GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT

Rc.No. 241/2016/P5 Date: 26-09-2016 Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Paloncha.

From Sri C.Saravanan, I.F.S., Divisional Forest Officer, Paloncha Division, Paloncha. To The Conservator of Forests, Khammam Circle, Khammam.

Sir,

Sub: TSFD – Paloncha Division – Proposals for diversion of forest land in Paloncha Division infavour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP Circle, Khammam – For laying of pipe line and Construction of Structures for Segment 25/1 (Ratangutta)under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project – Proposals submitted - Reg.

Ref: 1.Prl.C.C.F. T.S., Hyderabad Rc.No.822/2016/FCA-1/TS(Segments-25/1), Dt:21-01-2016.

2.C.F., Khammam Rc.No.1015/2012/M11, Dt:30-05-2016.

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It is submitted that in the reference 2nd cited above, the Conservator of Forests, Khammam has issued instructions to submit the proposals with detailed covering letter stating all the details furnished by the User Agency in Part-I, information given by Divisional Forest Officer in Part-II and submit to the Conservator of Forests, Khammam.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the Superintending Engineer, TDWSP Circle, Khammam has submitted the proposals in Form-A, seeking prior approval of the Government U/s.2 of the FC Act, 1980 infavour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP Circle, Khammam for diversion of 4.675 Ha of Forest Land in Paloncha Division infavour of Superintending Engineer, TDWSP Circle, Khammam for laying of pipe line and Construction of Structures for Segment 25/1 (Ratangutta RF) under Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project through the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad vide reference 1st cited above. The details of proposals are as follows.

❖ The proposed pipe line falls under Ratangutta Reserved Forest, which is notified under section 15 of A.P.Forest Act, vide G.O.Ms.No.44 F&RD(Form-III), Dt:29.01.1980.

- ❖ The proposed pipe line comes under Segment 25/1 (Ratangutta) of TDWSP (Telangana Drinking Water supply project) from Segment 25/1 pipe line Net work, a part of the pipe line is proposed falls under Ratangutta Reserved Forest and the total area required for diversion of 4.675 Ha. The pipe line alignment is proposed duly utilizing the Right of way of the existing road which falls in the Ratnagutta Reserved Forest, and there is no other alternate alignment to proposed as the ground levels are not permitting as per the Hydraulic design.
- ❖ Map showing the required forest land, boundary of adjoining forest on 1:50,000 scale Map is enclosed.
- Cost of the project is Rs.160.02 Crores.

Justification of locating the project in Forest area:

The User Agency has submitted that the Telangana Drinking Water Project is intended to provide safe Drinking Water to every habitation at a service level with 100 ipcd at household level from a sustainable surface water source as a part of the project, it is proposed to provide safe drinking water in Pinapaka Constituency in Khammam District.

The work providing Drinking Water to habitations in Pinapaka Constituency in Khammam District Segment 25/1 (Ratangutta). All possible alternate routes for design of pipe lines have been examined and when it is inevitable and no other alternative route except through Forest and water treatment plant Structures in the Forest Area is essential to treat the raw water then supply clear water through gravity mains to habitations in the Pinapaka Constituency in Khammam District. As per the Hydraulic Designs and Topography of the area the proposed locations are very much essential for laying of pumping main, gravity mains and Construction of Water treatment plant and there are no other possible alternative alignment.

Purpose wise breakup of the total land required:

The proposed pipe line is passing through Ratangutta Reserved Forest of Ashwapuram Range. The length of the pipe line is 2.705 Kms. The break up is as follows.

3.999 Ha

Pipe lines : 0.676 Ha

For structure :

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Total: 4.675 Ha

- The User Agency has informed that the pipe line and structure alignment is proposed duly utilizing the "Right of way" of existing Road which falls in the Ratnagutta Reserved Forest on the head work structure is proposed duly utilizing the "Right of way" of the existing Road which falls in the Ratangutta Reserved Forest.
- The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of CA/Penal CA, as per the Scheme prepared by State Government and also pay additional amount if any due to escalation of any changes at later date as per the demand raised by the Forest authorities.
- ❖ The User Agency has furnished undertaking to pay the NPV for acquisition of Forest land for Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project for laying of pipe line and also pay the additional amount if any due to escalation or any other charges at later date as per the demand raised by the forest authorities.
- The User Agency has furnished an undertaking to pay the cost of extraction charges of the Tree growth existing on the forest land proposed for diversion under the project as and when demanded by the forest authorities and also undertake to pay the additional amount if any due to escalation or any other charges at later date as per the demand raised by the forest authorities.

It is further submitted that as per GOI, MoEF. Lr.No.11-9-98- FC, Dt:16-06-2011 there is no Compensatory Afforestation to be insisted upon in Drinking Water Projects in Left Wing Extremism Districts where the diversion of Forest Land is up to 5.00 Ha in each project. Hence, Compensatory Afforestation is not applicable in this Project. The Part-II information along with site inspection report is submitted here with. The Part-II details are as follows.

PART-II:

- ❖ The proposed pipe line falls under Ratangutta Reserved Forest, which is notified under section 15 of A.P.Forest Act, vide G.O.Ms.No.44 F&RD(Form-III), Dt:29.01.1980.
- ❖ The Density of vegetation in the proposed area is about more than 0.4.

- The existing tree growth is of Miscellaneous species like Tuniki, Nallamaddi, Ippa, Chiruman, Gumpena, Nallavepa, Maddi, Nemalinara, Battaganam, Narayepa, Pachaari, Thada, Bojja, Korivi, Billudu, Thani, Buruga, Pala and Thogara etc.,
- ❖ Details of species wise and dia-meter class wise enumeration of trees is enclosed in the proposal.
- The proposed pipe line area is surrounded with Miscellaneous species as mentioned above as proposed as area is for pipe line, the vulnerability for erosion may not arise.
- No work in violation of Act has been carried out sofar.
- The proposed pipe line is not falling in any National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve and Elephant Reserve Corridor etc.,
- ❖ The requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project which is 4.675 Ha in Paloncha Division.
- ❖ In the proposed site there are no protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.
- There are no rare /endangered unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area.

Specific recommendations of the DCF for acceptance:

This project is recommended subject to the following conditions.

- i. The User Agency should not disturb flora and fauna during execution of the project or otherwise in the area.
- ii. The User Agency should follow FCA, 1980 guidelines strictly.
- iii. Recommended for acceptance of the Telangana Drinking Water Project is intended to provide Safe Drinking Water to the people of Khammam District.

It is further submitted that the proposals in Part-II have already been uploaded on 26-09-2016 in the web portal (<u>www.Forest</u> clearance.nic.in). The proposals in (5) sets submitted by the User Agency along with Part-II are submitted herewith.

This is submitted for favour of information.

Encl: Proposals in (5) Sets along with Part-II

Divisional Forest Officer.

Yours faithfully,

Paloncha

(To be filled up by the Nodal Officer with date of receipt)

PART-II

(To be filled by the concerned Deputy Conservator of Forests)
State serial No. of proposal FP/TG/WATER/17587/2016

7. Location of the Project/Scheme:

(i) State/Union Territory : Telangana

(ii) District. : KHAMMAM

(iii) Forest Division : PALONCHA

(iv) Area of forest land proposed for diversion (in ha): 4.675 Ha

Block Beat Compartment No. Area under diversion

Ratangutta Manuguru(South) 2,3,5&9 4.675 Ha

(v) Legal status of forest.

Ratangutta R.F notified under section 15 of A.P.Forest Act, vide G.O.Ms.No.44 F&RD(Form-III), Dt:29-01-80.

(vi) Density of vegetation.

The Canopy density is more than 0.4 and the vegetation comprise Nallamaddi (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *Tuniki (Diospyros melanoxylon)*, *Yepi, Kodisha, Billudu, Chirumanu(Anogeissus latifolia)*, *Thogara, Korivi* and the shrub species like Pala(Wrightia tinctoria). The source of arriving the density is from referring the GIS layers of Telangana Forest Department website.

vii) Species-wise (scientific names) and diameter class-wise enumeration of trees (to be enclosed. In case of irrigation/hydel projects enumeration at FRL, FRL-2 meter & FRL-4 meter also to be enclosed.)

Species – wise list enclosed.

Total summary of the proposed area 4.675 Ha

Area in Ha.	Total No. of trees	Girth class wise no. of trees					Timber	Fuel	Total value
		Up to 30cm	31 to 60cm	61 to 90cm	91to 120 cm	Above 120cm	Cu.m	Cu.m	(Rs.in Lac)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.675	973	238	629	17	20	16	25.585	25.734	1.75608

viii) Brief note on vulnerability of the forest area to erosion.

The canopy density of the vegetation is more than 0.4. The terrain of the area is almost plain, undulating Patches in a scattered manner slopping towards north. The soils are not prone for any erosion due to the presence of the vegetation.

ix) Approximate distance of proposed site for diversion from boundary of forest.

This is passing through Reserved Forest Area.

x) Whether forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, etc. (If so, the details of the area and comments of the Chief Wildlife Warden to be annexed).

No, the proposed are is not a part of any sanctuary or national park or Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor etc.

xi) Whether any rare/endangered/unique species of flora and fauna found in the area if so, details thereof.

No rare /endangered unique species of flora and fauna are found in the area.

xii) Whether any protected archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. If so, the details thereof with NOC from competent authority, if required.

No, There are no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

8. Whether the requirement of forest land as proposed by the user agency in col. 2 of Part-I is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project. If no, recommended area item-wise with details of alternatives examined.

Yes, the requirement of Forest Land as proposed by the user agency is unavoidable and barest minimum for the project.

9. Whether any work in violation of the Act has been carried out (Yes/No). If yes, details of the same including period of work done, action taken on erring officials. Whether work in violation is still in progress.

No

10. Details of compensatory afforestation scheme:

It is submitted that as per GOI, MoEF, Lr.F.No.11-9-98-FC, Dt:16-06-2011: No CA to be insisted upon in Drinking Water Projects in Left Wing Extremism Districts where the diversion of Forest Land is upto 5.00 Ha in each project. Hence, the CA is not applicable in this project.

11.Site inspection report of the D.C.F (to be enclosed) especially highlighting facts asked in col. 7 (xi, xii), 8 and 9 above.

I have inspected the area proposed for diversion on 16-09-2016. The Site inspection report is enclosed here with.

- 12. Division/District profile:
 - (i) Geographical area of the district: 1,60,29,000 Ha

Division: 404035.00 Ha

(ii) Forest area of the district 7,48,882 Ha.

Division: 103303.53 Ha

(iii) Total forest area diverted since 1980 with number of cases.

18 Cases in 3425.8058 Ha.

- Total compensatory afforestation stipulated in the district/division (iv) since 1980 on
 - (a) forest land including penal compensatory afforestation,

1248.15 Ha. Planted.

121.31 Ha ANR

Total: 1369.46 Ha

(b) Non-forest land.

837.42 Ha

- Progress of compensatory afforestation as on (date) 16-09-2016, on (v)
 - (a) forest land 2780.67 Ha planted.
 - (b) non-forest land.: 187.32 Ha

13. Specific recommendations of the D.C.F for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with reasons.

Yes, Recommended for acceptance of the Telangana Drinking Water Project is intended to provide Safe Drinking Water to the people of Khammam District.

Date: 21 -09 -2016. Place: Paloncha.

Divisional Førest Officer

Paloncha Division