

ANNEXURE-II

JUSTIFICATION FOR PASSING THE LINE THROUGH

FOREST AREA

Construction of above line is required for evacuating 1200 MW of power to be generated by Punatsangchu-I Project. This Project is scheduled to be completed by September, 2014. All the powers generated by this Project will be transmitted to various parts of India through Alipurduar Substation.

Bhutan Power Corporation has already aligned and started construction of transmission line from Punatsangchu-I to Indo-Bhutan border and this line terminating near border pillar no. 112. Buxa Tiger Reserve is extended right from Rangamati and continuing in the state of Assam. This proposed transmission line will cross the Buxa Tiger Reserve for entering into the non-forest land India.

POWERGRID has surveyed various sites for aligning the transmission line from border pillar no. 112 and Buxa Tiger Reserve cannot be avoided. Though the shortest route from Bhutan border to Alipurduar is 44.65 Kms., POWERGRID is proposing to construct the line of 61 Kms. against 44.65 Km to minimize the forest area from 101.4 ha. to 16.39 ha. Other two routes as shown in the map has also been surveyed which covers 49.4 ha. and 58.24 ha. This proposed line is also pass through lesser dense forest area where most of the primitive forest dwellers are residing.

Hence, alignment no. 1 as shown in the map is most suitable in considering the environment point of view though the line length has been increased 16.35 Kms.