RECOMMENDATION OF CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS HIGH RANGE CIRCLE, KOTTAYAM

The proposal is for diversion of 0.138 Ha in Vellalu area near Vellakayam in Thodupuzha Reserve in Mullaringad Range of Kothamangalam Forest Division. The above 0.138 Ha area includes 0.0732 Ha submergance. Except power house and part of pan stock, all diversions are part of a stream which in surrounded by patta land. Since the stream is surrounded by patta land, NOC was given by panchayats assuming the stream as poramboke (common land under panchayats). Now based on objection from forest department, company has applied for diversion as per FC act. 0.012 Ha area is required for the construction of power house part at the encroached forest land regularized by issuing patta under Regularization of Forest encroachment Rules 1993. Since the construction of power house is a purpose other than for which the patta was issued, it necessitates diversion as per Forest Conservation Act.

The power proposed to be generated is 90KW and the evacuation of the power is through the existing power line along the nearby road. This is a micro hydel project and minimum trees are to be felled. No other suitable land is available for the project in the locality and the project does not affect the wildlife. The project is situated on a stream surrounded by patta lands under encroachment regularization and does not affect forest or wildlife. Hence the proposal for diversion of this 0.138 Ha is recommended.

Chief Conservator of Forests High Range Circle, Kottayam