



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
एकीकृतक्षेत्रीयकार्यालय
INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
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F. No. 3 MG C 025/2021-SHI 1423-24

1st October, 2021

सेवामे,

प्रमुखसचिव / Principal Secretary,
मेघालयसरकार / Govt of Meghalaya,
वनऔरपर्यावरणविभाग / Forests & Environment Department,
शिलांग / Shillong.

Sub : Diversion of 6.716 Ha of Forest Land for construction of loop-out section of the 132 KV MLHEP-Khliehriat at Mynkre under NERPSIP Scheme by Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government of Meghalaya letter No.FOR.26/2020/119 dated 23.04.2021 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government of Meghalaya and additional information submitted by State Government vide letter No. MFG.22/514/5466 dated 27.08.2021 and on the basis of recommendation of Regional Empowered Committee held on 21.09.2021, In-principle / Stage-I approval of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of 6.716 Ha of Forest Land for construction of loop-out section of the 132 KV MLHEP-Khliehriat at Mynkre under NERPSIP Scheme by Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited subject to the following conditions:

A: Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.

- (1) The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 & 09.05.2008 in IA No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and the guideline issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into the CAMPA account of the State Concerned;
- (2) The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation with State Forest Department in the account of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- (3) As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

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- (4) All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred /deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in>). Account deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance
- (5) The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>)
- (6) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector;
- (7) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the direction of the local DFO.
- (8) The expenditure like boundary walls, stone pillars, and demarcation charges cost of damage of trees the fund on these accounts should be deposited with DFO concerned.
- (9) The expenditure like felling, logging and transportation of project affected trees should be collected from the user agency at the rates approved by the State Govt and deposited with the DFO concerned for utilization immediately following the diversion of the forest land.
- (10) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019;
- (11) User Agency to submit undertaking with respect to information to be given to the Deputy Commissioner and Police Department if problems like blasting, flare up etc. arise around the area where coal mining is also taking place.
- (12) The KML files of the area to be diverted, the CA areas, the proposed SMC work, the proposed Catchment Area Treatment and the WLMP area shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all the requisite details before issuing working permission towards linear projects or submitting compliance report for seeking Stage II approval, as the case may be.

B. Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted to Stage-II approval:

- (1) Legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- (2) Compensatory afforestation shall be raised in the degraded area of **13.43 ha** in degraded forest land identified in Compartment No. 11-B, Khliehriat Block, Saipung Range, Jaintia Hills Territorial Division, East Jaintia Hills District at the cost of the user agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided;
- (3) At the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined as per final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India ;
- (4) The user agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of State Forest Department Forest and the cost of the felling of trees shall be deposited by the user agency with the State Forest Department.
- (5) The User Agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall prepare a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in right of way under the transmission line for execution of the said scheme by the State Forest Department.
- (6) The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits.

- (7) The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter no. 7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014.
- (8) The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- (9) The lay out of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- (10) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.
- (11) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternative fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternative fuel.
- (12) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- (13) The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
- (14) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- (15) Line shall have no contact with trees in the forest area as necessary lopping shall be provided by the user agency.
- (16) Sagging of power lines from pole to pole shall not come in contact with any wildlife specifically Asian elephants considering height as they out reach their trunk, as lines shall be in an appropriate height from the ground level.
- (17) Conductors to be used in 132 KV Line as mentioned by the user agency shall be all aluminum alloy conductor of panthe specification which shall not do harm to any wildlife in the proposed area.
- (18) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
- (19) Any other conditions that the North Eastern Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

3. After receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, final approval will be issued in this regard. Formal transfer of forest land shall not be effected by the State Govt till final approval is granted by the Central Government.

भवदीय,

(W. I. Yathoi)

उप वनमहानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Govt of Meghalaya, Department of Forests & Environment, Sylvan House, Lower Lachumiere, Shillong- 793001.

उप वनमहानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C)