

**Annexure-9****Justification for locating the project in forest area to be submitted by user Agency and countersigned by DCF****JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT**

In consideration of the requirements of the Environmental parameter, constructions methodologies to be adopted for different terrain encountered en-route, design and engineering factors, availability of logistic support during construction, operation and maintenance of pipeline, various feasible routes were identified by the Consultant **M/s. Deshpande-Patil Consultants** based on Desk Study of relevant topographic maps of Survey of India.

The study was subsequently supplemented with field reconnaissance and data collection along the feasible routes. Finally, the optimum route was arrived at after analyzing the various data and conducting in-depth study of topographic maps based on field data.

The route is finalized. The respective route passes along & across **1 R Distributory, Amloh Minor, NH-44 (LUDHIANA-DELHI), SH-12A (Mandi Gobindgarh to Amloh)** as said herein above to provide Gas to **Domestic, Commercial and Industrial Units in Mandi Gobindgarh & its surrounding areas of Fatehgarh Sahib.**

The Pipeline will be laid at minimum 1.2 m below ground level and as per the requirement of the authority.

The pipeline will be passing through Protected Forest land for about **10542.31**Sq.mtr. i. e. Hectares **1.0542** of land as per enclosed **Annexure -7.**

**Factors considered**

While identifying the various alternatives for selection of the optimum route following factors were considered.

- **Pipeline route has been finalized in such a way that minimum forest land will be utilized as well as tree cutting will be minimum.**
- Demand and supply center.
- Compliance with environmental regulations.
- Safety of people and property.
- Shortest possible pipeline length.
- A minimum number of bends.
- Favorable ground profile for pipeline hydraulics.
- Accessibility to pipeline route during construction, maintenance and operation.
- Location of pipeline facilities and access thereto.
- Avoidance of mining protected and reserved forest archaeological and other sensitive areas.
- Avoidance of unstable ground features.
- Minimizing road, rail, rivers and flood-prone areas.
- Avoidance of rocky stretches.
- Avoidance of areas reserved for planned future development.
- Flexibility for future expansion.

Based on the above-detailed route surveys have been carried out to finalize the exact corridor for laying the pipeline.

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Place :- **Mandi Gobindgarh**

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