F.No. 4-TSB308/2022-HYD Government of India Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Sub-Office, Hyderabad. Regional Office, Chennai 6th Floor, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad-500004

Date: October 2024

To.

The Principal Secretary to the Government, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Telangana State Secretariat, Hyderabad.

Subject: Diversion of 1.9716 Ha (revised from 2.293 Ha) of forest land in Shamshabad division for Erection of 132KV DC/SC overhead line from 220/132 KV Fabcity to proposed 132/33 KV Kandukur Substation in favour of Executive Engineer, Const, Metro-East, Mint Compound, TGTRANSCO-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government Letter No.4396-For.I(1)/2022 dated 25.08.2022 and online proposal No. FP/TG/TRANS/144135/2021 seeking prior approval of the Government of India in accordance with Section '2' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) for the above-mentioned project. The project was accorded In-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government *vide* letter of even no. dated 02.02.2024. The State Government *vide* Letter No. 4396/For.I(1)/2022 Dated: 12.09.2024 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the In-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's **Formal Approval** (Stage-II) under Section '2' of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) for diversion of 1.9716 Ha of forest land in Shamshabad division for Erection of 132KV DC/SC overhead line from 220/132 KV Fabcity to proposed 132/33 KV Kandukur Substation in favour of Executive Engineer, Const, Metro-East, Mint Compound, TSTRANSCO subject to following conditions:-

- I. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- II. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on the ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerend DFO.

III. Compensatory afforestation:

A. Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over the identified degraded forest land in 3.943 ha in Compt No.199 of Malkaram RF of Ganganpahad Beat of Shamshabad Range of Ranga Reddy District which is double the extent of the area proposed for diversion at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

B. The cost of compensatory afforestation at the prevailing wage rates as per the compensatory afforestation scheme and the cost of survey, demarcation and erection of permanent pillars if required on the CA land shall be deposited in the designated CAMPA account. The CA will be maintained for 10 years. The scheme may include appropriate provisions for anticipated cost increases for works scheduled for subsequent years.

- IV. The additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect.
- V. The width of the right of way for the transmission line shall be limited to 27 m.
- VI. The user agency shall install circuit breakers at suitable places besides maintaining necessary ground clearance to prevent the electrocution of wild animals.
- VII. No approach road shall be constructed in the forest area for the transportation of steel and other materials required for the transmission line. As far as possible, the User Agency shall use the existing road and the proposed RoW for the transportation of the material and in the event of non-availability of such facilities, the User Agency shall transport material manually without construction of any path.
- VIII. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to a minimum number in the diverted forest land and wherever necessary, the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency and the forest produce so accrued shall be taken into government account as per the prevailing norms of the state government by the State Forest Department
 - IX. To minimize the felling for the construction of the transmission line, the user agency shall comply with the following guidelines:
 - A. Below each conductor, width clearance of 3 mts. would be permitted for carrying out the tension-stringing equipment. The trees on such strips may be felled but after stringing work is completed, the natural regeneration will be allowed to come up/ suitable short-growing species may be planted.
 - B. One outer strip may be left clear to permit maintenance of the transmission line.
 - C. In the remaining width the right of way felling/pollarding/pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest officer whenever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance, trees shall be allowed to be felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining the minimum 4.0 meter clearance between conductors and trees. The sag and swing of the conductors are to be kept in view while working out the minimum clearance mentioned as above.
 - D. The State Forest Department shall prepare a detailed scheme for the creation and maintenance of the plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line, and the User Agency shall provides funds for execution of the said scheme to the State Forest Department; and
 - E. In case a portion of the transmission lines to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
 - X. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to the CAMPA fund only through e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/).
 - XI. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of a prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.

- XII. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction material for execution of hte project work.
- XIII. The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits.
- XIV. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest areas issued by the Ministry.
- XV. User Agency shall obtain Environmental Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- XVI. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government.
- XVII. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.
- XVIII. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- XIX. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
- XX. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to a violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of Comprehensive Guidelines of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter dated 29.12.2023.
- XXI. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.
- XXII. The annual compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/) by the user agency/ SFD.

Yours faithfully

(Kailash Bhimrao Bhawar, IFS) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to: -

- 1. The IGF (ROHQ), MoEF&CC, Gol, New Delhi.
- 2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forest Department, Govt. of Telangana, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN- 500 004.
- 3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (CEO, CAMPA)/FCA Forest Department, Govt. of Telangana, Aranya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, PIN-500 004.
- 4. O/o Chief Engineer, Metro Zone, TGTRANSCO, Erragadda, Hyderabad 500045. Email: eetlcrmhyd@gmail.com
- 5. Guard file