

SITE INSPECTION REPORT

I visited the proposed site on 22/02/2015 along with Range Officer, Kumargram range. The entire proposed line passes through the dense forest, which is a part of Buxa Tiger Reserve. The proposed alignment passes through compartment KG 1 and KG 2 under Kumargram beat, Kumargram Range. The length of the line that is proposed to be laid is 3.553 km of which 1.362 km passes through Kumargram Forest village. The total land involved in diversion is 16.39 ha out of which 7.12 ha is of Kumargram Forest village.

The compartments KG 1a, 1b and KG 2 (except Kumargram village Part) forms part of Buxa Wildlife sanctuary as per Gazette notification No 7588-For/11B-24/90 dated 6th October, 1990 and also forms part of core area of Tiger Reserve vide notification No 3051-For/11M-28/07 dated 6th August, 2009. The area is also part of Eastern Duars Elephant Reserve as per Notification No 3293-For/11B-19/2000, Kolkata, the 28th August, 2002.

The proposed area is also part of Sankosh Riphu elephant corridor. The area being close to Assam and Bhutan boundary is part of crucial corridor for Tiger, leopard and other important fauna. The annual Tiger census does reveal the usage of area by Tiger, leopard and important wildlife such as clouded leopard, elephant etc.

The flora in the proposed area includes majorly Teak, Sal, Tatar, Simul, Iali, Pitali, Sirish, Bahera, Gamar, Chatian, Palash, Halara etc. In addition several species of shrubs and herbs are found in the area.

The part of line passes through Kumargram Forest village and accordingly the consent of forest village may be taken and land losers to be compensated adequately. Since the area is crucial elephant corridor sufficient mitigation measures to be put in place to avoid elephants and other wildlife coming in contact with the High tension line. As per the joint inspection of Power Grid corporation and DFD it was pointed out by power Grid corporation that the width of the line required is 46 mtr for 400KV line.

The proposed project is the best possible situation for construction of 400KV D/C transmission line from Bhutan

- As the alignment includes least forest area compared to other alternate alignment
- The proposed alignment is running all through the existing road to Kalikhola so the disturbance is minimised
- Major portion of line passes through existing Forest village through cultivated land

Hence it is submitted that proposal may be considered with due precautions

Signature :

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Official seal :

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