

ANNEXURE D-I

Justification for locating the Project in Forest Land and Details of alternatives examined:

Name of the Project:

Laying of underground OFC along the roadside from Mittur to Nimiyampattu across Mangalam RF in Vaniyambadi Taluk, Vellore District

Details of the Project:

Telecommunication has witnessed exponential growth over the past few decades. This technological advancement has impacted almost every part of human life. The use of telecommunication has not only made it easy for friends and family to keep in touch but also helped businesses to meet a bigger part of their communication and security needs. The telecom sector brings together several sub-sectors including network security providers, network operators, telecom infrastructure, billing companies, enterprise communication and telecom software.

The use of telecommunication technology in this era is just immeasurable. Its effects can be felt from the cities all through to the remote villages. While some of the telecom solutions are designed for businesses others are made for individual use. But they all aim at fulfilling one goal-transforming the world into a global village where transfer and sharing of data is more efficient, reliable and convenient.

Currently most towns, villages and hamlets have good road access. The demand for internet and telecommunication is increasing day by day as the population is increasing. Internet usage has also increased as all services are now being made available on the internet. So, the sides of the road are often the best place to lay the telecommunication cable.

The Optical Fibre Cables for telecommunication are always laid along the roadside due to easy supervision, quick maintenance, and low cost of maintenance. The applicant does not have to acquire land for this project purpose, as the roadside land is under the control of State Highway / National Highways Authority of India. If the above roads cross the forest land, they are laid in the sides of the road with the permission of Forest Department.

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The area requested for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cable is the minimum considering the requirements and considering the safety of the cables so laid. Since the telecommunication cables also carry the communication from the Government Offices, Defence & Strategic Establishments and from the different industrial organizations apart from the public, for the safety and confidentiality of the conversation so made it is not advisable to lay such important cables on the private land belonging to different parties.

While crossing the forest land, the cable alignment will be suitably diverted to avoid any cutting of trees and laid within the road land boundary by excavating a narrow trench of 0.60 meters width and up to 1.65 meters depth. The same strip of trench will be reinstated to its original condition. It is also intimated that no structure will be erected on the cable route.

The area required for the laying of the Optical Fibre Cables is on left side of the road which passing from Mittur to Nimmiyampattu across Mangalam R.F. and bare minimum which is a part of the protected forest land. The project area does not involve any diversion of forest area in any manner.

No alternative was considered as the project is site specific.

for M/s. Telesonic Networks Limited,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M.V. Jayaraman', written over a horizontal line.

Authorized Signatory