SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER (FOR THE FOREST LAND PROPOSED FOR DIVERSION UNDER FC ACT)

Project: Construction of 132 KV EHT single circuit transmission line on double circuit tower from AEGCL Gohpur GSS to NF Railway Gohpur TSS in connection with RNY MZS Railway Electrification

Forest Area Proposed for Diversion under Sonitpur East Division: 7.971 ha

A proposal (Ref. No. FP/AS/TRANS/153641/2022) has been received by this office from the Northeast Frontier Railway, Construction, Electrical for diversion of 7.971 ha of forest land for non-forestry purpose under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980. The proposal has been received in Sonitpur East Division through online mode of MoEF&CC PARIVESH portal on 18/06/2022. A joint inspection has been carried out by the undersigned along with representatives of Northeast Frontier Railway as per the guidelines of FC Act.

Upon inspection of the site, it was found that the proposed forest land required by the user agency falls under Gohpur Reserve Forest. The requirement of forest land proposed by the user agency is unavoidable for the project.

The salient features of the forest area proposed for diversion as found during site inspection are as follows:

- There are no known rare/ endangered species of flora or fauna present in the forest area proposed for diversion.
- There are no protected archeological/ heritage sites located in the proposed forest area.
- There are no plantation raised by this division in the forest area proposed for diversion.
- The proposed area is devoid of dense tree cover and the entire area is under human habitation.
- The user agency has not violated any provision of FC Act and no work has been started in the proposed area without the necessary clearance.

SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL

The construction of 132 KV EHT single circuit transmission line on double circuit tower from AEGCL Gohpur GSS to NF Railway Gohpur TSS is an important requirement for electrifying the track between Rangia and Murkongselek which is expected to improve the economic condition of the region. It is a project of national interest as several stations of strategic importance as the track follows the foothills of Arunachal Pradesh. Therefore, in order to facilitate the electrification of Rangia-Murkongselek track, the diversion of the forest land which is barest minimum required as above is recommended for acceptance.

Divisional Forest Officer Sonitpur East Division Biswanath Chariali

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