

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

Letter No.1145/Section.II/2021

Dated: 19.07.2021

From
The Secretary to Government
EFS&T Department,
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi,
Amaravati-522503.

To
The Inspector General of Forests (Central)
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada,
Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road,
Vijayawada-520010 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: EFS&T Dept. - Proposal for re-diversion of 0.33 ha. of forest land falling in Compartment No.333, Nadimur-Kurmanipalli RF, Nadimur Beat, Kuppam Range, Chittoor West Division (within the already diverted area within RoW) in favour of the Chief Manager (Projects), M/s. HPCL, Kuppam for laying 16" petroleum pipeline along with OFC from V.Kota-Dharmapuri pipeline Section (Phase-II) project – Reg.

Ref: 1)GoI, MoEF&CC, RO, Chennai, Lr.F.No.4-APB052/2017/CHN/1947, dt.04.12.2017.
2) From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr. Ref.No.EFS02-15026/2/2018-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-1, Dated:30.06.2021.

I invite your attention to the reference 1st cited wherein the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change have accorded Stage-I approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 3.93 Ha of forest land for widening of Road within Right of Way (RoW) in Nadimur & Kurmanipalle RF's of Chittoor (West) Division for Up-gradation of NH -42 (Old NH -219) from Km. 58/600 to 140/680 (Palamaner – Krishnagiri Border Section) to two lane with paved shoulders in the State of Andhra Pradesh in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B), NH Division, Chittoor, subject to fulfillment of certain conditions stipulated therein. The compliance report on Stage-I conditions is awaited from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

2. In the meanwhile, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, in the reference 2nd cited, has submitted proposal for re-diversion of 0.33 ha. of forest land falling in Compartment No.333, Nadimur-Kurmanipalli RF, Nadimur Beat, Kuppam Range, Chittoor West Division (within the already diverted area within RoW) in favour of the Chief Manager Projects, M/s. HPCL, Kuppam for laying 16" petroleum pipeline along with OFC from V.Kota-Dharmapuri pipeline Section (Phase-II) project. This area was diverted in favour of Executive Engineer, R&B, NH Division, Chittoor in Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office, Chennai letter in the reference 1st cited for widening of the road within RoW for up-gradation of NH-42(Old NH-219).

3. I am to inform that the User Agency i.e. the Chief Manager Project, M/s. HPCL, Kuppam, has furnished justification stating that:-

1. There is no alternative route other than this as this route covers least forest area and nil damage to the trees.

P.T.O

2. The route survey was carried out for two alternate routes and it was observed that the possibility of avoiding the forest land is nearly nil, hence the best route was selected which will pass through the least forest land (Already diverted land).
3. Other alternatives involves more forest area to be diverted and technically not feasible involving safety of the pipeline. The terrain in hilly where laying of pipeline poses several construction challenges.
4. There is no alternative path for the same. The pipeline survey after completion provided minimum forest land passing through V.Kota via Kuppam, Andhra Pradesh to Dharmapuri, Tamilnadu.
5. Therefore, the more apt technically and safety in laying pipeline along with OFC is through the already diverted forest land, which has no impact on flora and fauna since it is passing along with existing RoW of National High way.

The User Agency has furnished undertakings to bear the cost of raising and maintenance of compensatory afforestation, Penal Compensatory Afforestation, if any, payment of NPV and Additoinal charges etc. The RoFR certificate may not be required as the proposed petroleum pipeline along with OFC within RoW is laid down in the area already diverted to Executive Engineer R&B, NH Division, Chittoor. The forest land proposed for re-diversion is below one hectare and it does not involve tree felling, compensatory afforestation may not be required. The proposal has been uploaded in Ministry's web portal with unique No.FP/AP/Pipeline/143395/2021 and the acknowledgement slip has been generated in the web portal for this proposal. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, the Conservator of Forests and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, have recommended the proforma proposal in Part-II, III and IV respectively. The recommendation of the State Government in proforma proposal in Part-V is enclosed herewith.

4. I request you to consider the proposal of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for re-diversion of 0.33 ha. of forest land falling in Compartment No.333, Nadimur-Kurmanipalli RF, Nadimur Beat, Kuppam Range, Chittoor West Division (within the already diverted area within RoW) in favour of the Chief Manager Projects, M/s. HPCL, Kuppam for laying 16" petroleum pipeline along with OFC from V.Kota-Dharmapuri pipeline Section (Phase-II) project and communicate the approval of Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, at an early date.

Yours faithfully,


for Secretary to Government


Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Guntur.

The Chief Manager Project,
M/s. HPCL, Madanapalle Division,
Madanapalle.

PART-V

(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

18. Recommendation of the State Government:-

(Adverse comments made by any officer or authority in Part-B or Part-C or Part-D above should be specifically commented upon)

(Letter No.1145/Section.II/2021, Dated.19.07.2021 for re-diversion of 0.33 ha. of forest land falling in Compartment No.333, Nadimur-Kurmanipalli RF, Nadimur Beat, Kuppam Range, Chittoor West Division (within the already diverted area within RoW) in favour of the Chief Manager Projects, M/s. HPCL, Kuppam for laying 16" petroleum pipeline along with OFC from V.Kota-Dharmapuri pipeline Section (Phase-II) project)

"Recommended to consider the proposal for re-diversion of 0.33 ha. of forest land falling in Compartment No.333, Nadimur-Kurmanipalli RF, Nadimur Beat, Kuppam Range, Chittoor West Division (within the already diverted area within RoW) in favour of the Chief Manager Projects, M/s.HPCL, Kuppam for laying 16" petroleum pipeline along with OFC from V.Kota-Dharmapuri pipeline Section (Phase-II) project."



Signature

Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Date: 19.07.2021

Place: AMARAVATI

Dr. P.V. CHALAPATHI RAO, I.F.S.,
Special Secretary to Government
Environment, Forests, Science
and Technology Department
A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi - 522238.