

By Speed Post

FAA

57



ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS(FR.10)
DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT,
CHENNAI 9.



Letter No.14667/FR.10/2015-1, Dated.07.10.2015

From
Thiru. Hans Raj Verma, I.A.S.,
Principal Secretary to Government.

To
The Director,
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),
1st & 2nd Floor, HEPC Building,
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034.(w.e.).

Sir,

Sub: Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Dharmapuri Forest Circle / Hosur Forest Division – Proposal for diversion of 3.35 ha. of forest land in Enusonai Reserved Land of Hosur Forest Division in Krishnagiri District for construction of 765 KV – S/C transmission line from New Salem (Dharmapuri) to Madhugiri of Karnataka State – Proposal – Forwarded - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter No.TS3/33788/2014, dated 03.08.2015.

I am directed to state that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) has sent a proposal for diversion of 3.35 ha. of forest land in Enusonai Reserve Forest of Hosur Forest Division in Krishnagiri District for construction of 765 KV – S/C transmission line from New Salem (Dharmapuri) to Madhugiri of Karnataka State in favour of the Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bangalore, Karnataka.

2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has stated that the Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bangalore has submitted online application under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in the prescribed format of Form A - Part I for diversion of 3.35 ha of forest land in Enusonai Reserved Land of Hosur Forest Division in Krishnagiri District for construction of 765 KV - SIC transmission line from New Salem (Dharmapuri) to Madhugiri of Karnataka State. The User Agency has requested diversion of forest area for a period of 75 years. The User Agency has submitted the required details / Documents / Certificates / Undertakings / Maps along with the proposal.

3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has also stated that after field inspection, the District Forest Officer, Hosur Division and the Conservator of Forests,

4570/5070
↓
20.10

Dharmapuri Circle has forwarded the proposal to the Nodal Officer through on-line. The details are as below :-

Area required for the Project	-	3.3472 ha.
Density of forests	-	0.3
Eco-class	-	Eco-3
Legal status of the land	-	Reserved Land

Notified under Section 4 of Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882 vide G.O. Ms.No. 902 Environment and Forests Department dated 18.08.1987.

Name of the Forest Block	-	Enusonai RL
Field inspection by District Forest Officer,	-	04.12.2014
Length of the proposed corridor	-	523 m
Width of the corridor	-	64 m
Area proposed for diversion	-	3.35 ha

4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has further stated that in the proposed corridor path, 698 numbers of *Eucalyptus tereticornis* species are available, all of them are man-made trees. Age of the tree is about 15 years. The Udedurgam RF of Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary lies 20 kms away from the proposed site. There is no endangered flora and fauna available in the proposed site. There is no monument structure in the proposed site area nearby. There is no National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant Corridor, Wildlife Migration Corridor etc., is located within 1 km from boundary of the forest land proposed for diversion. There is no rare / endangered unique species of flora and fauna found in the area. There is no protected archaeological heritage site / defence establishment or any other important monument is located in the area. Requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bear minimum for the project and no work in violation of the Act or guidelines has been carried out.

5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has also stated that the District Forest Officer, Hosur division has identified Compensatory Afforestation work in 7.00 ha. of degraded forest area of Sakkadi Sakkampatti Reserve Land of Rayakottai Range in Hosur Division. As the project facilitates the transmission of power from the surplus area to demand area and there is no felling of spontaneous tree growth, the District Forest Officer, has recommended the project subject to certain conditions. Compensatory Afforestation plantation cost for 7 ha. of degraded forest land including maintenance for 7 years, protection of plantation etc., has been proposed for Rs.35.00 lakhs. Prorata has been arrived @ Rs.5.00 lakhs per hectare. The Conservator of Forest, Dharmapuri Circle has reported in Part-III of the proposal, that the site has been inspected by him on 16.12.2014 and he has agreed with the remarks offered by the District Forest Officer, in his field inspection. He recommended the proposal with the condition that the User Agency has to provide ELCB (Earth Leakage Current Breaker) arrangement all along the transmission line so as to prevent electrocution death of wild animals. The Forest Rights Act Certificate issued by the District Collector of Krishnagiri on 27.05.2015, received through the User Agency has been uploaded by the Conservator of Forest, Dharmapuri Circle. The District Forest Officer, Hosur Division has recommended the proposal in the Part-II format proposal. The Conservator of Forest, Dharmapuri Circle has recommended the proposal in the Part-III format proposal.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended the proposal subject to the following conditions:-

- a) The User Agency has to deposit the cost of raising compensatory afforestation and maintenance of plantation for seven years as fixed by the Forest Department for the Compensatory Afforestation work proposed in Sakkadi Sakkampatti RL of Hosur Forest Division.
- b) The User Agency has to pay the amount of Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- c) The User Agency has to bear the additional Net Present Value which will be fixed as per the guidelines of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as fixed by Forest Department in future.
- d) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards lease rent as fixed by the Forest department at the time of sanction along with any escalation for the forest land to be diverted of the above project in future.
- e) Agency has to provide ELCB (Earth Leakage Current Breaker) arrangement all along the transmission line so as to prevent electrocution death of wild animals.
- f) Period of lease shall be 25 years.

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent the proposal duly recommended by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) / Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in Part IV of form - A and requested to forwarded the proposal through on-line to Government of India for obtaining concurrence of Government of India for diversion of forest area 3.35 ha of forest land in Enusonai Reserved Land of Hosur Forest Division in Krishnagiri District for construction of 765 KV - S/C transmission line from New Salem (Dharmapuri) to Madhugiri of Karnataka State in favour of the Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bangalore-64, Karnataka State. As per Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India letter F.No.11-68/2014-FC, dated 11.07.2014 the proposal for Electrical Transmission Lines are exempted from the condition of compensatory land to be handed over to Forest Department.

8. Accordingly the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests for diversion of 3.35 ha. of forest land in Enusonai Reserve Forest of Hosur Forest Division in Krishnagiri District for construction of 765 KV - S/C transmission line from New Salem (Dharmapuri) to Madhugiri of Karnataka State in favour of the Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bangalore-64, Karnataka State to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, is forwarded to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Chennai for obtaining concurrence.

Yours faithfully,

7


for Principal Secretary to Government
8/10/15

✓ Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force-FAC), Chennai-15.
The Chief Manager,
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.,
Southern Region Transmission System-II R.H.Q.,
Race Course Road, Bangalore-560 001.

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)

— Recommended —


Signature A. SIVAPRAKASAM
Name & Designation
(Official Seal)

Under Secretary to Government
Environment and Forests Dept.,
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009

Date : 8.10.15
Place : Chennai