



Government of Arunachal Pradesh
Office of the Executive Engineer (E) :: Namsai Electrical Division,
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Dtd.

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND

PROJECT DETAILS:- CONSTRUCTION OF 33 KV LINE FROM NAMSAI (POWERGRID) TO CHOWKHAM (DOP) UNDER COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME FOR STRENGTHENING OF TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Forest area involved: 41.46 hectare

The proposed 33 kV Namsai (POWERGRID) to Chowkham (DOP) distribution line is a Sub-project which is conceived under the Govt. of India's ambitious project namely "Comprehensive scheme for strengthening of transmission and distribution in Arunachal Pradesh" (A Central sector project funded by GoI and being implemented by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited) which aims in major improvement of power scenario of the State by constructing new Transmission/Distribution lines and associated Substations. Ministry of Power, Govt. of India has conveyed approval of the project vide their letter dated 10th October, 2014 with a total financial implication of 3199.45 crore (copy enclosed).

After careful route survey, the route alignment of the proposed 33 kV line is finalized along the existing PWD/service roads connecting Namsai (POWERGRID) to Chowkham (DOP) S/s, since it is found to be the best feasible route from construction, operation and maintenance point of view. The route involves very minimum tree cutting owing to its alignment along the road and mostly open areas and hence impact to the forest and environment is also found as minimum. The project activity involves erection of 33 kV HT poles and stringing of electric conductors on the poles for which impact on forest is also anticipated as bare minimum. Except the proposed route, no other alternative is found suitable from construction/operation and maintenance as well as forest/environment safeguard point of view.

However, since a section of the Manabhum Reserved Forest (under Namsai Forest Division) comes across the proposed route of the 33 kV line, therefore, avoiding the forest area is practically not possible. The forest area involved 41.46 hectare {11.46 Ha under Namsai (USF) Forest Division and 10.25 Ha under Manabhum RF and balance 19.75 under Namsai (USF) Forest Division}, is the minimum requirement for the project. Since, the proposed 33 kV line is an integral part of the Comprehensive Scheme project, which aims at improvement of distribution network in the area for better and uninterrupted power availability; therefore, it is mooted to apply for forest/wildlife clearance as per MoEF guideline

Therefore, owing to the factors as mentioned above, it is found justifiable to locate the project in forest land but also ensuring minimum damage to the forest and environment.

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