

PART -IV

(To be filled by the Nodal Officer or the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Head of Forest Force)

(Detailed opinion and specific recommendation of the State Forest Department for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with remarks)

Sub.- Proposal for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra.

Sr. No.	Item work purpose	Village Name	Name of Existing Road	S.No.	G.No	C.No.	L. X W. (in m.)	Sq. M.	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
1.	For laying of steel gas pipeline	Varade	NH-48	140p	728	679	13.50 x 1	13.50	0.0014	R.F.
2.		Kodoli		393	290	231	370.00 x 1	370.00	0.037	R.F.
3.		Anavadi		-	407	-	316.38 x 1	316.38	0.0316	Identified Forest
4.		Vahagaon		-	1435	-	278.70 x 1	278.70	0.0279	R.F.
Total Forest Land (in ha.)									0.0979	

Specific recommendation of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur is attached on page no.



(Naresh Zurmure)

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Date: 17/01/2023

Place: Nagpur

Proposal for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra. (FP/MH/Pipeline/43177/2019)

Specific Recommendation of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Maharashtra State (Head of Forest Force) Maharashtra State, Nagpur with regards to acceptance or otherwise of the proposal supported by reasons.

The proposal is for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra.

2.00 The details of the forest land proposed for diversion are as under:-(F.P.No. 12 & PPN-55)

Sr. No.	Item work purpose	Village Name	Name of Existing Road	S.No.	G.No	C.No.	L. X W. (in m.)	Sq. M.	Area (in ha.)	Legal Status
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Total Forest Land (in ha.)									0.0979	

3.00 The proposal has been initiated by the CGD Head, Sangli & Satara GA, Bharat Gas Resources Limited for seeking approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra. The User Agency has certified that the project's main objective is to generate employment in the future by using gas as a fuel for Domestic, Commercial, Industrial Customers and CNG as an eco-friendly fuel for Vehicles and reduce pollution. Non-forest land required for this project is 15.3566 ha. Project Note submitted by the User Agency is enclosed on **page no.30**. The site inspection report of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara is enclosed on **pages no.52 to 54**.

4.00 **The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has certified that:-**

- 4.1 No suitable alternate non-forest land is available and the forest land required is barest minimum. (PPN-61)
- 4.2 The area belongs to Open Forest, Eco class-III and having density of forest is below 0.4. (PPN-52 & 94)
- 4.3 There is no cutting & felling of trees involved in the implementation of the Project. (PPN-97)
- 4.4 The project is not included in the area of any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary or Nature reserve. (PPN-91)
- 4.5 The area involved in the project is beyond 10 kms from the boundary of protected are i.e. away 31.00 km from Koyana Wildlife Sanctuary. (PPN-98)

- 4.6 Proposed project is not likely to affect any monumental site of cultural, historical, religious, archeological or recreational importance. **(PPN-90)**
- 4.7 There is no violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 or rules made there under been done. No work has been carried out by the Project Authority. The proposed work of the project has not been started on the forest land. **(PPN-25 & 64)**
- 4.8 Proposed Compensatory Afforestation over 1.00 ha degraded Forest land F.C.No.43, Sy.No.132, Gut No.418 at Village Anavadi, Tal.Wai & Dist.Satara is suitable for afforestation and it is free from encroachment and encumbrances. **(PPN-65)**
- 4.9 The proposed project is within ROW of the existing road passing from Forest land, hence there is no need to examine the three alternatives for the project. **(PPN-101C)**
- 4.10 As per guidelines of the Central Government, there is no need for a Certificate from the District Collector, Satara, on the Gram Sabha resolution under the Dweller Act, 2006 for the proposal for the diversion of Forest land for the laying of an underground Gas Pipeline with the Right of Way of Existing road passing through Forest land. **(PPN-142D)**

5.00 The User Agency has submitted undertaking / certificate / document:-

- 5.1 Agreed to defray the cost of Compensatory Afforestation. **(PPN-62)**
- 5.2 Agreed to defray the cost of Net Present Value of the forest land proposed under diversion. **(PPN-93)**
- 5.3 The Pipeline will be laid along the roads within existing RoWs with trench size below 1.5 meter, not more than two meter in depth and one meter in width and after laying of pipeline the ground will be leveled as per the guidelines. No tree felling is involved for the proposed work. After completion of the project the area under Row will be reclaimed suitably. We agree to make good any loss to Forest/Environment. We will seek permission from the local FD for carrying out any maintenance. The proposed area does not fall under Row of the road passing through National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- 5.4 Justification for locating the project in the forest area is enclosed on pages no.47 & 48.
- 5.5 Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board, New Delhi vide letter dated 28/09/2018 has issued letter regarding grant of authorization to Bharat Gas Resources Limited for development of City Gas Distribution Network in the Geographical Area of Sangli & Satara Districts. **(PPN-31)**
- 5.6 National Highways Authority of India (Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Govt. of India), Project Implementation Unit, Kolhapur vide letter dated 04/03/2021 granted final permission to start the work of Steel Gas Pipeline along & across NH-48 (old NH-4) from Toap (Km623/300), Dist Kolhapur to Shendre (Km 725/000), Dist. Satara. **(PPN-40)**
- 5.7 Satara Irrigation Department, Satara vide their letter dated 24/06/2020, Krishna Irrigation Department, Satara vide their letter dated 06/03/2020 and Koyna Irrigation Division, Koynanagar vide their letter dated 03/12/2020 issued No objection Certificates regarding laying of the said steel gas pipeline in areas under their jurisdiction. Copies of the same have been submitted by the User Agency. **(PPN-44 to 46 D)**
- 6.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara, Sangli and Kolhapur has certified that non-forest area covered under the project is not under the provision of Maharashtra

Private Forest (Acquisition) Act 1975 by virtue of application of Section 35 of Indian Forest Act 1927 and are not recognized as deemed reserved forest as well as not included in the area identified as "forest" as per dictionary meaning of forest as intimated to the expert committee appointed under interim judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 12/12/1996. (PPN-83 to 89)

- 7.00 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara and the Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur have recommended the proposed for diversion. (PPN-24 to 27)
- 8.00 The area to be diverted for laying the proposed steel gas pipeline and the forest area proposed for C.A. has been shown in the KML file C.D submitted by the User Agency. The said KML file C.D. is enclosed and placed in the file at the top.
- 9.00 **In view of this, the proposal is recommended for approval under the section -2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the following conditions:-**
- 9.1 The legal status of the forest land required will remain unchanged.
- 9.2 Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 1.00 ha degraded Forest land F.C.No.43, Sy.No.132, Gut No.418 at Village Anavadi,, Tal.Wai & Dist.Satara at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.
- 9.3 The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in advance with the Forest Department by the project authority. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years.
- 9.4 The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.0301 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Government of India guidelines dated 06/01/2022, 19/01/2022 and 22/03/2022.
- 9.5 Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- 9.6 No trees shall be felled during implementation of the project. In case tree felling is required the User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
- 9.7 All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<http://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- 9.8 The pipeline shall be laid down 1.5 meter below the ground and after lying down of pipe line the ground will be leveled.
- 9.9 The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- 9.10 No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

- 9.11 Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- 9.12 The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 9.13 No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 9.14 The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- 9.15 The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- 9.16 The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India.
- 9.17 Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11-42/2017-FC dt. 29/01/2018
- 9.18 Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- 9.19 The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)



(Dr.Y.L.P. Rao)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
Maharashtra State, Nagpur



**Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forests Force),
Maharashtra State**

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer,

1st Floor, B Wing,

VanBhavan, Ramgiri Road, Civil Lines, Nagpur- 440 001

Tel.No.: 0712- 2556916 , E-mail: apccfnodal@mahaforest.gov.in

Sub:- The proposal is for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra.

No. :- Desk-17/Nodal/Kolhapur/ID-13228/(29)/**2710** /2022-23

Nagpur- 440 001, Dated **17** /01/2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),

Revenue & Forest Department,

Mantralaya, Mumbai- 32

Sir,

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(PPN-55)

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3.0 Following documents as prescribed in Government Circular, Revenue and Forest Department No.FLD-1081/2041/(A)/F-3, dated 20/03/1982 and according to Government of India's instructions issued from time to time are enclosed in one copies.

3.1 Prescribed form dated 10/01/2003

3.2 Certificate regarding minimum demand of forest land for the project

3.3 Area Statement

3.4 Index map in suitable scale

4.0 The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara has certified that:-

4.1 No suitable alternate non-forest land is available and the forest land required is barest minimum. (PPN-61)

4.2 The area belongs to Open Forest, Eco class-III and having density of forest is below 0.4. (PPN-52 & 94)

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development of City Gas Distribution Network in the Geographical Area of Sangli & Satara Districts. (PPN-31)

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 - iv. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.0301 ha. forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Government of India guidelines dated 06/01/2022, 19/01/2022 and 22/03/2022.
 - v. Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
 - vi. No trees shall be felled during implementation of the project. In case tree felling is required the User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest

land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.

- vii. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited to CAMPA fund only through e-portal (<http://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- viii. The pipeline shall be laid down 1.5 meter below the ground and after lying down of pipe line the ground will be leveled.
- ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government.
- x. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- xi. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel.
- xii. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- xiii. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- xiv. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- xv. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- xvi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Government of India.
- xvii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per the MoEF&CC Guideline F. No. 11- 42/2017-FC dt. 29/01/2018
- xviii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- xix. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)

10.0 It is therefore, the Government of Maharashtra is being requested for diversion of 0.0979 ha. Forest land for laying of 18", 16" & 12" diameter steel gas pipeline along with 400mm diameter HDPE duct, along/across NH-48 (Old NH-04) from city gas station at village Vadgaon, District Kolhapur to village Vele in District Satara in the State of Maharashtra.

Encl: (Proposal in two copies)

Yours sincerely,

(Naresh Zurmure)

Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
& Nodal Officer

Copy forwarded for information to:-

1. The Chief Conservator of Forests (T.), Kolhapur.
2. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Satara Forest Division, Satara.
3. The CGD Head, Sangli & Satara GA, Bharat Gas Resources Limited.
(E-mail address: milindml@bharatpetroleum.in & josephs@bharatpetroleum)