



एनएचपीसी लिमिटेड
(भारत सरकार का उद्यम)
NHPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)
ISO-9001, 14001 & IS 18001 Certified Company

डुगर जल विद्युत परियोजना (500 MW)
Dugar HE Project (500 MW)
लुज, किल्लार (पांगी), चंबा (हि.प्र.)
176323
Luj, Killar (Pangi), Chamba, (H.P.)
ई-मेल/E-mail: dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in

Ref / संदर्भसं: एनएच/डीएचईपी/2024/ 641

Dated / दिनांक: 14/05/2024

Divisional Forest Officer,
Killar, Distt-Chamba H.P.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha of forest land for construction of 500 MW Dugar Hydro Electric Project in favour of NHPC Ltd. under Pangi Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021) – regarding.

Sir,

Please refer to EDS raised by Assistant Inspector General of Forest, MoEF&CC, New Delhi vide letter dated 12/12/2023 regarding the above cited subject. In this regard, it is submitted that Forest Proposal of Dugar HEP was placed before the Forest Advisory Committee in its meeting held on 29/11/2023. After detailed deliberation on the matter, the Committee desired that *“A study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be got conducted by the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency”*.

Accordingly, project has requested Wadia Institute, Dehradun to conduct the study several times through vide e-mails / letters. After repeated pursuance, Wadia Institute intimated that Institute scientists are busy in other important works and it seems that Wadia Institute is not taking interest to conduct the study for Dugar HEP.

Therefore, to avoid further delay, project has requested Nodal Officer (FCA) Govt of HP to allow NHPC to conduct the above study from any other Institute / University who has expertise in such studies through vide letter dated 05/02/24 & 07/02/24 (copies enclosed). In this regard, a letter has also been written by Nodal Officer (FCA) Govt of HP to Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC), MoEF&CC, New Delhi on dated 21/02/24 (copy enclosed).

In view of the above, it is again requested to allow for conducting the above study from any other institute in place of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun to prevent the project from rescinding into un-viability.

Thanking You.

General Manager (HOP)
Dugar HEP

Copy to: (i) Pr. CCF (HoFF), GoHP for kind information please.
(ii) Nodal Officer (FCA), GoHP for kind information please.

Regd. Office : NHPC OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-33, FARIDABAD-121003(HARYANA)
मुख्यालय: : एनएचपीसी कार्यालय परिसर, सैक्टर-33, फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) - 121003



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ई-मेल/E-mail: dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in
Phone No: +91-8988136260

Ref / संदर्भसं: एनएच/डीएचईपी/ 598

Dated / दिनांक : 07/02/2024

**Nodal Officer (FCA)- APCCF O/o PCCF (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh Forest Dept,
Talland, Shimla.**

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of Dugar HEP (500MW) in favour of NHPC Ltd. Under Pangi Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (online no.FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021)- regarding.

Respected Sir,

This is in continuation of our office letter no.24/2/02 vide dated 05/02/24 in which your good-self was requested to allow NHPC to conduct the study of geological aspect of the Dugar Project (as sought by FAC meeting held on dated 21/09/23 and 29/11/23) from any other Govt. institute / universities who have expertise in conducting such study instead of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun (As mentioned in FAC meeting Dated 21/09/2023).

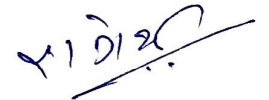
As intimated earlier Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology is not taking interest to conduct the study for Dugar HEP.

Therefore, to avoid further delay, Project has explored following institutes / universities that may conduct such studies:

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
2. Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.
3. Sikkim University, Gangtok
4. Delhi University

Hence, you are requested to allow the conduction of the above study as sought by FAC from any of the above institutes / universities or to suggest us some other institute to prevent the project from rescinding into unviability.

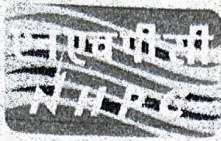
Thanking You


(Rajesh Kumar)
General Manager (HOP)
Dugar HEP

Copy to:

- (i) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt of HP, Shimla for kind information please.
- (ii) Assistant Inspector General of Forests, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for kind information please.

Regd. Office : NHPC OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-33, FAIDABAD-121003(HARYANA)
मुख्यालय: : एनएचपीसी कार्यालय परिसर, सैक्टर-33, फ़रीदाबाद (हरियाणा) - 121003



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(भारत सरकार का उद्योग)
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Dugar HE Project (500 MW)
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Luj, Killar (Pangi), Chamba, (H.P.)
ई-मेल/E-mail: dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in
Phone No: +91-8988138250

Ref / संदर्भसं: एनएच/डीएचईपी/ 24/2/22

Dated / दिनांक : 05/02/24

**Nodal Officer (FCA)- APCCF O/o PCCF (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh Forest Dept,
Talland, Shimla.**

Sub: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of Dugar HEP (500MW) in favour of NHPC Ltd. Under Pangi Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (online no. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021)- regarding.

Respected Sir,

Forest Proposal of Dugar HEP was discussed twice by Forest Advisory Committee of MoEF&CC, New Delhi dated 21/09/23 and 29/11/23 respectively. Accordingly, letters have been issued by the MoEF&CC on dated 05/09/2023 and 12/12/2023 for furnishing the information for further consideration of the proposal (copy enclosed).

FAC in its meeting dated 21/09/2023 and has desired that **a study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be conducted by the renowned / reputed institute in the field such as Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency.** Accordingly, Project has requested to take up the studies with Dr. Vikram Gupta of WIHG. He has verbally consented for the studies, but by the time the matter was taken up through proper channel he put up a lein to WIHG and joined Sikkim University. The Sikkim University vide their letter dated 20/12/23 has also provided the invoice for executing the studies. It is pertinent to mention here that similar studies were conducted by him for Thana Plaun HEP (191MW) in HP state and that proposal was recommended by FAC for accord of FC Stage-I.

In the meantime, FAC in its meeting dated 29/11/2023 has desired that **a study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be conducted by Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency.** Accordingly, project has requested WIHG to conduct the study as desired by FAC several times through vide emails / letter dated 29/09/2023, 06/12/23, 13/12/23, 20/12/23, 29/12/23, 03/01/24, 12/01/24 & 24/01/24. Officials from the project have also visited the institute several times as well undersigned had a meeting with Director, Wadia Institute at Dehradun on 29/12/23 and requested for taking up the study on priority.

After repeated pursuance, vide email dated 12/01/24, WIHG has intimated that the timeline for providing budgetary proposal for studies will be January'2024 and asked us not to do repeated communications/pursuance as their scientists are busy in other important works. However, evenafter lapse of 1st week of February'2024 , neither any budgetary proposal nor any communication has been received from WIHG regarding taking up of the studies.

It is pertinent to mention here, that the Project was taken up for execution by Tata Power in 2014

Regd. Office : NHPC OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-33, FAIDABAD-121003(HARYANA)
मुख्यालय : एनएचपीसी कार्यालय परिसर, सेक्टर-33, फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) - 121003

5/2/24



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डुगर जल विद्युत परियोजना (500 MW)

Dugar HE Project (500 MW)

लुज, किल्लार (पांगी), चंबा (हि.प्र.) 176323

Luj, Killar (Pangi), Chamba, (H.P.)

ई-मेल/E-mail: dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in

Phone No: +91-9888136260

itself and as that was not able to get all the clearances in time it was handed over to NHPC Ltd in 2019 and now all the clearances except forest clearance has been obtained and the NIT for major civil works has also been floated. In last one year the Project cost has enhanced from about Rs. 4200 crores to about Rs. 5600 crores leading to near threshold tariff of Rs. 5.90 (approx.).

Thus, In view of the above as it seems that WIHG is not taking interest in studies and to prevent the project from rescinding into unviability and also as per 1st FAC minutes it is requested to allow us to conduct the study from any Government institute/University having expertise in such studies rather than picking up only one institute as it may delay the whole process of developing prestigious Hydro Project of national importance.

Expecting an early response from your end please.

Thanking You

Encl. as above

Y1/2/24
05/02/24

(Rajesh Kumar)
General Manager (HOP)
Dugar HEP

Copy to:

- (i) The Principal Conservator of Forests, Govt of HP, Shimla for kind information please.
(ii) Assistant Inspector General of Forests, MoEF&CC, New Delhi for kind information please.

Received
05/02/2024

Regd. Office
मुख्यालय:

NHPC OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-33, FAIDABAD-121003(HARYANA)
एनएचपीसी कार्यालय परिसर, सेक्टर-33, फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) - 121003

/2023

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi – 110003

Dated: December, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of 500 MW Dugar Hyrdo Electric Project in favour of NHPC Ltd. under Pangi Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021) – regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh's letter No. Ft. 48-5297/2021 (FCA) dated 02.07.2022 read along with letter no. letter No. Ft.48-5297/2021 dated 09.11.2023 on the above mentioned subject and to say that the said proposal was placed before the Advisory Committee (AC) in its meeting held on 29.11.2023. The minutes of the meeting of the AC may kindly be seen at www.parivesh.nic.in. After detailed deliberation on the matter, the Committee deferred the proposal and decided that:

- i. A study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be got conducted by the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency.
- ii. The State shall explore the possibility of muck dumping on non-forest land and away from the river. The possibility of using non-forest land for job facility area shall also be explored. The detail of alternatives examined along with the number of trees involved in each case and reasons for their acceptance/rejection shall also be submitted.
- iii. The copy of the approved CAT plan for instant proposal shall be submitted.
- iv. The approved mining plans in case of the proposed quarry sites shall be submitted.

In view of the above, it is requested to furnish the information as above for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by
Suneet Bhardwaj
Date: 12-12-2023 10:30:20

Sd/-
(Suneet Bhardwaj)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

/2023

**Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(FC Division)**

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003

Dated: 5th September, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forest and Environment,
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of 500 MW Dugar Hyrdo Electric Project in favour of NHPC Ltd. under Pangi Forest Division and Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021).

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh's letter No. Ft. 48-5297/2021 (FCA) dated 02.07.2022 submitting the above subject proposal for seeking prior approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said proposal has been considered in Advisory Committee (AC) Meeting held on 21.08.2023. The detailed minutes of the AC meeting is available on www.parivesh.nic.in.

2. The AC, after detailed discussion and deliberation with concern Dy. Director General of Forests (C), deferred the proposal and sought the following information:

- i. A study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be conducted by the renowned/reputed Institute in the field such as Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of the user agency.
- ii. There is only one Muck Dumping site which involves 8.5797-hectare forest land. State Govt. may shall explore the possibility of muck dumping on non- forest land and away from the river. A detailed plan containing the details of muck generation and proposed utilization shall be submitted.
- iii. The copy of the approved CAT plan for instant proposal shall be submitted.
- iv. The approved mining plans in case of the proposed quarry sites shall be submitted.
- v. The details of saplings/poles shall be correctly uploaded in the Part-II of the application on PARIVESH portal.
- vi. The State Govt. shall intimate the status of the River basin Cumulative Impact Assessment and Carrying Capacity Study (CIA&CCS) in case of Chenab river on which this project is located.
- vii. As per proposal submitted, the project is a run of the river project, whereas a huge area is proposed for submergence at the same time. The State shall clarify the position in this regard.
- viii. The State Govt. shall submit a detailed report regarding the impact of the project on the water flow in the areas downstream. The impact of the project on farming and flow of water in the distributaries downstream shall also be studied and a report shall be submitted.

/2023

3. In view of above, the State Govt. is requested to provide the information/document/clarification on the points indicated in Para 2 above to this Ministry for further consideration of the instant proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by

Suneet Bhardwaj

Date: 05-09-2023 15:06:21

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservation of Forests, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
2. The DDGF(C), Regional Office, Chandigarh.
3. Sub-Office, MoEF & CC, Shimla.
4. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
5. User Agency.
6. Monitoring Cell of FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.

59 AM

Kindly also refer to the letter received on 3rd January 2024 for your perusal.

Regards,
Swapnamita

From: Dr. Swapnamita Vaideswaran [mailto:swapnamita@wihg.res.in]

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 3:01 PM

To: 'Dugar H E Project'

Cc: 'ashwani.2001in@gmail.com'; 'director@wihg.res.in'; 'Registrar WIHG'; 'TCPME Tcpme'

Subject: RE: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

To
General Manager (HoP)
Dugar HEP (500MW)
NHPC Ltd. Govt of India

This is regarding your request to WIHG, Dehradun, regarding the geological/stability survey to be conducted for the Dugar H E Project. Kindly note that an email was received in December, and a meeting was held physically with Mr. Ashwani Jain, Senior Manager (Geology), NHPC, on 19th December 2023. It was conveyed clearly to Mr. Ashwani Jain that the project initiation cannot be started before January 2024, as scientists of WIHG are already committed to several research work, and work assigned by several government projects.

It is to be remembered that, though, WIHG takes its role in contribution to geological inputs to several major developmental projects with utmost sincerity, yet, the scientists are also committed to the on-going research activities as an unique research organization dedicated to the Himalaya.

It was communicated to Mr. Ashwani Jain with a timeline for initiation of the project that WIHG cannot start off immediately without following official procedures. It was also communicated regarding the lined up work already taken up by WIHG. It was communicated that a proposal will be drafted only after mid-January 2024, when the team can be constituted in WIHG, and the project mapped out. In any case, the project field work cannot happen in January due to the location of the site and snowfall in the month when geological slope stability cannot be carried out. Everything was conveyed to the Head of Projects on a telephonic conversation through Mr. Jain.

Kindly also refer to your letter attached herewith enumerating the communications from your end, repeatedly when the timeline was already made clear upon the visit of Mr. Ashwani Jain and also to Head of Projects, Dugar (through phone, as mentioned above).

We fail to understand why so many emails, visits, repeated phone calls are being done, when it was made clear that by the time we take up the assignment (keeping on mind our commitment to our research and on-going consultancy works), draft our proposal and

submit for budget review, and thereby receive funds for field initiation, the period of field work will be already un-suitable.

We again insist that the proposal will be drafted between 2nd-3rd week of January 2024, and immediately shared with Dugar H E Project through proper channel.

If the time-line do not suit the project, you may kindly make your decision regarding assigning of the required work.

WIHG, is committed to deliver quality work for the benefit of society forever, apart from its on-going research activities.

Thanking you,
With Best Regards,
Swapnamita

From: Dugar H E Project [<mailto:dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>]

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 2:15 PM

To: Swapnamita

Cc: Email; DUGAR HOP

Subject: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

—
Dear Madam

With reference to our previous mails and telephonic conversation on 09.01.2024 with Senior Manager (Geo), NHPC regarding budget proposal submission and site visit for the study of the Dugar HE Project.

Kindly let us know the status of the budget proposal submission and site visit schedule, as delay in study may affect the viability of the project.

Thanking you

Regards

O/o General Manager (HoP)



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Dugar HE Project (500 MW)
लुज, किल्लार (पांगी), चंबा (हि.प्र.) 176323
Luj, Killar (Pangi), Chamba, (H.P.)
ई-मेल/E-mail: dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in
Phone No: +91-8988136260

एनएच/डीएचईपी/ 593

Dated / दिनांक : 03.12.2024

सेवा में,

निदेशक

वाडिया इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ हिमालयन जियोलॉजी

देहरादून

उत्तराखंड-248001 -

विषय: A study of Dugar HE Project- Intimation of charges/budget thereof.

Ref/ संदर्भ सं:

1. Our email dated 29.09.2023
2. Our email dated 06.12.2023
3. Our email dated 13.12.2023
4. Meeting of Dr. Swapnamita with Sr. Manager (Geo.), NHPC dated 19.12.2023
5. Your email dated 19.12.2023
6. Our email dated 20.12.2023
7. Meeting of HoP (DHEP) with Director (WIHG) dated 29.12.2023
8. Our email dated 29.12.2023

Respected Sir,

Please refer our above emails and meeting with Dr. Swapnamita, Scientist D, (WIHG) on 19.12.2023 regarding discussion on the study of the project area, its approachability, etc. along with submission of drawings containing Geological Plan & Sections, etc. and DPR Geology Volume for reference and study. After discussion, vide your email dated 19.12.2023 it was mentioned "to kindly enumerate clearly what is required from our end so that the Project Proposal can be prepared for budget approval." Thereafter vide email dated 20.12.2023, wherein it was clearly mentioned "to carry out study focusing on the Stability of the geological strata, Landslide and related geohazard assessment due to the construction of the project." The same has been discussed with your good self on 29.12.2023 by the undersigned and requested for early providing of budgetary estimate for above mentioned study along with early visit to project site in view of early/anticipated snowfall in Pangi Valley.

Sir, it is pertinent here to mention that in its FAC meeting Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India has stressed upon to carry out the above mentioned study

Regd. Office

मुख्यालय:

:

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NHPC OFFICE COMPLEX, SECTOR-33, FARIDABAD-121003 (HARYANA)
एनएचपीसी कार्यालय परिसर, सैक्टर-33, फरीदाबाद (हरियाणा) - 121003

at the earliest and Ministry of Power, Government of India is stressing hard for early start of the project construction (as its delay may affect the viability of the project).

In view of above, it is again requested to intimate the charges/budget for the aforementioned study, so that the study can be completed by March 2024.

Thanking you,

संलग्नक : उपरोक्तानुसार

Yours sincerely,

4/1/24
23/01/24
(राजेश कुमार)

महाप्रबंधक (परियोजना प्रमुख)
डुगर जल विधियुत परियोजना

प्रतिलिपि (NOO) :

1. कार्यपालक निदेशक, योजना विभाग, निगम मुख्यालय, फरीदाबाद - मामले को (MoEF&CC) एम ओ ई एफ & सी सी, भारत सरकार के समक्ष उठाने के लिए।
2. कार्यपालक निदेशक, क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, चंडीगढ़।

Re: [LIKELY_SPAM]RE: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

From : Dugar H E Project <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>
Subject : Re: [LIKELY_SPAM]RE: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)
To : Swapnamita <swapnamita@wihg.res.in>
Cc : Ashwani Jain <ashwani.2001in@gmail.com>, Email <director@wihg.res.in>

Wed, Dec 20, 2023 12:14 PM

Madam,

It was deliberated in the Forest Advisory Committee point number 28 that

"The Committee observed that the project is located in a High Altitude area, which is ecologically fragile therefore before taking any decision on the same it is essential that a study on the stability of the geological strata is carried out by a reputed institute like Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology".

However during the preparation of DPR several geological and geotechnical studies has been conducted in accordance with GSI guidelines and IS codes for feasibility and stability of the project area. It includes stability analysis of Dam, Power House complex, Diversion Tunnel, Intake Structure and Reservoir area. The geological mapping, geotechnical surveys, environment impact assessment amongst all surveys and assessments to be done during initial DPR preparation are included in the DPR and have been concurrent by GSI and other agencies like CEA, CWC, CSMRS etc.

Therefore it is requested to carry out study focusing on the Stability of the geological strata, Landslide and related geohazard assessment due to the construction of the project.

Thanking you

Regards

O/o General Manager (HoP)
Dugar HEP (500MW)
NHPC Ltd. Govt of India

From: "Swapnamita" <swapnamita@wihg.res.in>
To: "DUGAR H E PROJECT" <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>
Cc: "Ashwani Jain" <ashwani.2001in@gmail.com>, "Email" <director@wihg.res.in>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 2:24:08 PM
Subject: [LIKELY_SPAM]RE: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

Sir,

We received the letter attached herewith, forwarded by our Director, WIHG. Kindly see the Point No. (I). A complete study of the project area, impact and feasibility of the project includes all aspects from geological mapping, geotechnical surveys, environment impact assessment amongst all surveys and assessments to be done during initial DPR preparation.

Kindly enumerate clearly what is required from our end so that the Project Proposal can be prepared for budget approval.

Thanking you,

Regards,

Swapnamita

From: Dugar H E Project [mailto:dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in]

Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 1:03 PM

To: Swapnamita

Subject: Fwd: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

From: Dugar <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>

To: Email <director@wihg.res.in>

Cc: kalachandsain7 <kalachandsain7@gmail.com>

Date: Wednesday, 13 December 2023 12:46 PM IST

Subject: Fwd: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

From: "DUGAR H E PROJECT" <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>

To: "dir off" <dir.off@wihg.res.in>

Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 12:43:39 PM

Subject: Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW)

Reminder

Dear Sir,

Please refer to our previous e-mail dated 06/12/23 regarding the geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW) located on Chenab River at Luj village, at about 12kms from Killar Tehsil in Pangi Valley of Distt. Chamba in Himachal Pradesh. Forest Advisory Committee of MoEF&CC advise NHPC to conduct the same study from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun.

Therefore, it is once again requested to provide us the detail process, timeline and charges for conducting the above said study for Dugar HEP for early accord of Forest Clearance to Dugar HEP.

Your early action in this regard is highly solicited.

Thanking you

Regards

Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW) located at Pangri valley of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh

From : Dugar H E Project <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in> Wed, Dec 06, 2023 09:23 AM
Subject : Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW) located at Pangri valley of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh
To : dir off <dir.off@wihg.res.in>

Dear Sir,

Dugar HEP, a run-of-river scheme, is located on Chenab River at Luj village, at about 12kms from Killar Tehsil in Pangri Valley of Distt. Chamba in Himachal Pradesh. For seeking Forest Clearance, forest proposal of Dugar HEP (500MW) was discussed by Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) at MOEF&CC, New Delhi on 21/08/2023. During the discussion FAC was opined that a study of the Project Area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be conducted by the renowned /reputed institute in the field such as Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Same has also been discussed telephonically with your good self.

It is intimate here that geological aspect of Dugar HEP have been reviewed in detail by GSI during DPR examination stage and accordingly accorded clearance to the project. Site specific seismic design parameter have been derived and MEQ studies have been done by IIT Roorkee. Foundation engineering and seismic aspect of Dugar HEP have been studied and cleared by CWC and NCSDP. Surface investigation carried out for Dugar HEP in accordance with GSI guidelines and IS codes. To determine the engineering properties of rock mass laboratory test on rock samples and in-situ test viz Plate load test, direct sheer test, hydro fracturing test were carried out. Geophysical studies and petrography studies etc were carried out in Project area.

Further, it has been learnt that same study was conducted by your institute for Thana Plaun HEP (191MW) of HPPCL in the State of H.P. Therefore, on same pattern we also interested to conduct the geological study for Dugar HEP as advised by FAC. Therefore, you are requested to provide us the detail process, timeline and charges for conducting the same study for Dugar HEP at the earliest.

Thanking you

Regards

O/o General Manager (HoP)
Dugar HEP (500MW)
NHPC Ltd. Govt of India

Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW) located at Pangri valley of Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh

From : Dugar H E Project <dugarhep@nhpc.nic.in>

Fri, Sep 29, 2023 03:34 PM

Subject : Geological study, impact of the proposed project and feasibility of
Dugar Hydro Electric Project (500MW) located at Pangri valley of
Chamba District of Himachal Pradesh

To : dir off <dir.off@wihg.res.in>

Sir,

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Thanking you

Regards

O/o General Manager (HoP)
Dugar HEP (500MW)
NHPC Ltd.

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HPFD-F05/139/2023-FCA
Forest Department, Himachal Pradesh

From: Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1.

To: The Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC),
Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,
(Forest Conservation Division) Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003.

Dated Shimla-1, the

Subject: **Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 211.8427 ha. of forest land for construction of Dugar HEP (500 MW) in favour of NHPC Ltd., within the jurisdiction of Pangi Forest Division, Distt. Chamba, Himachal Pradesh. (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/123533/2021)**

Sir,

Kindly refer Minutes of FAC Meeting dated 21.09.2023 & 29.11.2023 on the subject cited proposal.

2. In this context, it is submitted that as desired by FAC, *a study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility was asked to be conducted by Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun at the cost of user agency*. The user agency has mentioned to have approached the said institute several times through vide e-mails/letters as well as visited its campus (as well as met the Director on 29.12.2023) with a request to conduct the study as desired by FAC. After repeated pursuances, the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun intimated that the timelines and budgetary proposal for studies shall be conveyed to the UA by January, 2024 and further informed the latter not to engage in repeated communications as the Institute scientists are busy in other important works. However, even after a lapse of two months, neither any budgetary proposal nor any communication has been received from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun in the matter. It is thus evident that WHG Dehradun may not be able to carry out the studies in the near future due to time constraints etc..

Accordingly, the NHPC Limited, to obviate further delays, has suggested a list of other Govt. Institutes/universities of national repute, as under, who too have expertise in conducting such studies instead of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun (copy of request letter from NHPC Limited enclosed alongwith).

1. Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
2. Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.
3. Sikkim University, Gangtok
4. Delhi University.

1349877/2024

It is therefore requested to allow the NHPC Limited for getting the studies conducted by the experts of any of the Institutes/Universities as mentioned in the list, or may suggest any other institute/(s) to prevent the project from rescinding into unviability. An early action is solicited please.

Yours faithfully,

Signed by
Sanjay Sood

Date: 21-02-2024 13:14:33

Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr. CCF (HoFF), H.P.

Encls: As above,