



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),

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Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600034, Tel. 044-28222325,

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F.No.4-APC066/2018-CHN/1447

Date 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,  
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,  
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 4<sup>th</sup> Block,  
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503

Subject: Diversion of 16.57 ha of forest land (i.e. 1.14 ha in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 ha in Kadapa Division and 4.43 ha in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16" dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km 0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Kadapa Districts in favour of General Manager, M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bengaluru-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. EFS01-12021/79/Section-II/2018 dated 25.07.2018 and online proposal No FP/AP/Others/30841/2017 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

On careful consideration of the proposal, as recommended by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am directed to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (**Stage-I**) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 16.57 ha of forest land (i.e. 1.14 ha in Chittoor (West) Division, 11.00 ha in Kadapa Division and 4.43 ha in Proddatur (WL) Division) for laying 16" dia petroleum product pipeline from Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri in Tamil Nadu passing through Andhra Pradesh at Km 0.00 to 619.7 Km via Chittoor & Kadapa Districts in favour of General Manager, M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bengaluru, subject to the following conditions:-

- (i) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (ii) Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered, at an interval of 20 meters, at the cost of the user agency.
- (iii) The Compensatory Afforestation (CA) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over i) an extent of **22.00 ha** of degraded forest

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DESPATCHED (BY SP)  
Date 10/09/18 *PS*

identified in Compt No 567, Kanumalopalli Extension RF, Kanumalopalli Beat of Bhakarapeta Section of Kadapa Range, ii) an extent of **8.86 ha** of degraded forest land identified in Compt No 250, Kavalakuntla South RF, Siddavaram Beat of Porumamilla Range and iii) an extent of **2.30 ha** of degraded forest identified in Compt No 241 of Vovilathota RF, Santhapeta Beat of Punganur RF of Chittoor West Division, at the cost of the user agency;

- (iv) A minimum of 1000 plants / ha of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency and a map along with DGPS co-ordinates of such forest area shall be furnished along with the compliance report;
- (v) The identified CA land and approved CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- (vi) The user agency shall undertake afforestation along the periphery of the pipeline at the project cost in consultation with the DFO concerned;
- (vii) No additional or new path shall be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- (viii) The State Forest Department shall ensure to plant adequate number of **Red Sanders** trees to compensate for the felling of the species involved in the project at the project cost;
- (ix) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **16.57 ha** from the user agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995.
- (x) Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the user agency. The user agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- (xi) The funds received from the user agency towards Compensatory Afforestation and Net Present Value under this project shall be deposited in the respective bank account of the Andhra Pradesh State CAMPA. The User Agency shall compulsorily deposit the CA and other levies only by generating challan through the Ministry's website.

Am o/c

- (xii) **The State Government shall verify the status of the proposal area as to whether it is falling in the Tiger Corridor or not? And if so, the user agency shall obtain wildlife clearance, as required, before execution of the works;**
- (xiii) Trees standing in the diverted area shall be felled strictly as per requirement with prior permission of the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;
- (xiv) The muck generated in the earth cutting, if any, will be disposed off at designated dumping sites and in no case the muck/debris will be disposed off in the forest area;
- (xv) The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xvi) The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- (xvii) Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the user agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- (xviii) The user agency shall erect visible signage board at specific places along the pipe line;
- (xix) The user agency shall provide fire wood preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/tree felling;
- (xx) All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible instead of resorting to felling, at the cost of the user agency;
- (xxi) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by obtaining the prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector and the same shall be submitted along with the compliance report;
- (xxii) The pipeline shall be laid 1.2 meter below the ground level and after laying down of pipeline, the ground shall be leveled back;
- (xxiii) The user agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable;

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- (xxiv) The user agency shall carry out regular monitoring of the gas pipeline to be laid and submit a monthly monitoring report to the concerned DFOs for record and information;
- (xxv) The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **16.57** ha and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal;
- (xxvi) The user agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to provisions of all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project;
- (xxvii) Any other conditions that the Central Government or Additional PCCF (Central) of Regional Office, Chennai may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area, shall be complied by the user agency;
- (xxviii) The progress of the Compensatory Afforestation as mentioned by the DFOs of Chittoor (West), Kadapa and Proddatur (WL) Divisions in part II of the proposal shall be monitored by the Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office to upload the same in the web portal;
- (xxix) In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the user agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.

After receipt of the compliance report on the above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

  
(D.Sathiyam)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.
3. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA),

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Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004.

4. The Director, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
5. The General Manager, M/s Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Queens Road, Bengaluru Urban District, Bengaluru South Tehsil, Bengaluru-560052.
6. Guard file.

  
(D.Sathiyam)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

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