

No. 5306

H.P. Forest Department.

Dated Nahan, the 30/01/2025

From: DFO Nahan. To: Conservator of Forests,
Nahan Circle, Nahan.

Sub:- Diversion of 2.1379 ha of forest land in favour of Jal Shakti Vibhag, HP for providing Sewerage System to Nahan Town in Distt. Sirmour, HP, within the jurisdiction of Nahan Forest Division Distt. Sirmour H.P. (Online No. FP/HP/Others/148813/2021).

Memo:

Kindly refer Letter No: FC/HPB/9/133/2022 ,1/66408/2024 dated 27.02.2024 Observation raised by Integrated Regional Office Shimla on the subject cited above.

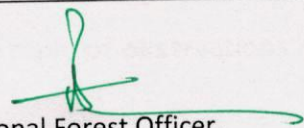
2. In this regard vide above referred letter the point wise reply of observations is given as under:-

Sr. No.	Observations	Reply
	In reply to no. 6 Reply not accepted- since the operation of the STP relies on channels (i.e. the laying of pipes) for sewage inlets and outlets, it is noteworthy that the current proposal does not address this aspect. As such, detail plan for laying of pipelines need to be submitted.	<p>It is intimated by the UA that the three proposed Network are organized as gravity branched system connected to the STPs at the bottom end.</p> <p>Zone 1 This catchment area collects wastewater from the south of the city. Three main trunk sewer lines collect wastewater from the hill to STP1. The network paths of these three routes are shown in red lines with blue, yellow and purple arrows as shown in fig. (kindly refer annexure-1)</p> <p>Zone 2 catchment area collects waste water from the Northwest of Nahan. Five secondary lines collect wastewater from hills and connect to main trunksewer (blue arrows) and then to STP2 (annexure-2)</p> <p>Zone 3 catchment area collects wastewater from Northeast of Nahan. Main routes are highlighted in the red (annexure-3)</p> <p>The wastewater passing through these pipelines will connect at the bottom end to the 3 STPs. Main inlet chambers will be built inside the boundaries of all STPs and treated water with absolute PH value will be released to the nearby Nallah adjacent to outlet (built inside STP boundary).</p> <p>Since technical sanction has not been accorded till yet, as soon as technical sanction will be accorded, exact route of pipelines can be identified. If, final route passes through forest land a fresh proposal of additional land will be submitted separately as per guidelines of MoEF&CC.</p> <p>At the first instance only STPs to be constructed for which specific land has been marked and proposal for these three STPs has been submitted for the approval.</p>

In reply to 19 and 20 REPLY NOT ACCEPTED –the user agency does not provide any technical rationale for the selection of forest land for the proposed STP, nor does it offer a detailed explanation for rejecting the other two examined alternatives failing which the proposal may be rejected considering non site specific. As per guideline para 1.10 under Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023.

It is intimated by the UA the reply of above observation as a (Annexure -04)

This is for your kind information and necessary action


Divisional Forest Officer,
Nahan, Forest Division.

Himachal Pradesh
Jal Shakti Vibhag

NO: JSV-JSDN-WA-(Nahan) FRA/FCA/2024-

8436

Dated:- 21/1/2025

To

✓ The Divisional Forest Officer,
Divisional Forest Office, Nahan,
Distt. Sirmour (H.P.)

Subject: -

Diversion of 2.1379 ha of forest land in favour of IPH Department HP, for providing Sewerage System to Nahan town in distt. Sirmour, within the jurisdiction of Nahan Forest Division, Distt. Sirmour H.P. (online No. FP/HP/Others/148813/2021).

Ref:-

Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FC) O/o Pr. CCF HP Shimla-2 office letter No 48-5571/2021(FCA)dated 31/8/2023.

Dear Sir,

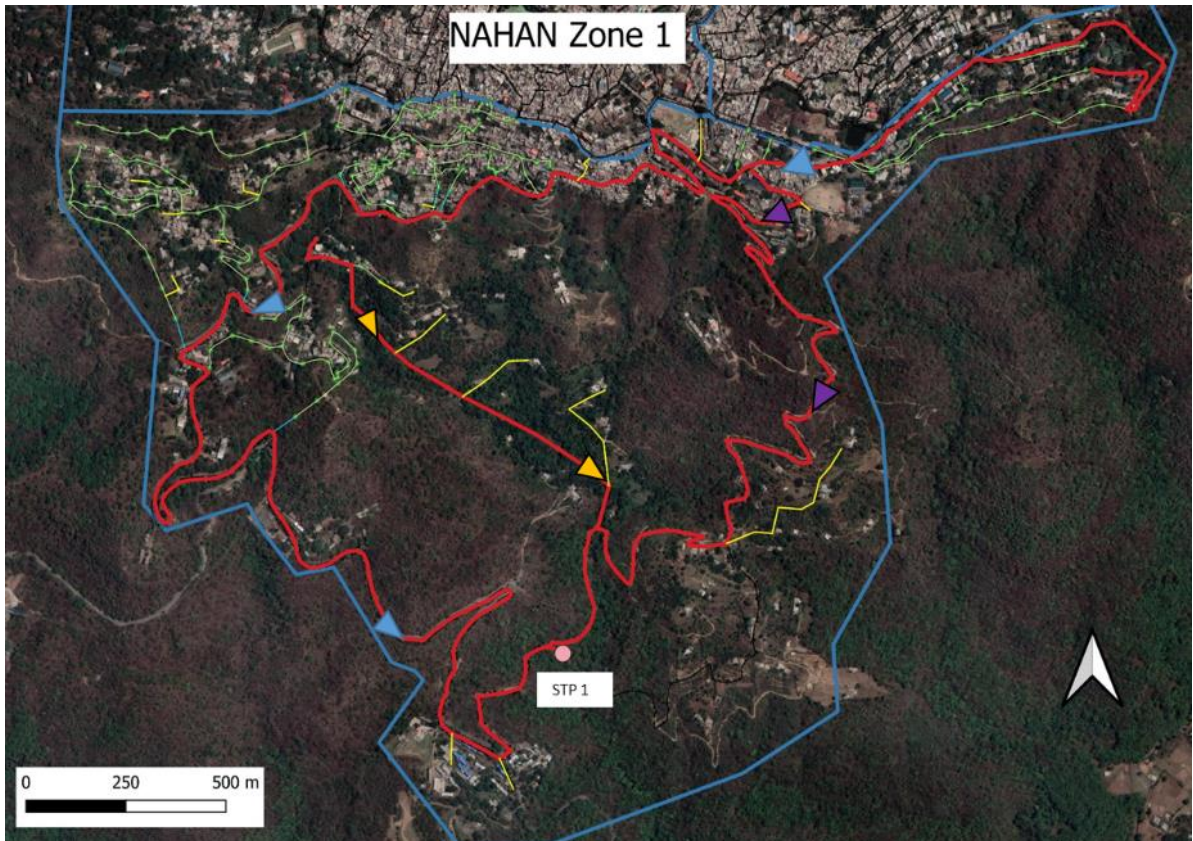
With reference to letter dated 27/2/2024 issued by Sub Office of MoEF&CC, Shimla Office vide which observations have been raised, please find herewith our detailed reply as under:

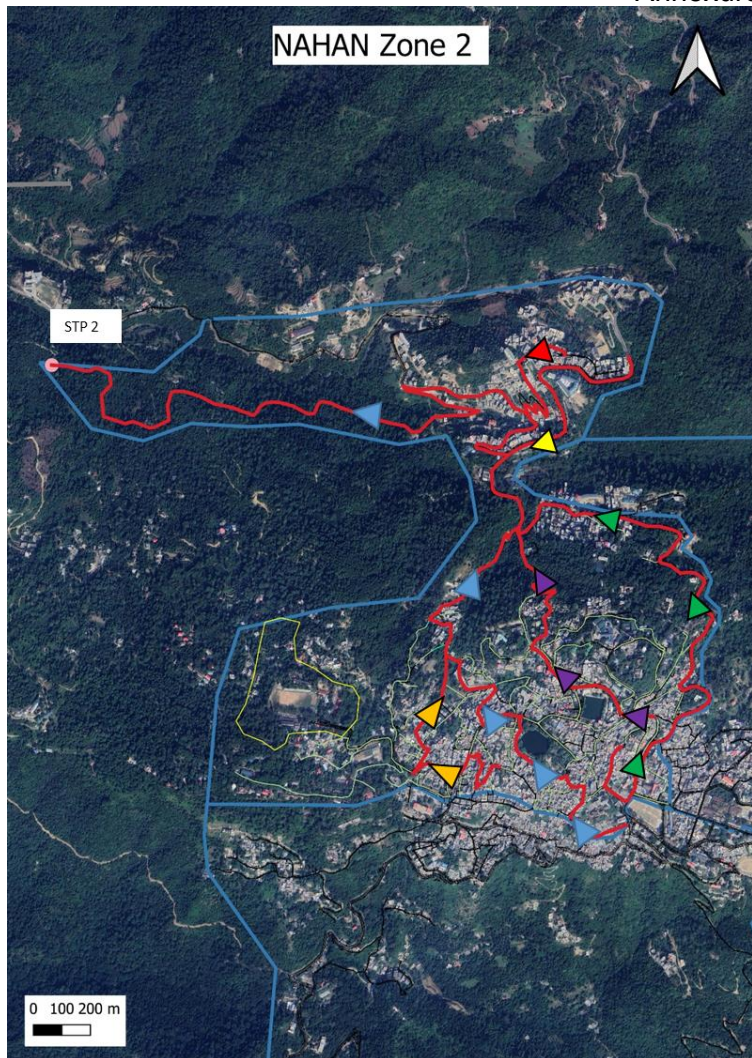
Observation 1:	Reply: -
In reply to no. 6 Reply not accepted- since the operation of the STP relies on channels (i.e. the laying of pipes) for sewage inlets and outlets, it is noteworthy that the current proposal does not address this aspect. As such, detail plan for laying of pipelines need to be submitted.	<p>The three proposed Network are organized as gravity branched system connected to the STPs at the bottom end.</p> <p>Zone 1 This catchment area collects wastewater from the south of the city. Three main trunk sewer lines collect wastewater from the hill to STP1. The network paths of these three routes are shown in red lines with blue, yellow and purple arrows as shown in fig. (kindly refer annexure-1)</p> <p>Zone 2 catchment area collects waste water from the Northwest of Nahan. Five secondary lines collect wastewater from hills and connect to main trunksewer(blue arrows)and then to STP2 (annexure-2)</p> <p>Zone 3 catchment area collects wastewater from Northeast of Nahan. Main routes are highlighted in the red (annexure-3)</p> <p>The wastewater passing through these pipelines will connect at the bottom end to</p>

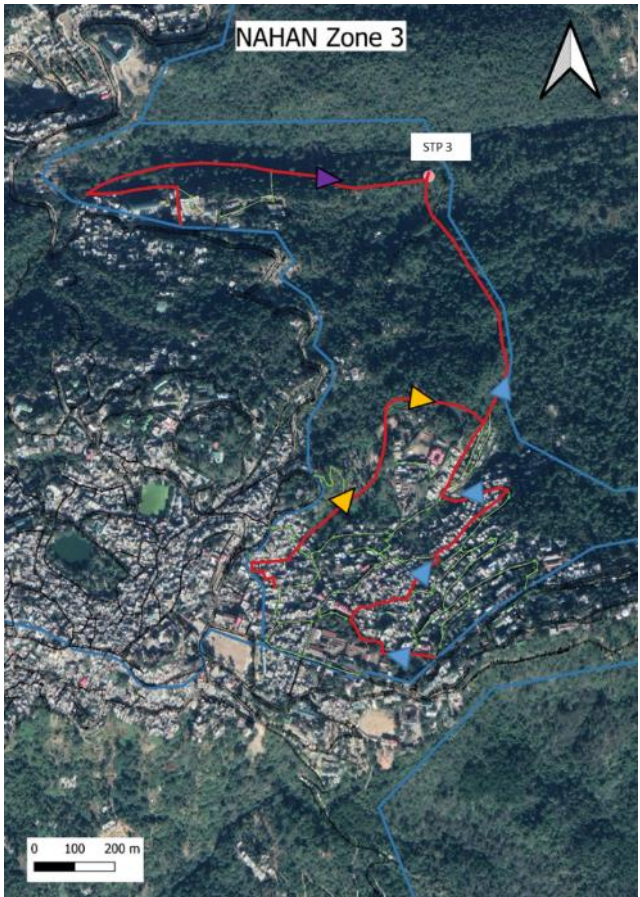
	<p>the 3 STPs. Main inlet chambers will be built inside the boundaries of all STPs and treated water with absolute PH value will be released to the nearby Nallah adjacent to outlet (built inside STP boundary).</p> <p>Since technical sanction has not been accorded till yet, as soon as technical sanction will be accorded, exact route of pipelines can be identified. If, final route passes through forest land a fresh proposal of additional land will be submitted separately as per guidelines of MoEF&CC.</p> <p>At the first instance only STPs to be constructed for which specific land has been marked and proposal for these three STPs has been submitted for the approval.</p>
<p>Observation 2:- In reply to 19 and 20 REPLY NOT ACCEPTED – the user agency does not provide any technical rationale for the selection of forest land for the proposed STP, nor does it offer a detailed explanation for rejecting the other two examined alternatives failing which the proposal may be rejected considering non site specific. As per guideline para 1.10 under Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules,2023.</p>	<p>Please refer to (Annexure -04)</p>

Therefore, it is requested that please take further action in the subject matter.


Executive Engineer,
Jal Saniti Division, Nahan







ANNEXURE -04

(Reply to Observation 02)

Reply: -Site location for construction of STPs is a major issue all over Himachal Pradesh as there is scarcity of non-forest land as 68.16% of its land is forest land, 1952 Notification regarding waste land and current legal status of land (jungle –jhari). The proposed sites to construct 3 STPs within the vicinity of Nahan Town have been identified on the basis of following background: -

Topography:- The town of Nahan divided into 13 wards is located on a rounded hill. The sewerage network has been designed in a way that there are three catchment areas having gradient towards lower points of the city that are located near rivers in order to facilitate treated water discharge.

The boundaries of the three catchment basins are adjusted to align with the topographical survey performed. The entire system is then divided into three different zones for 13 wards after reviewing city zones and adjoining areas which are to be included. Each zone will have separate STP keeping in view the size and structure of the sewerage network, new NGT guidelines and MOEF standard.

Design Methodology: -- The overall design of the sewerage scheme of Nahan has been examined with regard to:

- The general configuration of the sewerage network
- The number and location of the sewerage plant
- Optimizing the network

Technique Used: -The preferred technical solution to put in place is the Gravity Solution even though it requires more construction cost and pipe length. Gravity solution will be in line with gravity solutions for drainage which are likely to be the basis of design during future development. The comparative analysis recommends a collective system for Nahan Town which requires such gravity-based piping network.

Locations of 3 STPs were confirmed and finetuned during implementation of topographical surveys. Three different STPs were considered based on the corresponding flows coming from the three different zones.

Various alternative locations were identified and final locations were optimum combination of various factors such as difficulties in land acquisition, size of land, topography of the land and feasibility of a gravity route sloppy terrain.

STP 1 SITE: - STP 1 site as validated is located on the southern part of Nahan close to a Nala located in forest land. Alternative locations were explored in this vicinity but were not found suitable due to sloppy terrain and dense forest. Topography of the land was not suitable for the feasibility of a gravity route.

STP 2 SITE: - STP 2 site location finalized on the northern west part of Nahan town which is a Revenue Land (jungle jhari) and requires approval under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

Alternative sites were explored. One site was on private land and was abandoned due to its' smaller size although NOC had been received for this land.

Second alternative was identified in the south direction of the proposed site. It was at a higher elevation. It appears to be quite steep for a STP construction and would require intensive land development, thus not suitable.

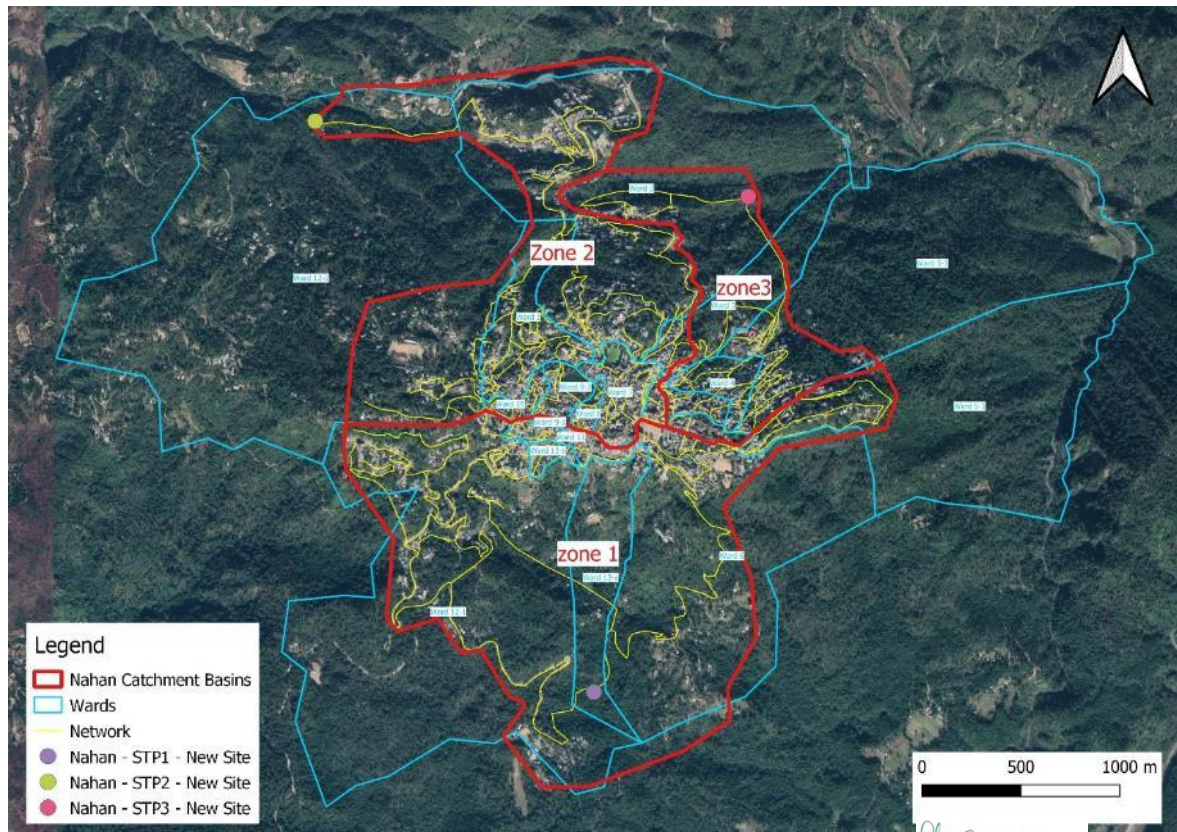
STP 3 SITE:- STP 3 site is located on the northern east part of Nahan and serves the zone 1. As this land is under the possession of Municipal Committee Nahan, much preference was given to chose this land for STP which fulfils all the required criteria as compared to other alternative sites.

Clarification on the site specificity of small public utilities project-

Based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, the Central Govt., in furtherance to guidelines incorporated under para 1.10 of Chapter-1 of the Consolidated Guidelines issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam 1980 and Rules made thereunder, hereby clarifies that the legitimacy of the requirement of a public utility with no viable alternatives, make such proposals as site-specific and use of forest land inescapable and accordingly the concerned Regional Offices of the Ministry should ascertain the legitimacy of a public utility projects as non-site specific or site-specific in light of justification provided by the state/UT. Proposal found to be site-specific for want of viable alternatives should be considered on their merits by the concerned Regional Office (annex).

In light of the above technical rational clarifications for selection of land for 3 nos STPs and clarification on site specificity with no viable alternatives, proposal for construction of 3 nos STPs can be considered.


Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division, Nahan.



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi - 110003
Dated: September, 2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Clarification on the site specificity of small public utilities project vis-a-vis diversion of forest land - reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh' s letter No. Ft.48-66/2019 (FCA) dated 08.06.2024 on the above mentioned subject. In this connection, it is to inform that the matter relating to site specificity of small public utility projects was considered and deliberated by the Advisory Committee (AC), in consultation with the Regional Offices and Nodal Officers of the States, in its meeting held on 27.08.2024. The detailed minutes of the said meeting and recommendations of the Advisory Committee may kindly be accessed at <https://parivesh.nic.in>.

Based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and approval of the same by the competent authority of the MoEF&CC, New Delhi, the Central Government, in furtherance to guidelines incorporated under para 1.10 of Chapter-1 of the Consolidated Guidelines issued under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980 and Rules made thereunder, hereby clarifies that legitimacy of the requirement of a public utility with no viable alternatives, make such proposals site-specific and use of forest land inescapable and accordingly, the concerned Regional Offices of the Ministry should ascertain the legitimacy of a public utility projects as non-site specific or site specific in the light of justifications provided by the State/UT. Proposals found to be site-specific for want of viable alternatives should be considered on their merits by the concerned Regional Office in accordance with the provisions of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam, 1980.

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority of the Ministry.

Signed by

Charan Jeet Singh

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'E'

To

Date: 24-09-2024 14:00:42

The Dy Director General of Forests (Central),
All Regional Offices of MoEF&CC

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretary/Addl. Chief Secretary (Forests), All State

- Governments/Union territory Administrations
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and HoFF, All State Governments/Union territory Administrations
 3. Nodal Officer (Van Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan), O/o PCCF, All State Governments/Union territory Administrations
 4. Monitoring Cell, Forest Conservation Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi
 5. Guard File