

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT

Name of the Project: Construction of 400 kV Quad D/C Koppal – Narendra (New) Transmission Line by Koppal-Narendra Transmission Limited

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

Government of India has set a target for establishing 175 GW renewable capacity by 2022, which includes 100 GW from Solar and 60 GW from Wind. Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) in association with MNRE has identified Solar Energy Zones (SEZ) and Wind Energy Zones (WEZ) of 66.5 GW in seven RE rich states (Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh) to be evacuated through ISTS. Out of total 66.5 GW REZs, 18.5 GW (Solar-10 GW & Wind8.5GW) of potential has been identified in the states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka In Southern Region.

The 2.5 GW wind potential identified in Koppal area of Karnataka has been prioritized under Phase-I (Part-II) for implementation. The Koppal transmission scheme involves establishment of Koppal Pooling Station and 400 kV Quad D/C Koppal PS – Narendra (New) Transmission Line along with bays and its interconnection with ISTS grid for evacuation of wind potential from Koppal area of Karnataka.

400 kV Quad D/C Koppal PS – Narendra (New) Transmission Line is passing through the reserve forest area of Koppal Forest Division in Koppal District of the State of Karnataka.

2. JUSTIFICATION

Three alternative route corridors were studied largely by maximizing linear sighting opportunities, such as following existing roadways and power line corridors, negotiation with river, railway, road, electric power, and telephone line crossing and least crossing of notified/ reserved forest areas. All efforts have been made to provide minimum numbers of angle points and utmost care have been taken on the ground with possible angle of deviation. The line passes through Koppal Forest Division of the state of Karnataka. Every effort has been made to avoid forest area but considering the technical feasibility of the route alignment the forest area could not be avoided completely. The alignment with minimum crossing of the forest & having minimum length has been selected as the proposed alignment. After detailed analysis, it was observed that Alternative-1 among the Three (3) alternative routes has the minimum involvement of forest area and is best suitable for construction point of view. Alternative-1 is also best in terms of approachability for construction

Koppal-Narendra Transmission Limited

CIN: U40106DL2019GOI357628

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as well as maintenance purpose. Keeping the above points in consideration, Alternative - 1 is proposed as the final route alignment.

3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Prior approval of the Government of India under Section 68 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 2003 for the subject project has been obtained vide MoP's letter dated 31.01.2020. It is proposed to execute the transmission scheme as provision contained in the Indian Electricity Act, 2003.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL RISK

Transmission line Projects are environment friendly and do not involve any disposal of solid effluents and hazardous substance in land, air and water. Moreover, in forest area, trees are felled only at the tower spotting area and below conductors to facilitate tower erection and stringing work. On completion of construction activity, only one strip is maintained for O&M purpose and natural regeneration of vegetation is allowed in rest of the corridor area. Therefore, the actual loss of forest is minimal as it is restricted to some selected area only. However, as per the requirement of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 approval of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Govt. of India for diversion of forest land shall be taken before construction of line in forest area. Further, compensatory afforestation shall be done in double the degraded forest land to compensate the loss of vegetation, due to diversion of forest.

5. CONCLUSION

The route alignment has been made with a goal of avoiding the Forest and Wildlife area. After detailed analysis, it is observed that the Alternative-1 (Proposed Route) has the least route length and forest area involvement. Hence, the Alternative -1 (Proposed Route) has been selected as final route as it contains minimum forest area and has least no. of trees to be felled.

Place: Gajendragad

Date : 21-Feb-2022

Signature & Seal

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