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Site Inspection Report of CCF, Southern Arunachal Circle, Deomali for diversion of 65.256 Ha of forest land for construction of 132 KV SC Transmission Line from Khonsa to Longding Net Length 24.169 Km through POWERGRID by Deptt of Power, GoAP as UA.

Proposal No: FP/AR/TRANS/145383/2021
Name of Project: 132 KV SC T/L from Khonsa to Longding
Date of Inspection: 10.03.2022

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 of Transmission and Distribution System in Arunachal Pradesh (a Central Govt. Project funded by GoI being implemented by POWERGRID). The Executive Engineer 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 24.169 Km with a RoW of 27 mtr and so total area involved for diversion for construction of transmission line is 65.256 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.

SN	District	Forest Division	Break up of USF Area Involved in T/L		
			No of Towers	Km	Area in Ha
1	Tirap	Khonsa	68	20.401	55.082
2	Longding	Kanubari	14	3.768	10.174
Total			82	24.169	65.256

Tower 1 to 67 with an area of 55.082 Ha falls under the jurisdiction of Khonsa Forest Division while Towers 68 to 78 with an area of 10.174 Ha fall in the jurisdiction of Kanubari FD.

As per enumeration list submitted by DFO Khonsa FD the number of trees enumerated is 76 and 915 poles with crown density 0.4 to 0.5 and a total valuation of Rs.2,43,363 including cost of NTFPs. A single compact area of 110.10 Ha being double the area being diverted has been identified by DFO Khonsa in Paniduria VRF for CA and has given a suitability certificate. The Deputy Commissioner, Tirap has issued certificate dt. 23.02.2022 under FRA for 55.082 Ha

As per enumeration list submitted by DFO Kanubari FD the number of trees enumerated is 205 and 18 poles with crown density 0.2 to 0.4 and a total valuation of Rs.11,81,370. An area of 20.348 Ha for CA against diversion of 10.174 Ha has been identified by DFO Kanubari in Longphong-Bonia VRF and has given a suitability certificate. The Deputy Commissioner Longding has issued certificate dt. 28.12.2021 under FRA for 10.174 Ha.

Division	Area diverted in Ha)	Vegetation		Valuation i/c NTFPs	CA area in Ha	Location
		Trees	Poles			
Khonsa	55.082	76	915	243363	110.10	Paniduria VRF
Kanubari	10.174	205	18	1181370	20.348	Longphong-Bonia VRF
TOTAL	65.256	281	933	14,24,733	130.448	

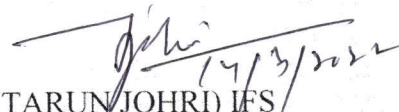
The area was inspected by me on 10.3.2022 along with DFOs Kanubari, Khonsa and their staff and POWERGRID officials. It is seen that the transmission line starts from 132 KVA Khonsa substation in Khonsa township and culminates at 33 KVA substation at Longding (N 26° 56' 0.6" N and 95° 19' 47.2" E) where provision for up-gradation to 132 KVA has been kept. 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 many villages like Luthong, Tupi, Longo, Kapu, etc. At some points the T/L crosses the Khonsa-Longding road from LHS to RHS and vice-versa as per alignment for instance between Tower 27 – 28. Tower 10 is adjacent to main road while Tower 34 is located at Kapu village (26° 58' 06.1" N and 95° 24' 32.8" E). The Tower 67-68 crosses the Khonsa-Longding road and thereafter enters Kanubari Forest Division to reach the last Tower 82. Here also the T/L crosses the Khonsa – Longding road from RHS to LHS once between Tower 76-77 till it reaches the last Tower 82 adjacent to the Longding substation but hardly about 80 meters from the road (26° 56' 0.6" N and 95° 19' 47.2" E) from where it finally enters the substation at Longding.

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 24.169 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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