



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

6th Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi 110 003

Date: 09.01.2018

F.No. 6-226/2107 WL

To
All Members
Standing Committee of NBWL

Sub: Minutes of 46th Meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL- reg.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 46th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 8th December 2017 at 4.00 PM in Teesta Conference Hall, I Floor, Vayu Block, Indira Paryavarn Bhavan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Pasupala Ravi)
Scientist C

E-mail: ddwlmeff@gmail.com

Encl: As above

Distribution

- (1) Secretary, MoEF&CC
- (2) DGF&SS, MoEF&CC
- (3) Member Secretary, NTCA
- (4) ADGF(FC), MoEF&CC
- (5) ADGF(WL), MoEF&CC
- (6) Director, WII, Dehradun
- (7) Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- (8) Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL
- (9) Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL
- (10) Pr. Secretary (Forests), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

Copy to

- (1) PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC
- (2) PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC
- (3) PPS to Addl.DGF(WL), Member Secretary, NBWL
- (4) PPS to IGF(WL)/PS to DIG(WL)/PS to JD(WL)

**MINUTES OF 46th MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL
BOARD FOR WILDLIFE HELD ON 8th DECEMBER 2017**

The 46th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife was held of 8th December 2017 in the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change. List of participants is at ANNEXURE- I.

Hon'ble Chairman welcomed all the participants to the 46th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife and asked the IGF(WL) to initiate the discussions on the Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM No. 1

Confirmation of the minutes of the 45th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 4th September 2017

The IGF(WL) mentioned that the minutes of the 45th meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL held on 4th September 2017 were circulated to all members of the Standing Committee on 12th September 2017. Comments were received from Dr. H S Singh, Member NBWL. The Member suggested for amending the minutes of Agenda 3, Proposal 45.3.2 as follows:

“.....the Standing Committee decided that henceforth the *State / UT Chief Wildlife Wardens* would sanction proposals for laying drinking water pipelines and optical fiber cables (OFC) for telecommunications inside the National Parks, *Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves.*” may be modified as “.....the Standing Committee decided that henceforth the *State / UT Wildlife Board* would sanction proposals for laying drinking water pipelines and optical fiber cables (OFC) for telecommunications inside the *Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves.*”

The Standing Committee deliberated upon the suggestion of Dr H S Singh. During the discussions, the said member also intimated that during the discussions of the last meeting it was also decided that this exemption for laying of drinking water pipeline / optical fiber cables (OFC) would be applicable only for projects along the ROW of roads passing through National Parks,

Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves. After deliberations, the suggestions for amendment of the minutes of 45th meeting were accepted.

The IGF(WL) mentioned that in view of decision taken in the 45th meeting as mentioned above, there is a need to issue guidelines in this regard. The guidelines should be in consonance with the guidelines issued by the Ministry under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, following guidelines for sanctioning proposals on laying of underground drinking water pipelines and optical fiber cables inside Protected Areas are proposed:

- [1] The size of the trench will not exceed more than 2.0 m depth and 1.0 m width;
- [2] The user agency agrees to make good the land after use / maintenance;
- [3] The user agency agrees to make good any loss to forest / environment;
- [4] The user agency seeks permission from the State Forest Department for carrying out any maintenance;
- [5] The diameter of drinking water pipeline will not exceed 4 inches in diameter. The operational length of trench (for laying optical fiber cables or drinking water pipeline) will not exceed 500 m at any time;
- [6] No civil structures will be built with the laying of optical fiber cables / drinking water pipelines;
- [7] The user agency will have to submit NOC from the agency which holds the right to use the Right of Way;
- [8] The State Government / Union Territories should ensure that the trench dug for underground laying of drinking water pipeline and optical fiber cables are duly filled up and compacted so that these do not become source of the constant soil erosion;
- [9] This approval shall be valid for five years till 31.12.2022;
- [10] The State Government / Union Territories will submit a monthly progress report on the extent of the forestland diverted for such purposes to the Ministry as well as the concerned Regional Offices.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided to accept the guidelines for delegating powers to the State Board for Wildlife for sanctioning proposals on laying of underground drinking water pipelines and optical fiber cables (OFC) along the roads inside National Parks,

Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves. Further, it requested the Ministry to issue an advisory on this.

AGENDA ITEM No. 2
(ACTION TAKEN REPORT)

36.4.2.1 Setting up 5.25 MTPA Development of Floating storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) facilities for import of LNG within the existing deep water port at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. The proposed site is 2.5 km away from the boundary of Coringa WLS

The IGF(WL) briefed the Standing Committee about the proposal and informed that the proposal was discussed during the 40th Meeting of Standing Committee of NBWL. He also mentioned that as the project site was located 2.5 km away from Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan were required for consideration. The Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan were received from the project proponent on 4th August 2017. The comments on the Impact Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan from the State CWLW were received from the APCCF(WL), Andhra Pradesh in the meeting. Following are the comments of the CWLW:

- [1] Adverse impacts from dredging are to be minimized by using environmental windows, silt curtains, gunnerbooms and operational controls.
- [2] Cooling or cold water should be discharged to surface water in a location that will allow maximum mixing and cooling of thermal plume to ensure that the temperature is within ambient temperature.
- [3] The elevated flare to be replaced by an enclosed ground flare as this type of flare eliminates much of visual impacts of burning produced gas in a processing facility. Also the enclosed ground flare will decrease the amount of smoke and noise compared to the elevated flare.
- [4] The User Agency has to develop an effective greenbelt in an area not less than 10 ha and maintain the green belt for a period of 5 years.
- [5] Native species to be planted in the green belt area. The green belt planting will be done under the supervision of the local Divisional Forest Officer.



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Wildlife Division)

6th Floor, Vayu Wing
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj
New Delhi 110 003

F.No. 6-175/2107 WL

Date: 12 Sept 2017

To
All Members
Standing Committee of NBWL

Sub: Minutes of 45th Meeting of the Standing Committee of NBWL- reg.

Sir/Madam,

Kindly find enclosed copy of the Minutes of 45th Meeting of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife held on 4th September 2017 at 5.00 PM in Teesta Conference Hall, I Floor, Vayu Block, Indira Paryavarn Bhavan, New Delhi under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Pasupala Ravi)
Scientist C

E-mail: ddwlmef@gmail.com

Encl: As above

Distribution

- (1) Secretary, MoEF&CC
- (2) DGF&SS, MoEF&CC
- (3) Member Secretary, NTCA
- (4) ADGF(FC), MoEF&CC
- (5) ADGF(WL), MoEF&CC
- (6) Director, WII, Dehradun
- (7) Director, GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- (8) Prof. R. Sukumar, Member, NBWL
- (9) Dr. H.S. Singh, Member, NBWL
- (10) Pr. Secretary (Forests), Govt. of Andhra Pradesh

Copy to

- (1) PS to Hon'ble MoEF&CC
- (2) PPS to DGF&SS, MoEF&CC
- (3) PPS to Addl.DGF(WL), Member Secretary, NBWL
- (4) PPS to IGF(WL)/PS to DIG(WL)/PS to JD(WL)

AGENDA ITEM No. 3

45.3.1. Integrated Wildlife Management Plan for West Singhbhum District of Jharkhand State examined by Multidisciplinary Expert Committee (MDEC)

The IGF (WL) informed that reference has been received from the FC division of Ministry on the constitution of Multidisciplinary Expert Committee (MDEC) chaired by Dr S S Bisht to review the Integrated Wildlife Management Plan (IWMP) for West Singhbhum District of Jharkhand. The recommendations of the MDEC on IWMP were placed before the Standing Committee Members of NBWL. It was also informed that IWMP was prepared by an expert committee which has been vetted by WII Dehradun and has approval of the State Government of Jharkhand. The members appreciated the appraisal of the MDEC on the IWMP.

45.3.2. Delegation of powers to the State Government for sanctioning proposal regarding drinking water pipeline in Protected Areas by the Chief Wildlife Warden

The IGF(WL) stated that the Government of Gujarat has sent a Policy Agenda for the delegation of powers for sanctioning drinking water pipeline proposals falling inside Protected Areas. He also mentioned that under the present procedure, any project proposal for laying of pipeline for supply of drinking water has to be recommended by the State Board for Wildlife and the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife. The projects like drinking water supply to the masses cannot be delayed as this is the basic need for sustenance of human life as well as livestock particularly water scarce areas.

The IGF(WL) stated that the State Govt. has suggested that if the power of taking an immediate decision for implementation of drinking water project is given to the Chief Wildlife Warden, then the immediate need of water supply during the water scarce seasons can be taken care of. In the last meeting of the State Board for Wildlife, it was decided that cases of drinking water projects may be sanctioned by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State in anticipation of *post facto* approval by the State Board for Wildlife and the Standing Committee of NBWL.

Dr H S Singh, Member of NBWL opined that in respect of proposals for laying of drinking water pipeline and optical fiber cables along the roads inside the national parks, sanctuaries and tiger reserves, the authority could be delegated to the State Board for Wildlife. He also suggested that the details of clearances given to such proposals should be furnished to the NBWL.

After discussions the Standing Committee decided that henceforth State/ UT Chief Wildlife Wardens would sanction proposals for laying drinking water pipelines and Optical Fiber Cables for telecommunications inside the National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and Tiger Reserves. However the CWLWs would have to furnish the details every month of all such sanctioned proposals to the Ministry for information of SC-NBWL.

45.3.3. Landscape Scale Conservation

The IGF(WL) stated that Prof R Sukumar, Member of NBWL has suggested a Policy Agenda wherein he desired to have a deliberation on landscape level conservation. Prof R Sukumar while briefing the Standing Committee on the Agenda suggested to have a sub-committee to discuss the matter in depth. The Director, WII Dehradun informed that the matter pertaining to landscape level plan was adequately considered in the National Wildlife Action Plan (2017-2031). Considering that the matter has already been covered under the National Wildlife Action Plan the Standing Committee decided that Prof R Sukumar would be a part of the Committee to frame Guidelines to implement Landscape Conservation.