

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

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Prescribed vide PCCF (HoEF) No. Desk-17-4/1445, dated 05/11/2015

Sr. No.	Items	Observations & Remarks															
1.	Name of the Project and location (Range, Round, Beat)	<p>Diversion of 2.3238 ha. of Forest land in Shahapur Forest Division for laying of Natural Gas Pipeline from Mumbai to Nagpur through Thane, Nashik, Ahmednagar, Aurangabad, Jalna, Buldhana, Washim, Amravati, Wardha & Nagpur Distiricts of State of Maharashtra</p> <p>Location:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Range</th><th>Round</th><th>Beat</th></tr> <tr> <td>Shahapur</td><td>Shera</td><td>Shera</td></tr> <tr> <td>Shahapur</td><td>Birwadi</td><td>Saralambe</td></tr> <tr> <td>Khardi</td><td>Kashti</td><td>Birwadi</td></tr> <tr> <td>Khardi</td><td>Shirol</td><td>Shirol</td></tr> </table>	Range	Round	Beat	Shahapur	Shera	Shera	Shahapur	Birwadi	Saralambe	Khardi	Kashti	Birwadi	Khardi	Shirol	Shirol
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2.	Name of the User Agency	GAIL (India) Ltd. 8th Floor, GAIL Jubilee Tower, B-35 & 36, Sector-1, Noida – 201 301 (U.P.)															
3.	Date of site inspection	27 / 07 / 2022															
4.	Extent (ha) and legal status of forest land proposed for diversion	<table> <tr> <td>Reserved Forest</td><td>-</td><td>0.7591 Ha.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Protected Forest</td><td>-</td><td>1.4024 Ha.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Restored Pri. Forest</td><td>-</td><td>0.1623 Ha.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>-</td><td>2.3238 Ha.</td></tr> </table>	Reserved Forest	-	0.7591 Ha.	Protected Forest	-	1.4024 Ha.	Restored Pri. Forest	-	0.1623 Ha.	Total	-	2.3238 Ha.			
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Total	-	2.3238 Ha.															
5.	a) Details of forest land proposed for diversion and activity-wise break-up of forest land	As per Area Statement attached on page no.															
	b) Density and Eco-value class	Density – 0.3 Eco-value Class – I (Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest)															
6.	Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency in col.2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternative examined.	Yes. The proposal is for diversion of Forest land for laying Natural Gas Pipeline from Mumbai to Nagpur through already diverted forest land to Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Limited for Nagpur Mumbai Super Communication Expressway (Package-V) for laying underground petroleum pipeline from Mumbai to Manmad. But in some patches it is not feasible to work in the existing Right of Way of Nagpur – Mumbai Samruddhi Expressway. So the project authority has proposed diversion in the said patches, which requires new forest land.															
7.	Whether the proposal involves any construction of building (including residential) or not? If yes, details thereof	No.															

8.	a) Whether forest area proposed for diversion is important from wildlife point of view or not	:	No.
	b) Details of any rare or endangered or unique species of flora and fauna found in proposed forest land. If so, the details thereof	:	No rare or endangered or unique species of flora and fauna found in proposed forest land during site inspection.
	c) Aerial distance from the nearest boundary of any Protected Area (km)	:	1.475 Km. from Tansa Wildlife Sanctuary (Within Deemed Eco-Sensitive Zone)
	d) Remarks about sensitivity of the forest area likely to be affected due to project	:	No.
	e) Whether wildlife mitigation plan is required? If yes, reasons thereof	:	No.
9.	Details of Vegetation		
	a) Total number of trees to be felled	:	979
	b) Number of trees to be felled of girth below 60 cm.	:	742
	c) Number of trees to be felled of girth above 60 cm.	:	237
	d) Effect of removal of trees on the general ecosystem in the area	:	There will not be adverse effect on the ecology of the area due to removal of the trees.
10.	Background note on the proposal (short summary)	:	Diversion of 2.3238 ha. of Forest land in Shahapur Forest Division for laying of Natural Gas Pipeline from Mumbai to Nagpur. After detailed study of alternatives by the project authority, this is final alignment selected for the proposed gas pipeline. The forest area demanded is already diverted to Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Limited for Nagpur Mumbai Super Communication Expressway (Package-V) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for laying underground petroleum pipeline from Mumbai to Manmad. But in some patches it is not feasible to work in the existing Right of Way of Nagpur - Mumbai Samruddhi Expressway. So the project authority has proposed diversion in the said patches, which requires new forest land.
11.	Whether the proposal involves any violation of Forest (Conservation) Act 1980? If yes, a detailed report on violation including action taken against the concerned officials to be attached.	:	No
12.	Whether the proposal involved rehabilitation plan has been approved by the State Government?	:	The proposal doesn't involve any rehabilitation, hence no rehabilitation plan required.

13.	Details on catchment and culturable command area under the project (if applicable)	:	Not Applicable.
14.	Utility of the project	:	<p>The project will directly reduce the environmental and economical impact of overland transport of fuel. Implementation of the project will generate employment opportunity to the local public and providing them with clean and eco-friendly fuel.</p> <p>Natural gas as a fuel will have a positive social impact as well. The increased use of natural gas will also create new employment opportunities in the form of LNG terminals, City Gas Projects, etc.</p>
15.	Whether land being diverted has any socio-cultural/religious values? Whether any sacred grove or very old growth trees/ forests exist in the areas proposed for diversion?	:	<p>No.</p> <p>No.</p>
16.	Any other important information related to the project (Separate note may be attached, if required)	:	No.
17.	Details of documents and photographs enclosed.	:	Enclosed on page no.
18.	Recommendations of the Inspecting Officer (CCF/CF/DCF)	:	<p>The proposed pipeline route is the most suitable route from Mumbai to Nagpur, as the forest land is already diverted to MSRDCCL for Nagpur Mumbai Super Communication Expressway (Package-V) for laying underground petroleum pipeline from Mumbai to Manmad and the proposed Natural Gas Pipeline is passing through the RoW of MSRDCCL. But in some patches it is not feasible to work in the existing Right of Way of Nagpur - Mumbai Samruddhi Expressway. So the project authority has proposed diversion in the said patches, which requires new forest land. Hence the proposal for diversion is recommended for acceptance as per the Specific Recommendation enclosed with Part-II.</p>

Date :- 16/01/2023

Place:- Shahapur



(Sachin Repal)

Deputy Conservator of Forests
Shahapur Forest Division, Shahapur