

## ବନଖଣ୍ଡ ଅଧିକାରୀ ଡଥା ବନ୍ୟପ୍ରାଣୀ ଡତ୍ତ୍ୱାବଧାରକଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ, ରାଉରକେଲା

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER CUM WILDLIFE WARDEN ROURKELA FOREST DIVISION, ROURKELA, SUNDARGARH, ODISHA Phone No. 0661-2664637, Fax No. 0661-2664638, e mail- dfo.rourkela@odisha.gov.in

Memo No. 5958 dt. 16.07.2022

To

The Regional Chief Conservator of Forests, Rourkela Circle, Rourkela.

Sub: -

Diversion of 0.700 ha. of forest land coming within jurisdiction of Rourkela Forest Division for forest land for Proposed Water Conductor system from Mandira Dam to Power House Point of M/s Gedcol Sail Power Corporation Limited near Laing village under Sundargarh District.

Ref: -

Proposal No. FP/OR/Others/154167/2022, State Serial No: - OR-031/2022, Dt:20.04.2022.

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, the User Agency has submitted the proposal for diversion of 0.700 Ha of Reserved forest land in Rourkela Forest Division for Proposed Water Conductor system from Mandira Dam to Power House Point of M/s Gedcol Sail Power Corporation Limited near Laing village under Sundargarh District , the details of forest diversion proposal is furnished below:-

## 1. Brief Description:

The Mandira Dam is constructed across the river Sankh in January 1959. The river Sankh joins river South Koel about 15 km downstream of the dam and becomes river Brahmani. On river Brahmani about 25 km from Mandira dam there is a weir called Rourkela weir / Tarkera weir from where water is supplied to Rourkela Steel Plant.

The main purpose of the Mandira dam project is to control the monsoon floods in the river Sankh and provide sufficient storage for the present and future requirement to be drawn during summer months for the Rourkela Steel Plant and other industrial development of the region. The owner of the Mandira dam project is Rourkela Steel Plant of Steel Authority of India Limited, a PSU of Govt. of India. The dam project consists of an earthen dam and a spillway dam. On the right abutment of earth dam there is a sluice with head regulator. The sluice discharges the water requirement downstream and spillway takes care of the flood discharge.

GEDCOL intends to set up Mandira Dam Small Hydro Electric Project (MDSHEP) utilizing the reservoir water of Mandira Dam Project before it is discharged to river Sankh immediately downstream of the Dam/Spillway.

#### 2. Need of the Project:

The SHEP has been proposed to generate power from the releases of Mandira Reservoir by utilizing the natural water head available between the reservoir water and the downstream river release. Generation of electricity from the SHEP will go a long way in harnessing the energy going waste and meeting Renewable Purchase Obligations of RSP. The energy availability will also improve the voltage profile and reliability of the power system in the near-by Grid Substation/Area. Further, small hydropower programme are one of the thrust areas of the Government of India, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

Therefore it is felt that there is immense necessity, need and opportunity to develop the Project.

## The total forest land requirement is 0.700 Ha.

Abstract of total land required for the project mentioned herewith.

#### All figures are in Hectare

Sl.		Forest Land (Ha)		Total Area
No.	Purpose	Reserve Forest	Non Forest Land (Ha)	(Ha)
1.	Water Conductor System	0.700	0.572	1.272
	Total	0.700	0.572	1.272

The details of land involved is furnished in the attached Land Schedule (Annexure-6).

Map showing the required forest land, boundary of adjoining forest on a 1:50,000 scale map

Sl. No.	DESCRIPTIONS	SCALE	PLATE NO
1	Topo sheet No. F45G11 showing the proposed Forest area.	1:50,000	I
2	DGPS map of the project area.	1:3,960	II

#### i) Cost of the Project

The cost of project is Rs. 7880.00 Lakhs.

## 3. Justification for locating the Project in Forest Area:

The SHEP has been proposed to generate power from the releases of Mandira Reservoir by utilizing the natural water head available between the reservoir water and the downstream river release. Generation of electricity from the SHEP will go a long way in harnessing the energy going waste and meeting Renewable Purchase Obligations of RSP. The energy availability will also improve the voltage profile and reliability of the power system in

the near-by Grid Substation/Area. Small hydropower programme being one of the thrust areas of the Government of India, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy provides subsidy for SHEP projects to improve the economic viability. This subsidy may be availed and utilized towards repayment of the term loan availed from a financial institution. For taking water from Mandira Dam, this route is the shortest & viable for engineering point of view.

Therefore it is felt that there is immense necessity, need and opportunity to develop the Project.

Hence, minimum bare requirement of forest area over 0.700 ha. has been taken into consideration for diversion in this project.

## 4. Details of displacement of people due to the project, if any: Not Applicable

- a. Number of families: Not Applicable
- b. Number of Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribe families: Not Applicable.
- c. Rehabilitation plan: Not Applicable.
- 5. Undertaking to bear NPV Cost of raising and maintenance Compensatory Afforestation / Penal Compensatory Afforestation, Wildlife Management Plan (if required) etc. as per the scheme prepared by the State Govt.

Undertaking to this effect are also submitted in Annexure -5.

#### 7- Wildlife Management:

There is no rare / endangered/ unique species of fauna is seen in the area. But the movement of elephants is seen in the area.

#### 8-Tree Enumeration:

Since the area proposed for diversion exceeds 0.700 ha in accordance with provision in para 2.2 (ii) of the guidelines under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the applied area of 0.700 ha. in total, 195 nos. of trees (Reserve Forest-195 nos) above 29 cm girth have been enumerated of the plots at page 40 nos.

Hence, 195 nos. of trees above 29 cm girth may be required to be felled during pipeline laying operation over the applied forest land. The density has been reported to be 0.4 as per report of the undersigned in Part-II of the application.

Therefore, 195 nos. of trees are required to be felled as per tree enumeration report of Range Officer Rajgangpur at page No.40.

#### 9-Compensatory Afforestation:

The forest area proposed for diversion is 0.700 ha and as it is less than 1.0 ha thus, Compensatory Afforestation is not applicable as per Handbook of Forest Conservation Rules ,2003 by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt of India.

## 10-Environmental Clearance:

Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is not required in view of EIA Notification 2006.

#### 11-Violation:

No violation under the FC, Act is reported to have committed by the User Agency as per Site Inspection Report by the undersigned.

# 12-Position of displacement of people and adequacy of rehabilitation, if any:

This project involves no displacement for diversion of 0.700 Ha Reserved Forest land in village Ling & Usra.

# 13-Position of rare and endangered species available or importance of area from archaeological point of view:

No rare and endangered species are reported from the applied area. The area is not important from archaeological point of view.

#### 14-Others:

• The User Agency has submitted the DGPS survey map along with shape file of the boundary of the forest area involved of M/s Gedcol Sail Power Corporation Limited, which has been duly authenticated by ORSAC and duly verified by the undersigned. As per DGPS survey the Reserved Forest area comes to **0.700** ha. A copy of the DGPS survey map is enclosed.

### 15-Recommendation:

In view of the above position, the proposal for diversion of 0.700 ha of Reserved forest land in Rourkela Forest Division for forest land for Proposed Water Conductor system from Mandira Dam to Power House Point of M/s GEDCOL Sail Power Corporation Limited near Laing village under Sundargarh District, is forwarded herewith in 5 sets along with its supporting documents for consideration on its own merit and onward transmission to Govt. of India for diversion in favour of M/s GEDCOL Sail Power Corporation Limited, (Rourkela Steel Plant) under Rourkela Forest Division in Sundargarh district of Odisha.

Encl:-As above.

Divisional Forest Officer, Rourkela Forest Division.

Memo No. 5959 /4F(Misc) dt. 16.07.2022

Copy forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC-Act., Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &HoFF, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for favour of information.

Divisional Forest Officer, Rourkela Forest Division.

Memo No. 5960 /4F(Misc) dt. 16 -07 - 2022 Copy forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, M/s GEDCOL Sail Power Corporation Limited, GEDCOL Corporate Office, 2nd Floor, OSPH & WC Building, Vani Vihar, Janpath, Bhoinagar, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action.

> Divisional Forest Officer, Rourkela Forest Division.