



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (South Eastern Zone),

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F.No. 4-APC084/2018-CHN/1856
Date 28th November, 2018

To

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 18.86 ha (i.e.. 11.49 ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 ha in Janapadu RF) of Forest land for laying of 765 KV D/C Warangal - Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line implemented by Warora- Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL)-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No.EFS01-12021/118/Section-II/2018 dated 15.10.2018 and online application No. FP/AP/TRANS/27462/2017 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.

As recommended by the Regional Empowered Committee (REC), I am directed to convey the Central Government's in-principle approval (*Stage-I*) under Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 18.86 ha (i.e.. 11.49 ha in Madinapadu RF & 7.37 ha in Janapadu RF) of Forest land for laying of 765 KV D/C Warangal - Chilakaluripeta Transmission Line to be implemented by Warora- Kurnool Transmission Line (WKTL)-, subject to the following conditions:-

1. Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the User Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned at the project cost before the Stage II approval;
3. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) over 40.26 ha of degraded forest land in Compt No 26 of Koppukonda RF of Vinukonda Range in Guntur Division at the cost of the User Agency;

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DESPATCHED (BY SP)
Date 28/11/18 P&T

4. The CA scheme proposed includes Rs. 40 lakhs for chain fencing of the degraded forest area and Rs. 4.13 lakhs for salvaging old fencing; Monitoring & Administrative cost is shown to be nearly 21.50 lakhs. Hence, the CA scheme may be rationalized by excluding unjustifiable components and a revised CA scheme may be furnished instead;
5. Minimum of 1000 plants / ha of diverted forest area shall be planted in the identified degraded forest 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;
6. The PCCF & HoFF, Andhra Pradesh shall ensure that the approved CA scheme is implemented in its entirety and the CA plantations are maintained for 10 years as per the approved CA scheme; suitable instructions may be issued to the field officers in this regard and, if need be, the FSR may be suitably modified to facilitate this;
7. The State Forest Department shall raise and maintain dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) under the transmission lines as per the scheme proposed with financial outlay of Rs.27 lakhs to be collected from the User Agency;
8. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the diverted forest land measuring **18.86 ha** from 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;
9. Additional amount of 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;
10. The funds received from the User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation, Net Present Value and any money received in compliance of the conditions stipulated by the Central Government under this project shall compulsorily be deposited in to the **"State Compensatory Afforestation Fund of Andhra Pradesh State"** only;
11. The maximum width of right of way for the proposed transmission line on the forest land shall not be more than 67 mtrs;
12. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;

13. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
14. The User Agency shall provide fire wood, preferably alternate fuel to labourers working at the site to avoid damage/pressure on adjacent forest areas;
15. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area as far as possible 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;
16. The enumerated trees in the 67 meter width strip (right of way) would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration shall be allowed to come up. Felling / pollarding / pruning of trees shall be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary for the maintenance of the transmission lines;
17. In case the portion of the transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
18. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
19. During construction of transmission line, pollarding / pruning of trees located outside the above width of the strip, whose branches / parts infringe with conductor stringing , shall be carried out to the extent necessary, as may be decided by the local forest officer;
20. All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible at the cost of the User Agency. Felling shall be kept the barest minimum required and shall be carried out under the supervision of the DFO, Concerned;
21. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to Ministry's guidelines F.No 7-25/2012-FC dated 5th May, 2014 and 19th September, 2014 and provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulation and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to the transmission line projects;


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22. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **18.86 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
23. The Progress of the Compensatory Afforestation under the jurisdiction of Guntur Forest Division shall be monitored by the respective Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office;
24. Any other conditions that the Central Government or Addl. PCCF(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai 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;
25. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as decided by the Additional PCCF (Central), Regional Office, Chennai.

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

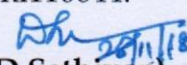
Yours faithfully,


(D.Sathiyam)

Conservator of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, Aranya Bhavan, K.M. Munshi Road, Nagarampalem Guntur-522004.
3. 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.
4. The Director, RO(HQ) Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi - 110 003.
5. M/s. Warora Kurnool Transmission line (WKTL), A 26/3, Mohan Co-operative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, Near Sarita Vihar Metro Station, Delhi-110044.
6. Guard file.


(D.Sathiyam)

Conservator of Forests (Central)