

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

The Government of India is focused on converting India to a gas-based economy, pushing for an increase of CNG stations to 10,000 countrywide by 2030. The CNG Pipeline projects are the part of India's journey towards 'one nation-one gas grid'.

Under proposed project, a CNG Pipeline between Vasunde Phata-Baramati is to be laid along the existing road, within its RoW. The proposed alignment pass through certain patches of Forest Land in the Baramati Range of Pune Forest Division. The Forest land to the extent of 0.091 Ha. approximately is required for the purpose of laying underground CNG Pipeline. Hence, the proposal attracts provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The project requires Forest Clearance i. e. prior approval under Section 2 (ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

The pipeline is, necessarily, to be laid along the existing road connecting Vasunde Phata- Baramati, within its RoW (which is, technically, already under non- forest use). The project has definite locations and definite routes for pre- approved locational class tap off/dispatch station, location of sectionalizing valves, Intermediate pigging/pumping stations and receipt station, etc. As such, the project is site specific. Further, no tree felling is required for the proposed project alignment. There is no alternative "non- forest route" available with Torrent Gas for execution of the extant proposal.



TORRENT GAS PUNE LIMITED

(Formerly Mahesh Gas Limited)

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Thus, the Forest Land proposed for diversion is unavoidable. The barest minimum Forest Land, to the extent of 0.091 Ha., is required/ proposed for the project.

Date: 15 / 11 /2021

Place: Pune

Office Seal:



Shridhar Tambraparni

Executive Director

Torrent Gas Pune Limited, Pune

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