



DIRECTORATE OF ENERGY
GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
MC PARKING BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, NEAR TUTIKANDI CROSSING SHIMLA-05
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No. DoE/CE (Energy) /Tundah-II/2025- 8748-49

Dated: 20/12/2025

From

Director (Energy)
Government of Himachal Pradesh

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest & HoFF,
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla

Subject: - Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government Under section 2(1)(ii) of the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 in favour of the Sai Eternal Foundation, non-forestry use of 13.3082 hectares of protected forest for the construction of Tundah-II Hydro Electric Project (24 MW) within the jurisdiction of Bharmour Forrest Division, District Chamba, Himachal Pradesh. Proposal No. FP/HP/HYD/49283/2020

Sir,

This is in reference to the letter dated 10.03.2025 issued by the Assistant Inspector General of Forests addressed to the Principal Secretary (Forests) regarding the subject cited above forwarded to this office by the project developer of Tundah-II HEP. In this connection, it is informed that the project developer, vide letter dated 28.06.2025, has submitted point-wise replies to the observations raised. The relevant clarifications with respect to the observations are as under:-

<p>Observation Sr. No. (ii): In the component-wise break-up, an area of 4.2877 hectares has been proposed for 15 muck dumping sites. Justification for proposing 15 muck dumping sites needs to be submitted by the State Government. Possibility of reducing the area to the barest minimum may be explored and the revised area, if any, may be intimated to the Ministry.</p>	<p>Clarification: It is clarified that all viable alternatives were examined during the detailed surveys and investigations of the project. Considering the volume of muck likely to be generated and the steep hilly terrain of the project area, approximately 5 hectares have been provisioned for muck disposal in the approved DPR relevant chapter at Annexure-A.</p> <p>It is stated by the project developer that at present, further reduction in the proposed area is not feasible. Further, any surplus land, if available, shall be surrendered after completion of construction activities. The proposed muck dumping sites and corresponding areas are strictly in accordance with the approved DPR, and any further reduction would adversely affect project implementation.</p>
<p>Observation Sr. No. (iii): In the component-wise break-up, an area of 3.2102 hectares has been proposed for roads within the project area above FRL. The State Government may inform whether the area sought is the barest minimum. Possibility of reduction</p>	<p>Clarification: The matter has been examined in detail, and all feasible alternatives to optimize the road layout have been explored. It is respectfully submitted that the proposed area of 3.2102 hectares is required essentially for construction of access roads to various project components and is bare minimum.</p>

may be explored and any revision may be intimated to the Ministry.	These roads are indispensable for transportation of heavy machinery, equipment, and construction materials, and are integral to the smooth, timely execution and future maintenance of the Tundah-II HEP. The road alignments and corresponding area are as per the approved DPR, and any further reduction is not feasible without adversely affecting project execution.
Observation Sr. No. (vii): The State Government is requested to intimate the status of approval from the State Dam Safety Authority (SDSA) and National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) for Tundah-II HEP. Other approvals pertaining to dam safety may also be intimated.	Clarification: The Tundah-II HEP is a run-of-the-river scheme involving a small-capacity barrage. In view of the limited scale of the hydraulic structure and as per prevailing regulatory provisions, approvals from the SDSA and NDSA are not applicable to this project.


Further, the project developer has forwarded an inspection report for site inspection carried out by the officers from the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Government of India, the Deputy Director General of Forests (Central), Chandigarh and Government of HP. A copy of the inspection report issued by the Deputy Director General of Forests, Chandigarh, is enclosed as **Annexure-B**.

Additionally, the project developer has submitted details of muck dumping sites for Tundah-II HEP (24 MW) along with the general layout plan, wherein all dumping sites are clearly demarcated. The total area of muck dumping sites has been worked out as 42,877 sqm. As per the approved DPR, considering an average dump height of about 3.5 metres in hilly terrain, approximately 5 hectares (50,000 sqm) area is required for disposal of excavated material.

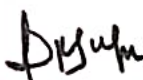
This is submitted for your kind information and necessary action in the matter, please.

DA : As above

Yours faithfully,


Chief Engineer (Energy)
Directorate of Energy, GoHP,

Copy to the M/s Sai Eternal Foundation, Sai Bhawan, Sector-4, New Shimla-171009, Himachal Pradesh


Chief Engineer (Energy)
Directorate of Energy, GoHP,