

#### भारतसरकार

### **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

पर्यावरण ,वनएवंजलवायुपरिवर्तनमंत्रालय

# MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

# Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada

Green House Complex, Gopal Reddy Road Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh email: iro.vijayawada-mefcc@gov.in



То

F.No. 4-APB094/2019-CHNpart/93 Date 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

The Principal Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1st Floor, 4th Block, Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503

Subject: Diversion of 4.88 ha of forest land in Compt No 425, 426 & 427 of Nanda RF, Vizianagaram Division for construction of Mini Hydel Project (3 X 4000 KW) 12.00 MW on Gomukhi River near Thonam Village of Salur Mandal in favour of M/s Mohanarupa Power Project (Pvt)

Ltd.-reg.

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 839/Section II/2018 dated 09.01.2019, 839/Section-II/2018 dated 16.11.2020, 839/Section-II/2018/ (384146) 27.09.2021 and online proposal No. FP/AP/HYD/8384/2014 seeking prior approval of the Central Government for diversion of forest land in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above mentioned project.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and with the approval of competent authority, I am to convey the Central Government's in principle approval (*Stage-I*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **4.88 ha** of forest land in Compt No 425, 426 & 427 of Nanda RF, Vizianagaram Division for construction of Mini Hydel Project (3 X 4000 KW) 12.00 MW on Gomukhi River near Thonam Village of Salur Mandal in favour of M/s Mohanarupa Power Project (Pvt) Ltd, subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- 2. Demarcation of the forest area proposed for diversion shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
- 3. Compensatory afforestation over the identified non-forest land over an extent of **5.00 ha out of 5.511 ha** i.e. 1.011 ha in Sy No 16-A of Allapalli (V) and an extent of 4.5 ha in Sy No 1116/3 in Daburavaripalli (V) of ODC (M) in Ananthapuram District shall be raised and

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- maintained by the State Forest Department from the funds to be provided by the User Agency;
- 4. Entire non-forest land identified over an extent of **5.511 ha** i.e. 1.011 ha in Sy No 16-A of Allapalli (V) and an extent of 4.5 ha in Sy No 1116/3 in Daburavaripalli (V) of ODC (M) in Ananthapuram District shall be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department before issue of Stage-II clearance;
- The Forest Department shall ensure that the CA scheme as proposed in the diversion proposal along with other recommendations suggested by the REC shall be implemented in its entirety, and if necessary, by undertaking suitable modification / revision of the FSR accordingly;
- 6. The proposed CA scheme shall be implemented along with the provision for protection watchers as envisaged in the scheme;
- 7. A minimum of 1000 plants / ha of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified CA land. In case, the required numbers could not be planted therein, the balance shall be planted in the nearby RF/PF by the State Forest Department at the cost of the User Agency;
- 8. The non-forest land which needs to be transferred and mutated in favour of the State Forest Department for the purpose of compensatory afforestation shall be declared as Reserved Forest under Section-4 or Protected Forest under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Section(s) of the State Forest Act before grant of Stage II approval (final approval) and a copy of such original notification shall be sent to to IRO, Vijayawada for information and record;
- 9. The approved compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- 10.The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **4.88 ha** from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995 and the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard;
- 11.Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 12.The State Forest Department shall prepare CAT plan as per the Ministry's guidelines and shall implement CAT plan at the cost of the User Agency;

7

- 13. The funds received from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation, Net Present Value or any money for compliance of conditions stipulated in this approval letter shall only be deposited in the designated CAMPA account;
- 14. The User Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986;
- 15. The area i.e, 2.06 ha proposed for working area shall be permanent till project is alive with a condition that no permanent structures shall be made in the area earmarked as working area and it shall be used for the activities like parking of machineries and other equipment, to keep material / inputs required for constructions and future inspections and maintenance as requested in the proposal;
- 16.Excavated materials, if any, shall not be dumped in the nearby forest area and no new path other than the road proposed shall be formed for implementation of, the project. Muck generated shall be disposed in the non-forest area as proposed in muck disposal plan;
- 17. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
- 18. The User Agency shall endeavor to avoid felling of trees existing on the Forest Land proposed to be utilized. Wherever necessary, the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the DFO/FDO concerned;
- 19. Wherever feasible the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of trees at the cost of the User Agency;
- 20. The State Forest Department shall implement soil conservation measures to prevent soil erosion likely to take place due to the project at the cost of the User Agency;
- 21. The User Agency shall provide firewood, preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- 22. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- 23. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to such project and all other mandatory clearances required for such hydel projects shall be obtained by the User Agency before Stage II approval;

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- 24. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and the total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **4.88 ha**. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- 25. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred or sublet to any other agency or Department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
- 26.Any other condition that the Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;
- 27.In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions made in the Rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;
- 28. The State Government shall process and submit compliance report on the above conditions through online (<a href="https://parivesh.nic.in/">https://parivesh.nic.in/</a>);

After receipt of the compliance report on above mentioned conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. The in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of the same. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, the in-principle approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully

(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)

## Copy to:-

- 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.
- 2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem, Guntur-522004
- 3. M/s. Mohanarupa Power Project Pvt Ltd, #30-1-9, Jayathi Enclave, Kurmaih Street, Arundalpet, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, 520002, info@Mohanarupapower.com

4. Guard file

(N.S.Murali)

Inspector General of Forests (Central)