



GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DIRECTORATE OF FORESTS
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS,
SOUTH – EAST CIRCLE, WEST BENGAL
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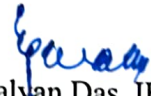
No: 2638/SEC/2M-10 (ESSAR)

Dated: 19.08.2022

To: The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
& Nodal Officer, Forest Conservation Act, 1980
West Bengal.

Sub: Recommendation letter.

In compliance with the Rule 6 of the Forest Conservation Rule, 2003, the proposal received (Proposal No: FP/WB/Others/154900/2022) for diversion of forest land project in favour of Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Limited laying of pipeline and access road to well sites for their CBM Gas Project is hereby recommended / Not recommended in the table attached herewith provided the rules and guidelines / conditions and provision for Soil Moisture Conservation Plan, Wildlife Management Plan and protective measures are followed in order to ensure efficient management of the habitat and ecology subject to conserdiation of the higher authority.


(Kalyan Das, IFS)
APCCF & Chief Conservator of Forests
South-East Circle, WB

Project Proposals under Durgapur Forest Division submitted by ESSAR

A total of 8 sites over 5 mouzas were visited and following were observed:

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count is approach Road	Total	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road+pipeline)	Remarks
Durgapur	EDD-366	Ukhra	Gopedanga	636	6	642	0.745	The Gopedanga forest area is significant from the point of view of biodiversity in Durgapur Division (Pachim Bardhaman District). Because of the water harvesting structure created, the area provides a suitable habitat for small wild animals and existence of such wild lives is easily found. The area is both ecologically/geologically fragile as well as it includes fragile lateritic terrain because of which the attention of the team of Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) drawn who visited on 21/05/2022 for possible Soil and Moisture Conservation work. This area in Gopedanga is the last refuge of some Schedule-I animals in Pachim Bardhaman District. Recent study on a teeming Indian Grey wolf population in the area has been published. Such forests serve as Habitat connectivity of small wild population & a healthy ecological corridor. Hence, Not Recommended .
			Chak Bishnupur, Bargaria, Gopedanga	347	6	353	0.662	
	EDD-351		Bargaria	321	6	327	0.4575	
	EDD-365		Gopedanga	453	8	461	0.5147	
								The area has been selected for construction of road headed to the project site (outside forest). A portion of the road plan may be
								Recommended

(Signature)
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 &
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	EDD-248		Bargaria	0	13	13	0.0975	modified a 2 meter diversion towards the left at the point where old and irreplaceable Sal trees exist. This is recommended, if the road is slightly inclined towards left to avoid the felling of Sal trees (Ten Numbers) and this is possible.
	EDC-241		Parulia	60	192	252	0.9595	Recommended
	EDC-441		Banshia				0.3775	Recommended
	EDC-364		Gopedanga				0.225	Recommended
Proposed for felling of Total Trees :							2048	4.0387

Project Proposals under Burdwan Forest Division submitted by ESSAR

A total of 21 sites over 8 Mouzas were visited and following observations were made:

Division	Pad Name	Range	Mouza	Tree Count in Well Pad	Tree Count in Approach Road	Total	Area proposed for Diversion (Well pad + Approach road+ pipeline)	Remarks
Burdwan	EDL-336 (60m x 60m)	Durgapur	Bishtupur	369	20	389	0.425	The forest road already exists leads to the Shyam Rupa Temple which is visited by many Hindu & tribal pilgrims throughout the year and specially during Durgapuja Festival. The place also witnesses the presence of several old sites having presence of God Idols and ancient scriptures. The temple & its adjacent 'Ashram' has some legends and religious sentiment. In the year of 2017-2018 a Bengal nature trail "Shibpur to Deul" was declared for trekkers & nature enthusiasts particularly because of the diverse nature of

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Kalyan

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EDL-339 (60m x 60m)						the forest and peculiar undulating terrain (Ref: PCCF/HoFF/WB's memo no. 8620/CS/2M-1020/13dt. 17/11/2017 & 1264/WBSFDA/Ecotourism/2017 dt. 08/12/2017. The nature trail is a work in progress in Deul. A portion of the forest area at Deul has been declared as a Conservation Reserve at the same Mouza Bistupur vide Govt. Notification number 1555-FR/0/11M-14/16 dt. 19/05/2017. A part from that the terrain on the opposite side of the road is ecologically fragile and prone to erosion which has led to formation of series of gullies. Hence the project is <u>Not Recommended</u> .
EDH-356 (60m x 70m)	Akandara	9	5	14	0.7735	Recommended
EDN-360 (60m x 70m)	Bandra	806	22	828	0.42	Recommended
EDN-361 (60m x 60m)	Bandra	622	15	637	0.435	Recommended
EDE-326 (60m x 60m)	Bistupur	101	34	135	0.4465	Recommended
EDE-330 (70 m x 80m)	Bishtupur	298	7	305	0.60	Recommended
EDE-333 (60m x 70m)	Bishtupur	156	120	276	0.794	Recommended
EDI-338 (60m x 60m)	Bishtupur	256	70	326	0.426	Recommended
EDI-343 (80m x 80m)	Bishtupur	415	151	566	1.0475	Recommended
	Bishtupur	1237	169	1406		The project site shall be deprived of 1406 no. of mature Sal trees if the project is

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EDI-345 (80m x 80m)					1.0465	undertaken. Apart from that, the area also is seen to be very rich in crop density and in general bio-diversity with significant presence of Medicinal plants. MS cutting operations under CAMPA Scheme was done in the area in January, 2022 and the crop looks very promising. Such a large felling of Sal trees along with associates like Mohul and Piyal is <u>Not recommended.</u>
EDN-348 (70m x 80m)	Keshabpur	311	63	374	0.85	Recommended
EDN-349 (60m x 70m)	Keshabpur	99	30	129	0.7475	Recommended
EDI-347 (80m x 70m)	Malandighi	861	422	1283	0.8865	The site shall be deprived of 1283 no. of mature Sal and associate trees if the project is undertaken. Apart from that, the area also is seen to be very rich in bio-diversity with significant presence of Medicinal plants. Such a large felling of Sal trees along with associates like Mohul, piyal etc is <u>Not Recommended.</u>
EDI-354 (60m x 70m)	Malandighi	313	25	338	0.476	The proposed project site is located close to State Highway and the opening of forest for creation of well pad and approach road is likely to make the existing forest area susceptible to future illegal Encroachments. Hence the diversion is <u>Not Recommended</u> in the interest of protection of existing forest and wildlife.
EDI-355 (70m x 80m)	Malandighi	120	28	148	0.6875	Recommended
EDN-362 (70m x 80m)	Rajkusum	138	0	138	0.56	Recommended
EDN-358 (60m x 60m)	Tilakchandra pur	291	25	316	0.68	Recommended
EDN-363 (60m x 70m)	Keshabpur	478	3	481	0.42	Recommended

EDN-132 & EDN-360 (Pipeline)	Bandra	0	78	78	0.856	This land is required for installation of pipeline as well as creation of approach road to a well pad in Non-Forest Area. Since no alternate approach land is available in Private land, the project is Recommended .
	Bishtupur & Saraswatiganj	0	5	5	0.1175	
	Bishtupur	0	62	62	0.1075	
Total:				8554	13.6575	


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