Full Title of the Project	:-	Diversion of 62.29 ha. Reserve Forest land for Bhavali Pumped Storage Project (1500 MW) in West Nashik Division, Nashik Circle in the State of Maharashtra
File No.	:-	FP/MH/HYD/153240/2022

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

The Bhavali Pumped Storage Project is a greenfield hydroelectric initiative proposed by JSW Energy Ltd. with an installed capacity of 1500 MW. This project aims to provide a reliable, renewable, and cost-effective power supply to the State of Maharashtra, contributing significantly to the state's energy security and grid stability, especially during peak demand periods.

This project involves the construction of two dams — one in the Igatpuri Range of Nashik district and the other in the Shahapur Range of Thane district. A hydraulic tunnel will be constructed to connect the two reservoirs for the purpose of pumped storage operations. The system is designed to utilize surplus electricity during off-peak hours to pump water to the upper reservoir. During periods of peak demand, the stored water will be released to the lower reservoir to generate electricity, thereby ensuring grid stability and efficient energy management.

The project area is located within the Igatpuri Conservation Reserve, a critical ecological zone in the West Nashik Forest Division. It is situated approximately 2.27 kilometers from the Kalsubai Harishchandragad Wildlife Sanctuary and 12.5 meters from the boundary of its notified Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ).

This project is recommended subject to the following conditions:

1. Wildlife Management and Mitigation Plan must be prepared and implemented in accordance with the guidelines and approval of the Chief Wildlife Warden (CWW), Maharashtra.

2. A scientifically designed Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan shall be implemented to prevent soil erosion, enhance water retention, and promote vegetative regeneration in the catchment area.

3. The User Agency must ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, along with its applicable Rules.

4. A detailed study regarding the suitability and safety of tunnel construction must be conducted by a national-level institute of repute, specializing in hydro-geological and tunnel engineering.

5. It must be ensured that access to nearby agricultural fields, water sources, and human habitations is not obstructed during either the construction or operational phases of the project.

6. The User Agency shall take all possible measures to minimize tree felling wherever feasible.

Place :- Nashik

Date :- 08/04/2025

(G.Mallikarjun)
Chief Conservator of Forests
(Territorial) Nashik