OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, SUNDARGARH DIVISION.

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Memo No.2678/4F (Misc) /2017Dated: 29/04/2017.

To

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

Sub:

Proposal for diversion of 19.43 Hectares of Forest Land in village Laikera, Chuabahal, Kalamegha, Bihajore and Kanaktora for construction of Railway Siding Corridor to connect NTPC MGR line with MCL Railway line at Laikera and Kechobahal ends for meeting the balance coal requirement and also for transportation of oil rakes to the power plant.

(State Serial No.OR/064/2016, dt.05/08/2016)

With reference to the subject cited above, I submit herewith the proposal for diversion of 19.43 ha of forest land pertaining to Sundargarh Forest Division for construction of Railway Siding Corridor, in four copies for onward transmission for obtaining approval of Central Government of India under Section-2 of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

1. Brief Description:

NTPC Limited, the largest power company in India, was set up in 1975 to augment power requirement in the country. It is among the world's largest and most efficient power generation companies. Present installed capacity of NTPC is 50,498 MW (including 6,966 MW through JVs) comprising of 44 NTPC Stations (19 Coal based stations, 7 combined cycle gas/liquid fuel based stations), 9 Joint Venture stations (8 coal based and one gas based), one Hydro and 10 renewable energy projects. At present with about 18% of the installed capacity in the country, Group-NTPC generated about 24% of the total power generated in the country. It plans to become a 128,000 MW generating company by 2032. NTPC has gone beyond the thermal power generation and has diversified into hydro power, coal mining, power equipment manufacturing, oil & gas exploration, power trading & distribution. NTPC is now in the entire power value chain and is poised to become an Integrated Power Major. NTPC has added 2490 MW in FY 10-11, 2820 MW in FY 11-12 and 4170 MW in FY 12-13 and 1780 MW in FY 13-14 1290 MW in FY 14-15 and 2255 MW in FY 15-16 and has targeted to add 14058MW during the 12th plan. NTPC has set new benchmarks for the power industry both in the area of power plant construction and operation.

Darlipali Super Thermal Power Project (2x800) of NTPC Ltd is proposed for implementation under Stage-I, and expected to be commissioned during XII plan. The stage-II forest clearance of the main plant area of 13.95 Ha of Forest Land has been issued on 13.10.2014 vide MoEF letter No: 5-ORC158/2013-BHU. The stage-II forest clearance of the MGR Rail Line of 19.70 Ha of Forest Land has been issued on 16.11.2016 vide MoEF letter No: 5-ORC240/2015-BHU.

The coal requirement for the plant for Stage-I is around 8MTPA and is linked to Dulanga coal mining project of NTPC Ltd for coal supply of 7MTPA.NTPC needs to connect with MCL Railway line for meeting the balance coal requirement at Kechobahal and Laikera end and also for transportation of oil rakes to

the power plant.In principle approval has been obtained from MCL for the same. Energy Department, Govt. of Odisha has accorded administrative approval for acquisition of private land in favour of M/s NTPC Limited vide letter No. 1247/En, Bhubaneswar dtd 10.02.2016 for the establishment of Railway Siding

The approx. length of the Railway Siding from Laikera to Kechobahal is 12 km. This corridor passes through

- i) 05 revenue villages (Laikera, Chuabahal, Kalamegha, Bihajore and Kanaktora) of Sundargarh District.
- ii) 02 revenue villages (Chichinda and Kechobahal) of Jharsuguda District.

2. Map

The User Agency NTPC Ltd. has enclosed the following maps.

SL. NO.	DESCRIPTIONS	SCALE	PLATE NO
1	Topo sheet No.F44R13 showing the location of Proposed Railway Siding Corridor	1:50,000	2
2	Revenue village sheets (09 nos.) showing the proposed layout of Railway Siding Corridor. (Village Laikera: 01, Village Chuabahal: 03, Village Kalamegha:01, Village Bihajore: 01, Village Kanaktora: 03) traced on cloth map.	16" – 1 Mile	2
3	DGPS Survey Map of forest land which need to be diverted.	16" – 1 Mile	1

3. Forest land

The project involves 59.90 Ha of land out of which forest land is 19.43 ha in Sundargarh Forest Division, the details has been annexed as Annexure – IV.

4. Flora and Fauna

Tree species which are commonly noticed in the proposed area are Asan/Sahaj(Terminaliatomentosa/alata),Amba(Mangiferaindica),Bahada(Terminaliabelerica), Dhaura (Anogeissus latifolia), Jamun(Syzygium cuminii), Kendu(Diospyrus melanoxylon), Sal(Shorea robusta),Tentuli(Tamarindus indica) etc.The fauna noticed in the area are Common Cobra,Common krait, Jackal, and Rabbit etc. No rare or endangered flora or fauna is noticed in the lease area.

5. Tree enumeration

Plot wise enumeration has been carried out in the Forest area applied for diversion. The total nos of tree to be felled is 9767. The details enumeration list has been enclosed separately with the proposal as Annexure-V.

6. Compensatory Afforestation

Compensatory Afforestation land of twice the area i.e 38.86 Ha has been identified in Gundi Protected Reserve Forest of Bhawanipatna Range office of Kalahandi (North) Forest Division against 19.43 Ha of Forest land which is to be diverted in Sundargarh forest Division. Scheme for CA area of 38.86 Ha. was prepared by the DFO, Kalahandi (North) Division.

7. Resettlement and Rehabilitation

Least displacement of people involved in the proposed Railway Siding Corridor.

8. Cost Benefit analysis

Being a linear project involving forest land less than 20Ha, Cost benefit analysis is not required for this project as per MoEF Guidelines.

9. Environmental Clearance.

The project does not require Environmental Clearance. However the Environmental Clearance of the main plant is enclosed in Annexure-III.

10. Wildlife Management Plan

The area does not form a part of any National Park/Sanctuary/Biosphere Reserve or Elephant Corridor. It does not come under any wildlife corridor. However, the proposed Railway Siding Corridor comes within the impact area of 10 Km radius of Darlipali Super Thermal Power Project & Dulanga Coal Mining Project of NTPC Ltd and required funds have been deposited by both the projects for various activities for conservation of wildlife within the impact area as per recommendation of PCCF (Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha.

11. Compliance of Schedule Tribe & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act, 2006.

The user Agency has submitted an undertaking in this regard .(AnnexureVI(e)).

12. DGPS Survey Report.

The DGPS Survey Report is enclosed with the proposal. (Plate-1)

13. Deposit of NPV

The User Agency has given an undertaking to pay the NPV of the forest land proposed to be diverted. (AnnexureVI(b)).

14. Violation

No violation noticed.

15. Others

- i) Site inspection report of DFO, Sundargarh Forest Division is enclosed with the proposal .
- ii) Part-II is enclosed with the proposal.

iii) Basic information report is enclosed with the proposal.

16. Recommendation

In view of the above,19.43 Ha of forest land is recommended for diversion in favour of Darlipali Super Thermal Power Project of NTPC Ltd towards construction of Railway Siding Corridor.

This is for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Encl: 4 sets of proposal

Divisional Forest Officer Sundargarh Forest Division

Memo No.

9679/Dated

-04-2017

Copy forwarded to the Addl. Pr.Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Diversion & Nodal Officer, FC Act, O/O the PCCF, Odisha for favour of kind information and necessary action .

Divisional Forest Officer Sundargarh Forest Division.