

TWAD BOARD

From

Er.S.Palanivelu, B.E.,M.B.A.,
Superintending Engineer,
TWAD Board,
Cuddalore – Villupuram Circle
Cuddalore.

To

The District Forest Officer,
Viluppuram.
Viluppuram District.

Lr.No. 18820/F.DSP/AE1/Cud/2020/dt.18.08.2020

Sir,

Sub: TWAD Board - CWSS to Villupuram & Tindivanam Municipality, 2 Town Panchayats and 692 Rural Habitations In 5 Unions, SIPCOT Tindivanam and Medical College at Mundiambakkam by setting up 60MLD Capacity Desalination Plant at Koonimedu in Villupuram District - Diversion of 16.00 Ha land from Forest Department - Additional Information & Particulars submitted - Reg.

Ref: 1). PARIVESH Website/ Online application/ Proposal No. FP/TN/ Water/ 42977/ 2019/ dt.27.12.2019.
2). The Additional Chief Secretary to Government / Environment & Forests (FR.10) Department, Secretariat, Chennai addressed to the Additional Director General of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Regional Office (South Eastern Zone), 1st & 2nd Floor, HEPC Building, No.34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-34/ Lr.No.6861/FR.10/2020-1. Dated: 20.07.2020
3).The Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central), Chennai to The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests / Forest Department Chennai Lr.No. F.No.4-TNC061/ 2020 - CHN/ 632, Dated :05.08.2020

I submit that, Online application for diversion of 16.00 ha land from Forest Department for setting up 60MLD Desalination Plant at SF.No.94/2, Koonimedu has been uploaded in PARIVESH Website vide reference 1st cited.

The above proposal had been recommended & forwarded by the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment & Forests (FR.10) Department, Chennai to the Additional Director General of Forests (Central), Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Chennai vide reference 2nd cited for Stage-I clearance.

Subsequently, for considering the subject proposal the following additional information/ documents/ clarifications required vide reference 3rd cited. Based on that, I submit the reply as follows.

S.No	Required Information/ Clarification	Reply
1	In online application, DFO reported that 2319 number of trees or enumerated in the forest area proposed for diversion. However, in all other documents, it has been mentioned to fell 2092 number of trees. Hence actual number of trees exists in the area and number of trees to be felled may be reported.	Will be clarified by the DFO, Villupuram
2	Status of obtaining of CRZ Clearance may be reported	The process of obtaining CRZ clearance is under progress. CRZ clearance will be obtained within 2 months.
3	Map clearly depicting the proposed component wise details may be furnished	Map clearly depicting the proposed DSP component wise details is furnished & Enclosed. And will be uploaded in PARIVESH website.
4	Soil conservation plan to prevent soil erosion may be prepared and furnish the same	As per the Shoreline change map of Tamil Nadu, the area proposed is not falling under high erosion area. Compound Wall will be provided around the Plant Area. However, Soil conservation plan will be prepared and submitted along with CRZ clearance proposal
5	Undertaking from the UA to effect that the desalinated water will be utilized for drinking water purpose only	The required Undertaking will be uploaded in PARIVESH website. Though the G.O.Ms.No.2 MA&WS (ws4) dated 03.01.2011 of GoTN permits to earmark a quantity provision at 10% of total demand towards industrial / commercial needs, in this project only 3.30 MLD is provided for SIPCOT, Tindivanam which is only 4.8%.of the domestic

		<p>need of 68.76 MLD of the project.</p> <p>Domestic need of the Project - 68.76 mld</p> <p>Industrial Quantity provision for SIPCOT, Tindivanam - 3.30 mld</p> <p>Total - 72.06 mld</p>
6	<p>The UA proposed 7.5Ha (half of the forest area proposed for diversion) for green belt area and for future expansion. Hence, DFO may be directed to rework on barest minimum forest area required for the project</p>	<p>In Villupuram District the borewell and Openwell sources are inadequate and fail to sustain the supply during summer season due to the failure of Monsoon and water level depletion. Due to the non flow of water in river pennaiyar and depletion of water table, the water supply is inadequate during summer. Also no major Reservoir is available in the district. The surface water from the Rivers Pennaiyar and Sankaraparani are also seasonal and cannot be used for drinking purpose to the expected level because of low precipitation. The Sand depth of the above rivers ranges from 4 to 9mts and it is not a perennial source. Due to the above facts, it is not possible to effect water supply to the public with conventional water sources.</p> <p>As Villupuram district is facing severe water scarcity due to inconsistent rainfall, non-existence of perennial rivers and depletion of ground water level, to secure sufficient water supply for the people, as an alternate and viable measure the State Government of TamilNadu decided to construct Desalination Plant to meet the demand of the public.</p> <p>At Present 60MLD capacity desalination plant is proposed to be established for the intermediate stage (2037) requirement with future expansion for the ultimate stage (2052) requirement of 72.06MLD which requires additional area for additional units. Further, the lay out Project area (16 ha) for the proposed 60mld capacity DSP now</p>

		<p>furnished has been arrived for estimate purpose only. But the implementation of Desalination plant will be done on DBOT basis. The components of the plant will be redesigned based on the detailed study to be carried out by the Tenderer, which may require additional space at the time of project implementation. Considering the above facts provision of 4.32 ha is made towards future area. Further, twice the extent i.e. 32.47 hectare has already been identified for compensatory afforestation and the proposal for transferring the land to Forest Department is in advanced stage of approval by the GoTN.</p> <p>For obtaining CRZ clearance, 1/3 rd of Project area is to be provided for Green belt area and hence provision of 3.18ha is made for Green belt area.</p> <p>Considering all the above facts, barest minimum forest area required only has been arrived as 16 Ha.</p>
7	<p>UA proposed 16Ha of forest area in the middle of the forest block and which may leads to fragmentation and difficult for protection and management of forest area. Hence, may kindly resurvey the area and may propose actual/ barest minimum forest area in one side of the forest area.</p>	<p>The selected location is the ideal one for the construction of DSP which was selected by conducting Oceanographic study on the suitable location of intake and outfall that was determined after a thorough assessment and careful environmental evaluation and based on the detailed investigation report submitted by the CRZ project Expert. Moreover, the proposed forest land of 16 hectares is fulfilling the ecological requirement, land suitability and technical requirements like suitable depth of sea bed, fixing of intake and outfall and other related marine and engineering parameters.</p> <p>The above site has been selected in such a way to avoid disturbance to the existing fishing communities/ hamlets located on either side of</p>

		the selected site. Hence, it is not possible to shift the plant location as this happens to be the ideal location.
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Hence, I request that the proposal may please be recommended and forwarded for obtaining Stage – I clearance.

- Encl: 1) MAP depicting the DSP components
2) Undertaking to effect desalinated water utilized for drinking purpose – 1 No.

Sd/S.Palanivelu, 18.08.2020
Superintending Engineer, TWAD Board,
Cuddalore – Villupuram Circle,
Cuddalore.

Copy submitted to the Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, Vellore for favour of information please.

Copy submitted to the Joint Chief Engineer, TWAD Board, PDC Wing for favour of information.

Copy submitted to the Executive Engineer, TWAD Board, Kallakurichi for followup of action.

AR Cadd 18/8/20
for Superintending Engineer, TWAD Board,
Cuddalore – Villupuram Circle,
Cuddalore.

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