## JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT NEAR PROTECTED AREA

The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) is an autonomous organization under the administrative control of the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India. NFDB has proposed the Development of Coastal aquaculture activities at Mulapolam Village, Sompeta Mandal of Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh. This project would not require any acquisition of land as already purchased. The site is well covered with water sources of brackish water at Northern part of the site, Mahendra Tanaya River, Sea water at eastern side of Bay of Bengal & freshwater from southern side of the site. The availability of these waters make the site suitable for taking up freshwater, brackish water and seawater aquaculture activities. Hence, alternate sites were not considered due to sufficient land availability, with required water facilities. The small part of pipeline falls in the Coastal Reserved Forest, which was notified by the Survey of India. For the previously mentioned, unavoidable reasons an alternative location for the proposed activity was not an option thus making it a mandate to be proposed near but outside the reserved forest.

Executive Director (Tech