

TAMIL NADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Thiru. K.Rajangam, IFS.,
District Forest Officer,
Dharmapuri Forest Division,
Dharmapuri – 636 705.

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force),
Forest Headquarters Building,
Guindy – Velachery Main road,
Near Kannikapuram checkpoint,
Chennai – 600 032.

*(Through the Conservator of Forests,
Dharmapuri Circle, Dharmapuri)*

C.No. 148 / 2023 / D, dated. 16-12-2024

Sir,

Sub : Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980– Online forest clearance proposal for diversion of 5.5831Ha of forest area 5.5181Ha (Two segments) in Thoppur RF of Dharmapuri Range and 0.065Ha (Two segments) in Gummanur RF of Palacode Range in Dharmapuri Forest Division for laying pipeline under KKBMPPL Tamil nadu section – Dharmapuri District – Submission of remarks for the short comings pointed out along with relevant documents and Revised CA Scheme - Regarding.

- Ref : 1) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai. C.No. TS4/36808/2022 dated.17-02-2023.
- 2) Minutes of the Project Screening Committee meeting – II conducted on 23-02-2023 at 12.00 Noon.
- 3) The Deputy General Manager(Const), GAIL INDIA Limited, Chennai. Proposal No.FP/TN/Pipeline/50403/2020 (Proposal received at online on 16-03-2023) .
- 4) Part III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle on 10.11.2023.
- 5) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai. C.No. TS3/29849/2021, dated.18-01-2024.
- 6) The Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, C.No. 9398/2021/D, dated.31-01-2024.

- 7) The Deputy General Manager (Const), GAIL INDIA Limited, Salem, Tamil Nadu vide C.No.GAIL/KKBMPL/5.5831/DFO-Dharmapuri/RL/2024/12 (Proposal received at online on 10-12-2024).

I herewith submit my remarks as follows for the query/shortcomings raised by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Chennai.

- (i) In the recommendation letter, the involvement of Thoppur Reserved forest area and Gummanur Reserved forest areas are furnished with the area break up details.
- (ii) The User Agency has furnished the certificate from the District Collector, Dharmapuri on No alternate non forest land available for the project area. This certificate has also been uploaded by the User Agency in the Additional information details section in PART – I of Form-A (S.No.53)
- (iii) The User Agency has furnished the FRA Form I certificate from the District Collector, Dharmapuri. This certificate has also been uploaded by the User Agency in the Additional information details section in PART – I of Form-A (S.No.53).
- (iv) The User Agency has furnished the reply on realignment of pipeline vide Ref.No.GAIL/KKBMPL/5.5831/RF-Dharmapuri/2024/03, dated.25.06.2024.This letter has also been uploaded by the User Agency in the Additional information details section in PART – I of Form-A (S.No.54).
- (v) The User Agency has furnished the study report on the impact of pipeline on the eco system. This ecosystem study report has also been uploaded by the User Agency in the Additional information details section in PART – I of Form-A (S.No.60).

(vi) As per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rule, 2023. The User Agency has identified the Compensatory Afforestation land in SF.No.692/29, Extent.4.44.31Ha and SF.No.692/30, Extent.1.14.0Ha in No.18 of Kammampatty Village in Nallampalli Taluk of Dharmapuri District. The certificate of Compensatory Afforestation land (NFL) handing over has also been uploaded by the User Agency in the Additional information details section in PART – I of Form-A (S.No.62).

I also submit to state that, the total forest area required for laying Ø24" R-LNG pipeline under KKBMPPL in Thoppur Reserved Forest of Dharmapuri Range and Gummanur Reserved Forest of Palacode Range in Dharmapuri Forest Division is as follows.

Area of Forest land proposed for diversion (in Ha) :	<p>1. Gummanur RF (Segment 1) : 68.35m X 2.00m = 137 sq.m.</p> <p>2. Gummanur RF (segment 2) : 256.66m X 2.00m = 513 sq.m.</p> <p>3. Thoppur RF (Segment 3) : 65.50m X 2.00m = 131.00 sq.m.</p> <p>4. Thoppur RF (Segment 4) : 5505m X 10.00m = 55050.00 sq.m.</p> <p>Total area = 55831.00 sq.m (or) 5.5831 Ha</p>
--	---

1) Regarding the Compensatory Afforestation scheme, the earlier proposed Compensatory Afforestation land over 11.88Ha in Masakkal Reserved Forest (Degraded forest area) of Pennagaram Range was raised plantation under NABARD during 2023-2024. **Thus, the earlier proposed CA site and CA Scheme may kindly be dropped.**

2) As per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rule, 2023. The User Agency has identified the Compensatory Afforestation land in SF.No.692/29, Extent.4.44.31Ha and SF.No.692/30, Extent.1.14.0Ha in No.18 of Kammampatty Village in Nallampalli Taluk of Dharmapuri District. In the identified non-forest land

planting of seedlings **approximately 100Nos** shall be planted in SF.No.692/30 over an extent of 1.14.0Ha and the seedlings **approximately 500Nos** shall be planted in SF.No.692/29 over an extent of 4.44.31Ha.

The identified non forest land in Survey Field No. 692/29, Extent.4.44.31Ha and 692/30, Extent 1.14.0Ha of No.18 Kammampatti village is adjoining to the boundary of the Parigam B Reserved Forest. It is also approachable and manageable on protection point of view. Tahsildhar, Nallampalli has also furnished the handing over of CA land certificate vide Roc.No.1590/2024/E1, dated.04.12.2024 (Copy enclosed).

However, necessary Compensatory Afforestation scheme (5000nos of seedlings) shall be raised over 10.00Ha (**500Nos/Ha**) in degraded forest area identified in Kadathur Reserved Forest of Morappur Range. This degraded forest area portion was recovered from encroachments. Thus, necessary chain link fencing will be erected for protection purposes as well as to avoid Cattle and biotic pressures. For this purpose, the **User agency has given necessary undertaking for payment of cost for Compensatory Afforestation Scheme as fixed by the forest department.** This revised CA Site and CA scheme may be accepted.

3) The Justification letter for the requirement of 10mtr Right of way in Thoppur Reserved Forest is furnished and uploaded by the User Agency in PART I of form A – Section D (i). This may be accepted.

4) The Proposed alignment of the laying Ø24” R-LNG pipeline lies in the same stretches of four laning of Thorapalli Agraharam-Jittandahalli section of new NH-844 from km.33/510 to km.60/100 (RHS) (package-II) and 60/100 to km.94/460 (RHS) on Jittandahalli to Dharmapuri section of NH-844 (Package-III) National Highways Authority of india, Krishnagiri proposed road, which is passing through the Gummanur Reserved Forest of Palacode Range. **The User Agency has also obtained the NOC from National Highways Authority of india, Krishnagiri** and the same is uploaded in additional information details section in PART I of Form-A. This may be accepted.

5) In the proposed alignment of the pipeline, there are cumulatively **609 numbers of trees** has to be felled in the proposed diversion of 5.5831ha of forest area. In these 603 numbers of spontaneous trees to be felled in Thoppur reserved Forest of Dharmapuri Range and 6 numbers of spontaneous trees to be felled in Gummanur Reserved Forest of Palacode Range due to this project. The User Agency has also given necessary “undertaking” for payment of value of trees as fixed by the forest department including cost of transportation and loading and unloading charges.

6) The revised rate of Net Present Value may be fixed based on the Honourable supreme court of India judgment dated 28-03-2008 and 07-05-2008 in IA No.826 in 566 and also as per the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi, File No.5-3 / 2011-FC (Vol-I) dated. 06-01-2022.

ECO class III – consisting of tropical dry deciduous forest

Very dense forest : Rs. 13,57,110 / ha.

Dense forest : Rs. 12,28,590 / ha.

Open forest : Rs. 9,57,780 / ha.

In this case the rate for Open forest may be fixed as Net present value for 5.5831 Ha of diverted land. i.e. 5.5831 ha X Rs. 9,57,780 / ha. = **Rs.53,47,382/-**

The User Agency has given necessary “Undertaking” for the payment of Net Present Value and Additional Net Present Value if any as fixed by the forest department.

7) The user agency has furnished necessary undertaking for the payment of Annual Lease Rent as assessed by the Forest Department. All the “Undertaking” given by the User Agency.

8) The Current year 2024-2025 FSR Rate is adopted for raising Compensatory Afforestation scheme (Raising Nursery, Planting and maintenance). Also, the current year 2024-2025 PWD SSR Rate is adopted for Chain link Fencing along with necessary bore well and Drip irrigation system needed based on field conditions.

Hence, the total cost of Compensatory Afforestation scheme including Chain link fencing, bore well and Drip irrigation system works out to **Rs.228.585 Lakhs**.

9) The Site inspection report and the Recommendation letter also uploaded in the Additional information details section in PART II of Form- A.

10) The translocation of number of trees identified for felling (609 Nos) in the proposed alignment of pipeline in Thoppur and Gummanur Reserved Forest **is not possible** due to the following reasons.

1. The forest areas where the trees are to be felled for laying the proposed pipeline lies at very deep and valley portion. so, it is very difficult to translocate the trees using a vehicle like crane and other machineries.
2. The Thoppur Reserved forest area contains major rocky portions and which is the habitat area for lot of monkeys and deers in this Reserved Forest area. Thus, the activities of translocation of trees leads to disturbance to the Wild animals.
3. Considering the aforementioned reasons, it is not feasible to translocate the trees to be cut.

11.) The User Agency is requested this office that the extent of forest area diversion proposed in the earlier online proposal is unable to Edit / Change the following datas in PART I of Form-A is as follows. This may be accepted.

S.NO.	Particulars in FORM-A of Part-I.	Diverted Area in the portal.	Actual diverted area (Revised Proposal)
1.	A. General details A-1 Viii	5.94	5.5831
2.	B. Land required for the Project B2.1	5.94	5.5831
3.	C. Land required for the Project B2.2	5.94	5.5831
4.	C – Maps of forest land proposed to be diverted.	5.94	5.5831

Also I request that the following details are unable to edit/change in Parivesh web portal – PART II of Form- A for the updation of revised proposal. This may kindly be accepted and approved for further process.

Sl no	Part-II	Diverted Area in Portal	Actual diverted area after rectification of KML file
1	1. Location of the project/Scheme – iv. Project area is unable to change	5.94	5.5831
2	4. Other details Part II- Project area is unable to change	5.94	5.5831
3	9. Details of Compensatory Afforestation area - Project area is unable to change	5.94	5.5831
4	10. District profile Part II - Project area is unable to change	5.94	5.5831

Therefore, under these circumstances, i request that considering the importance of this project. The proposal for diversion of 5.5831Ha of forest area 5.5181Ha (Two segments) in Thoppur RF of Dharmapuri Range and 0.065Ha (Two segments) in Gummanur RF of Palacode Range in Dharmapuri Forest Division in Dharmapuri district for laying under ground Ø24" R-LNG pipeline may kindly be recommended and submitted for getting the approval of the Government of India.

Enclose: As stated above.

Yours faithfully
Sd/-K.Rajangam,
District Forest Officer,
Dharmapuri Forest Division,
Dharmapuri.

Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests, Dharmapuri Circle, Dharmapuri.

// t.c.b.o //

Draughting Officer

16/12/2004