

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From

Dr.V.K.Melkani, IFS
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force-FAC)
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,
Chennai - 600 015.

To

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

C.No. TS4 / 24325/ 2015, Dated: 11.12.2015

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Dindigul Circle / Dindigul Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.301 ha of forest land for OHT Electricity Service by erection of 22 KV Underground cable on the road from Agasthiyapuram to Thenmalai in Thenmalai habitation, Sirumalai, Dindigul - Online proposal Submission by the User Agency ie., Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul- Regarding.

Ref: 1.Online application uploaded by the User Agency - Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle, Angunagar SS Complex, Meenakshinayakenpatty (Po), Dindigul - (FP/TN/VELEC/14301/2015).
2.DFO,Dindigul Division, Dindigul Ref.No.5380/2015 D1 Dtd 2.11.2015.
3. Conservator of Forests, Dindigul Circle, Dindigul C.No.3233/2015 D/Dt.20.11.2015.

The Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul Electricity Distribution Circle, Dindigul has furnished online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.2712 ha of forest land of Sirumalai Reserved Forests of Dindigul Division of Dindigul Circle.

The User Agency has uploaded the proposal in the prescribed format of Form A - Part I - under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of fresh forest area in the Online Submission and Monitoring of Forests Clearances Proposal (OSMFCP) portal.

The User Agency has proposed forest area diversion for a period of year (A.I.x of proposal format) **25 years**

The User Agency has furnished the following details / undertakings along with the proposal.

1) Form-A, Part-1 for seeking prior approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. (New online form)

2) Short narrative of the proposal for which the forest land is required as detailed below (As required vide A-1 (iii) of proposal format).

For erection of 22 KV HT Transmission line to a distance of 5.52 km from Agasthiyapuram to Thenmalai along the edge of the existing road (3 km Under Ground cable and 2.812 km Over head line.

3) Location map of the proposed diversion of forest area for formation of road in kml file of google earth up-loaded (Section C of Maps-C.ii-b)

4) Geo referenced location map of the proposed diversion of forest area for formation of road marked in the google earth up-loaded (Section C of Maps-C.iv)

5. Justification for locating the project in Forest area:

The Collector has certify that the erecting the 22 KV Overhead line to a distance of 2.812 kms through Revenue and Private land and erection of 22 KV Under Ground cable to a distance of 2.712 kms through Forest land from Agasthiyapuram to Thenmalai Uradi is required, for effecting the 1 No OHT Service to the President Sirumalai Panchyat for meeting Drinking Water Supply requirement of to Sirumalai Panchyat as **there is no other alternate route available.**

6. The User Agency has furnished the following undertaking certificates

(i) The User Agency department is ready to pay the Compensatory afforestation cost 7 to 10 year's maintenance as fixed by the Forest Department.

(ii) The User Agency department is prepared to pay the lease rent as fixed by the Forest Department for the area 0.2712 ha to the diverted land for the above project.

(iii) The User Agency Department is ready to pay the value of cost of trees to be felled while implementing the project as fixed by the Forest Department.

(iv) The User Agency department is prepared to pay the net present value as fixed by the forest department for the area 0.2712 ha of land to be diverted for the above project.

(v) Any other condition and amount is fixed, The User Agency Department is ready to pay the forest department.

(vi) Forest Rights Act, 2006 Certificate issued by the District Collector of Dindigul on 02.09.2015 has been uploaded in the proposal.

(vii)) Undertaking to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently for Raising Compensatory Afforestation and maintenance of Compensatory Afforestation

(viii) Undertaking to bear the additional 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.

(ix) Undertaking to bear the cost along with any escalation for exploitation of trees in the forest land to be diverted to the project and cost of Compensatory Afforestation as fixed by the Forest Department.

(x) 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.

(xi) Certificate to effect that no violation of the provision of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 occurred has been furnished.

7. The user agency has stated that the Project is benefiting the public for more than 300 families at Thenmalai (Urađi) habitations in Sirumalai village in Dindigul District.

8. The User Agency has certified that an area of 0.2712 ha of forest reserve land in Sirumalai required for TNEB is minimum for the above work.

9. After getting additional details from the User Agency, the proposal was forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Dindigul Forest Division, Dindigul.

10. After field inspection, the District Forest Officer, Dindigul Division and the Conservator of Forests, Dindigul Circle have forwarded the proposal.

11. The District Forest Officer, Dindigul Division has reported that the proposed site has been inspected by him on 12.10.2015 along with the Forest Range Officer, Sirumalai and the TNEB officials and the proposals have been uploaded in the Forest Clearance web portal. The District Forest Officer, Dindigul Division has recommended the proposal in the Part II format proposal.

12. The proposed site was once again inspected by the District Forest Officer along with the Conservator of Forests, Dindigul Circle, Dindigul Sirumalai Range staff and Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul on 31.10.2015. The Conservator of Forests in his site inspection report dated 31.10.2015 has stated as follows.

'As per the proposal of the user agency, the 2 bits of cable length proposed for laying is 618 m and 2094 m. During site inspection, the length

of the 1st bit was found to be 844 metre (Starting GPS reading N 10.22204 E 077.98066 – Ending GPS reading: N 10.21506 E 77.98285). TANGEDCO has proposed laying of underground cable along the left margin of existing road. During site inspection, at a distance of 593 metre (GPS reading N 10.21724 E 77.98266) from the starting point, presence of continuous rocky terrain was observed on the left side of the road. The feasibility regarding laying of underground cable in the rocky area was discussed with Executive Engineer, TANGEDCO, The Executive Engineer has proposed that the cable would be taken across the road and laid for the remaining distance along the right margin of existing road. The length of the 2nd bit was found to be 2160 metre (Starting GPS reading N 10.19780 E 077.98174 – Ending GPS reading N 10.18708 E 77.995552) TANGEDCO has proposed laying of underground cable along the right margin of the existing road. The total distance for laying of cable comes to 3010 metres. The Executive Engineer has informed that the underground cable would be laid by digging a 1 metre wide trench in the proposed site. Accordingly, the total forest area required for laying underground cable comes to 3010 m² (0.301 ha).

No tree growth was observed in the area proposed for trenching and laying of cable. District Forest Officer, Dindigul was instructed to erect permanent boundary markers at the beginning and end point of each bit'.

13. The Conservator of Forests, Dindigul Circle has recommended the proposal in the Part III format proposal and uploaded the same along with his site inspection report. He has stated that the proposal for diversion of 0.301 ha of Forest land may be agreed for providing electricity connection for providing drinking water to the hill people.

14. The District Forest Officer in his letter dated 02.11.2015 has reported that due to the change of alignment and area, no felling of trees is involved. He has recommended to consider the area for diversion of Forest land as 0.301 ha in Sirumalai West Forest Block –I and Bit- IV of Reserved Land erection of 22 KV Under Ground cable.

15. The User Agency ie., Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul has also agreed for laying of underground cable along the right side of the road. Further he has stated in his letter No.SE/DEDC/DGL/AEE/PRO/AE/F,SIRUMALAI/D.No.941/15, dt.27.11.2015,(copy enclosed) as detailed below:

'During the joint field inspection with the Conservator of Forests/Dindigul and District Forest Officer/Dindigul on 31.10.2015, it has been ascertained that the forest land to be diverted was 0.301 ha instead of

already proposed 0.2712 Ha. Hence the proposal for diversion of 0.301 Ha forest land to TANGEDCO for erection of 22KV UG cable to energise one number OHT service connection to Thenmalai habitation may be approved at the earliest. The User Agency has also certified that his department is undertaking to pay the net present value and additional lease rent, etc as fixed by the forest department towards for this diversion of 0.301 ha of forest land'.

16. The proposal is sent herewith duly recommended in the Part IV format proposal by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) / Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The area proposed for diversion of 0.301 ha of Forest land in Sirumalai West Forest Block -I and Bit- IV of Reserved Land of Dindigul Forest Division as against the area of 0.2712 ha proposed by the User Agency due to field condition may be considered and recommended to the Government of India for approval.

I request that the proposal may kindly be forwarded through on-line to GOI for obtaining concurrence of GOI for diversion of 0.301 ha of forest land in Sirumalai West Forest Block -I and Bit- IV of Reserved Land of Dindigul Forest Division for OHT Electricity Service by erection of 22 KV Underground cable along the road from Agasthiyapuram to Thenmalai in Thenmalai habitation, Sirumalai, Dindigul on behalf of the Superintending Engineer, TANGEDCO, Dindigul, early.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully


11/12/15
for Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Department) (FAC)


PART - IV

(To be filled 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 and Designation

(Official Seal)

Date : 11.12.2015

Place: Chennai-15

