



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

Letter No.8384/FR.10/2019-1, Dated. 09.07.2019

From  
Thiru. Shambu Kallolikal, I.A.S.,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

To  
The Additional Director General of Forests (Central),  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,  
Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, HEPC Building,  
No.34, Cathedral Garden Road,  
Nungambakkam, Chennai-34 (w.e)

Sir,

Sub: Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Proposal for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2- Online Submission of proposal by the User Agency - Regarding.

Ref: From the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter No.TS3/11384 /2017, dated 03.05.2018.

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I am directed to state that the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has sent a proposal for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai- 2 under Section 2 of Forest Conservation Act, 1980.

2. In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division, Kancheepuram has furnished the following particulars:-

- i) Density of the forest area is 0.30 and Eco class four.
- ii) There are 214 numbers of trees are existing in the proposed diversion area, which are required to be felled before taking up the project. In the site inspection report, he has stated that the plantation available along the stretch of the transmission

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line is manmade plantations and there is no spontaneous growth along the transmission line.

iii) Wild pig, Mongoose, Peacock are present in and around the forest land proposed for diversion.

iv) The forest area proposed for diversion is not forms part of National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Tiger Reserve, Elephant corridor, Wildlife migration corridor etc., and not located within 1 km boundary of NP/WLs etc., for the forest land proposed for diversion and not located within the eco-sensitive zone of the protected area notified under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

v) There is no rare / endangered / unique species of flora and fauna found in the area.

vi) There is no protected archaeological / heritage site / defense establishment or any other important monument is located in the area.

vii) Requirement of forest land as proposed by the User Agency is unavoidable and bare minimum for the project and no work in violation of the Act or guidelines has been carried out.

3. The District Forest Officer, Chengalpattu Division has inspected the proposed site for erection of this transmission line which falls in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Chengalpattu Range on 01.06.2018 and reported that the proposed area is a linear stretch of Reserve Forests land to a length of 1100 mts and a width of 35 mts (revised to 46m based on Government of India guidelines) on the North Western part of Thirutheri Reserve Forests. Five towers are to be erected in this stretch inside the Reserve Forests. There is no any water body along the stretch of the proposed transmission line. The project of erection of 230 kv DC transmission line is very important to ensure reliable electricity supply generated from Neyveli Thermal Power Station to Kancheepuram District to meet the growing demand of power in Kancheepuram District.

This diversion is proposed for a project which may lead to the industrial development of Kancheepuram District. Diversion of the particular stretch may not cause much disturbance to wildlife and will not adversely affect eco system. The plantations available along the stretch of the transmission line are manmade plantations and ascertained that there is no spontaneous growth available along the transmission line. Taking in to the consideration of above facts, District Forest Officer has recommended the proposal.

4. The District Forest Officer has uploaded detailed Compensatory Afforestation scheme for the project along with abstract of the scheme. As per Government of India guidelines, Compensatory Afforestation work has to be taken up in the non-forest area with 7-10 years of maintenance. In the Compensatory Afforestation, 1000 seedlings per ha. of diverted forest area has to be planted. Minimum of 5060 seedlings has to be planted for diversion of 5.06 ha. of forest area proposed for diversion in the identified 10.12 ha. of degraded forest area.

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As per abstract of Compensatory Afforestation scheme uploaded, the District Forest Officer has proposed Compensatory Afforestation scheme for planting of 6325 seedlings planting in the 10.12 ha of Compensatory Afforestation degraded forest area identified for the project with maintenance of plantation for 10 years in the Appur Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Division. Detailed Compensatory Afforestation scheme proposed including planting of dwarf species in the transmission path and protection of diversion area and CA scheme area is for Rs. 6,10,17,770/-. He has also uploaded the site suitability certificate of proposed Compensatory Afforestation scheme land.

5. The Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai Circle has inspected the site on 21.06.2018 and stated that considering the importance to meet the growing power needs in Kancheepuram District, he has also recommended the proposal. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FCA) Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980 has recommended the said project.

6. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests has recommended the proposal for diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 Kv DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in favour of TANGEDCO, Chennai-2 for a period of 30 years under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, subject to the following conditions:-

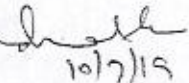
- a) The legal status of the diverted forest land remains unchanged.
- b) The demarcation of the proposed forest land shall be carried out by the User Agency by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at their cost.
- c) The User Agency has to pay the cost of Raising Compensatory Afforestation / Maintenance of plantation, protection of plantation etc., as fixed by the Forest Department and willingness to deposit additional amounts if any suggested as amended owing to the change in planting technique, enhancement in the FSR etc., demanded subsequently.
- d) 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.
- e) The User Agency has to bear the additional amount of 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.
- f) 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 for the entire project period.
- g) The User Agency has to pay the cost towards felling and transportation of trees in the proposed forest area division area.
- h) Period of lease can be thirty (30) years. The User Agency has to apply renewal proposal before six months of expiry of lease with the State Forest Department.

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7. The Government have examined the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoD) and proposed to divert 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 Kv DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in favour of TANGEDCO, Chennai-2 for a period of 30 years, under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 subject to the conditions in para 6 above and forward the same to Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change for concurrence.

8. I am therefore request you to kindly obtain the concurrence of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change on the above proposal, and communicate the same to the Government, early.

Yours faithfully,

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G. R. J.   
10/7/19

for Principal Secretary to Government

Su  
10/7/19

Copy to:-

✓ The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
(Head of Department),  
Chennai-15.

The Executive Engineer / Civil,  
Transmission Projects / GCC-II,  
A-10, Thiru Vi. Ka. Industrial Estate,  
Guindy, Chennai-32

PART - V

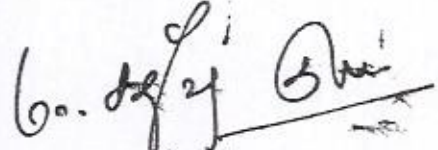
(To be filled in by the Secretary in charge of Forest Department or by any other authorized officer of the State Government not below the rank of an Under Secretary)

Diversion of 5.06 ha of forest land in Thirutheri Reserve Forests of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P. Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai 2- for a period of 30 years under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

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

Name & Designation  
(Official Seal)

Date : 10.07.2019

Place : Chennai-9.

Under Secretary to Government  
Environment & Forest Department  
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009