

## **PROJECT NOTE FOR JUSTIFICATION FOR AREA SELECTION**

In consideration of the requirements of environment parameter, construction methodologies to be adopted for different terrain encountered en-route, design & engineering factor, availability of logistic support during construction, operation & maintenance of line, various feasible route were identified by M/s. Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Ltd. based on system study, desk review, topographic – map, Forest map, existing publication materials, walkover survey augmented by GPS. During route alignment all possible efforts are made to avoid the forest area involvement completely or to keep it to the barest minimum. Moreover, in Protected / Reserved forest area trees are felled only in below each conductor to facilitate stringing. On completion of construction only one such strips is maintained for O & M purpose.

### **Factors considered**

- i) The route of the proposed transmission line does not infringe any human habitation.
- ii) Any monument of cultural or historical importance is not affected by the route of the transmission line.
- iii) The proposed route of transmission line does not create any threat to the survival of any community with special reference to Tribal Community.
- iv) The proposed route of transmission line does not affect any public utility services like playgrounds, schools, other establishments etc.
- v) The line route does not pass through any sanctuaries, National Park etc.
- vi) The line route does not infringe with area of natural resources.

### **Sensitive areas and settlements at execution stage**

- 1 As a rule, alignments are generally kept 10-15 kM away from major towns, whenever possible, making a provision for future urban expansion.
- 2 Similarly, forests are avoided to the extent possible, and when it is unavoidable, a route is selected in consultation with the local Divisional Forest Officer, that causes minimum damage to existing forest resources.
- 3 Selected Alignments do not infringe wetlands and unstable areas for both financial and environmental reasons. Additional care has to be taken to avoid National parks and sanctuaries and any other forest area inhabited by wild life.

Keeping above factors in mind three alternative routes are proposed. As such , different alternatives were studied with the help of Govt. published data like Forest atlas, Survey of India topo maps, satellite imageries etc. to arrive at most optimum route which can be taken up for detailed survey and assessment of environmental