Specific recommendation of the DFO for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal (FP/JH/TRANS/27672/2017) with reasons.

The proposed 220 kv Transmission line corridor falls partly under Ghatkuri Reserve Forest compartment No (G-30) and Gua Protected Forest(Gua PF) under Gua Range of Saranda Forest Division. The entire forest area of Saranda Forest Division has rich floral and faunal diversity and which has also been notified as core area of Singhbhum Elephant Reserve vide notification no. 7-2/00(PE) dated 26.03.2001 of Government of Jharkhand. The proposed 220 kv transmission line area exists in hilly terrain with moderate to steep slope.

As per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change (MOEF & CC), Gol, (Ref F.No.- 7-25/2012-FC) :-

"In case of transmission lines passing through National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Wildlife Corridors, insulated conductors shall only be used to prevent electrocution of animals."

The user agency was asked vide letter no. 2016 dt. 27.09.2018 to clarify above point. User agency has replied that insulated conductors are not being used for 220 kv transmission line in India.

As forest of Saranda Division is highly rich in terms of biodiversity and is home of various wild animals including elephant, there is need to give adequate attention towards conservation of flora and fauna.

If User Agency agrees to implements wildlife management plan and soil moisture conservation work approved by competent authority, proposal may be considered for recommendation.

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Divisional Forest Officer Saranda Forest Division Chaibasa