by GoI being implemented by POWERGRID). The Executive Engineer, Deomali has submitted the Form I on behalf of Deptt of Power, GoAP which is the User Agency and the Project is being implemented by Power Grid Corporation of India through an MoU signed between two.

The total length of 132 KV T/L is 26.005 Km with a RoW of 27 mtr and so total area involved for diversion for construction of transmission line is 70.214 Ha. This total area falls in USF in 2 Forest Divisions under 2 different districts and so the UA has submitted 2 sets of documents to both forest divisions for the areas falling in their respective jurisdictions as below.

S N	District	Forest Division	Break up of USF Area Involved in T/L		
			No of Towers	Km	Area in Ha
1	Tirap	Khonsa	58	21.565	58.225
2	Changlang	Changlang	15	4.44	11.989
Total			73	26.005	70.214

Tower 1 to 58 over a length of 21.565 Km with an area of 58.225 Ha falls under the jurisdiction of Khonsa Forest Division while Towers 59 to 73 over 4.44 Km length with 11.989 Ha area fall in the jurisdiction of Changlang SFD.

As per enumeration list submitted by DFO Khonsa FD the number of trees enumerated is 73 and 601 poles with crown density 0.2 to 0.4 and a total valuation of Rs.2,50,724 including cost of NTFPs. Two blocks of area of 102 Ha and 14.45 Ha in Nogna VFR and in Kolagaon VFR respectively totaling to 116.45 Ha being double the area of 58.225 Ha being diverted has been identified by DFO Khonsa for CA and has given a suitability certificate. The Deputy Commissioner has issued certificate dt. 23.02.2022 under FRA for 58.225 Ha.

As per enumeration list submitted by DFO Changlang FD the number of trees enumerated is 69 and 32 poles totaling to 101 with a valuation of Rs.4,99,494 including bamboo and roofing leaves. An area of 24 Ha for CA against diversion of 11.989 Ha has been identified by DFO Changlang in Namdang RF and has given a suitability certificate.

Division	Area diverted in Ha)	Vegetation		Valuation i/c NTFPs	CA area in Ha	Location
		Trees	Poles			
Khonsa	58.225	73	601	250724	102	Nogna VFR
					14.45	Kolagaon VFR
Changlang	11.989	69	32	499494	24	Namdang RF
TOTAL	70.214	142	633	7,50,218	140.45	

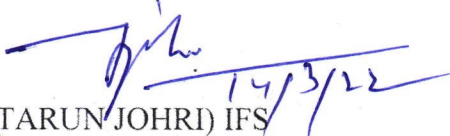
The area was inspected by me on 11.03.2022 along with DFOs Khonsa and Changlang and their staff and POWERGRID officials. From the 132 KVA Khonsa substation in Khonsa township the T/L runs behind hillocks from Tower 1 to 14 passing through USF area which have dense

undergrowth and bamboos but is mostly devoid of trees. The T/L crosses the Khonsa-Changlang road between Tower 16 and 17 (27°00' 27.6" N and 95°32' 33.4" E). Tower 35 is adjacent to CK road around 80 mtr on RHS. Thus, the T/L mostly runs through abandoned jhoom land on hill tops and drops down to the valleys as per topography. Along the route it passes through villages like Bunting, Khela, Lamsa, Laingwang, etc. At some points the T/L crosses the Khonsa-Changlang road from LHS to RHS and vice-versa as per alignment for instance between Tower 53-54 and Tower 58 is the last tower in Khonsa FD from where the T/L enters the jurisdiction of Changlang SFD from Tower 59 to 73. The T/L again crosses the Khonsa-Changlang road between Tower 62-63 and goes on LHS till Tower 73 when it joins the 132/ 33 KV substation at Changlang.

The forest area is having bamboo brakes with evergreen and semi evergreen forests with gentle slope to hilly terrain. Most of the portion is denuded having degraded forest due to shifting cultivation. During inspection, no endangered or threatened wildlife species was noticed in the project site area. The area does not form part of National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary but it falls in USF. The area is not having any unique ecosystem types having conservation value and the implementation of the project will not have any major impact on the flora and fauna of the region. There are no protected monuments, archaeological or heritage sites except an Assam Rifles Headquarter at Khonsa township.

The area proposed for diversion does not appear to be prone to erosion. The commissioning of transmission line will not have any major impact on the local forest ecosystem provided adequate measures of soil conservation for prevention of erosion are taken up during erection of transmission poles. The UA has given an evaluation of three alternate routes for alignment and route 1 is shortest of 26.005 km so is bare minimum but has mentioned in the justification that the land from Khonsa to Longding are totally under forest and avoiding the forest area is not possible.

Since the transmission line is essential for improvement of distribution and transmission of power in the area so the project is recommended for approval.


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