

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

No.FRS.6/2022/69

Dated Dispur, the 21th February, 2022

From : Sri I. Kalita, ACS
Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Environment and Forest Department

To : The Inspector General of Forest (Central),
Government of India,
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
Integrated Regional Office, 4th Floor, Housefed Building,
G.S Road, Rukminigaon, Guwahati-781022

Sub : **Diversion of 10.381 hectare of forest land for construction of 132 KV D/C pare HEP to North Lakhimpur transmission line in Ranga Reserved Forest under Lakhipur Division in favour of Vapi-II North Lakhimpur Transmission Ltd.**

Case No. : State Serial No. FP/AS/TRANS/149737/2021.

Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a proposal received from the PCCF & HoFF, Assam for construction of 132 KV D/C pare HEP to North Lakhimpur transmission line in Ranga Reserved Forest under Lakhipur Division of 10.381 hectare of forest land submitted by Vapi-II North Lakhimpur Transmission Ltd. seeking diversion of forest land under section 2 (ii) of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

1. Brief Description:-

This proposal seeks diversion of 10.381 hectare of forest land in Ranga Reserve Forest land for construction of 132 KV D/C pare HEP to North Lakhimpur transmission line in Ranga Reserved Forest under Lakhipur Division of 10.381 hectare of forest land, submitted by Vapi-II North Lakhimpur Transmission Ltd. The details of the project proponent, year of incorporation, past track record, areas of business operation along with project cost enclosed in the part-I submitted by user agency.

2. Details of forest land proposed for diversions :-

The land involved in the project is 10.381 Ha. out of this, the forest land in the State of Assam is as follows:-

a) R.F	10.381 Ha.	a) Revenue forest	..... Ha.
b) P.F	..... Ha.	b) Panchayat forest	..... Ha.
c) Un-classed	.....Ha.	c) Area recorded	.....Ha.
d) Village forests	..... Ha.	d) Area defined as forests in dictionary meaning	..... Ha.
		e) Private forest	..... Ha.
Total	10.381 Ha.	Total	..... Ha.

Contd./-

3. Maps enclosed:-

The user agency has furnished the following maps duly countersigned by the Divisional Forest Officers.

- (i) Geo-reference Map showing the location of proposed diversion area
- (ii) Toposheet No.(s) of the Survey of India of the proposed diversion area (scale 1:50,000).
- (iii) Map showing the proposed site for Compensatory Afforestation (scale 1:50,000 for forest areas).
- (iv) Geo-reference Map showing the location of proposed Compensatory Afforestation area

Total forest area involved 10.381 Ha.

4. Assessment of stock:-

The forest area is situated in the Lakhimpur Division (s) of the State. The proposed project shall affect 12,459 Nos. trees and bamboo clumps (490 Nos. trees & 11,969 Nos. Bamboo). The details of species-wise and diameter class wise enumeration of trees have been enclosed with the diversion proposal. The ruling crown density is Dense Forest and assessed Eco-class of the proposed diversion area is Eco-Class-I

5. Flora and Fauna and archaeological importance:-

The area does not form a part of National Park/Sanctuary or Biosphere Reserve, sample or preservation plot. Moreover, the area does not have/possess importance from archaeological view point.

6. Compensatory Afforestation:-

The forest land to be diverted for the above project is 10.381 Ha. the diverted area i.e 20.8 Ha. has been identified in degraded forest area for Compensatory Afforestation as given below in the table:-

Forest land identified for Compensatory Afforestation

District	Division	Range	Block	Compartment No.(s)	Area	Working Circles(s)	Felling Treatment Series
Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur		Ranga RF		20.8 Ha.		

The map showing the above identified land has been enclosed with the diversion proposal.

The above area is proposed to be covered under plantation. The Divisional Forest Office, Lakhimpur Division has drawn-up compensatory afforestation scheme with a financial outlay of Rs 90,07,177.00/-. The Compensatory Afforestation Scheme has been technically approved by the Conservator of Forests, Northern Assam Circle, Tezpur.

The Divisional Forest Officer, Lakhimpur Division has given certificate regarding suitability of the lands for Compensatory Afforestation 20.8 Ha. The user agency has furnished undertaking to deposit the amount of Compensatory Afforestation scheme after Stage I clearance.

7. Displacement of human population:-

No human population is being displaced owing to the project, as the area is devoid of any human population.

8. Environment Clearance:-

The environmental clearance against the project is not required.

9. Cost- benefit analysis:-

The cost benefit analysis has been worked out and provided in the diversion proposal.

10. Violation of Forest Conservation Act/Indian Forest Act :-

There was no violation of Forest Conservation Act or any other forest act is reported.

11. Recommendations of the State Government:-

The PCCF & HoFF, Assam/ Nodal officer, has recommended the proposal. The Assessment officers and concerned senior officers without any adverse note have commented in favour of the same. The proposed diversion site is not a part of National Park/ Sanctuary/Biosphere Reserve, Sample plot, preservation plot or ecologically fragile zone. The diversion will not affect the habitat of any endemic, threatened species of fauna or flora, or any stream, sea or water body i.e. on forest ecosystem and biodiversity. It will not also adversely affect on supply of daily needs to the rural masses.

I would therefore, request you to kindly convey the approval of the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India under Section-2 (ii) of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980 for diversion of the forest land in question in favour of leasing the same to Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]
21.02.2022

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Environment and Forest Department

Memo No.FRS.6/2022/69-A

Dated Dispur, the 21th February, 2022

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Territorial Upper Assam Zone, Jorhat.
3. The CCF & Nodal Officer, (F.C Act) O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Ghy-37.
4. The Conservator of Forests, Northern Assam Circle, Tezpur.
5. The Divisional Forest Officer, Lakhimpur Division, Lakhimpur.
6. The Assistant Vice President, VAPI II- North Lakhimpur Transmission Ltd., 1st Floor Buragohin Building, CD Road, Ward No.4, P.O North Lakhimpur, Lakhimpur-787001.

[Signature]
21.02.2022

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Environment and Forest Department

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