

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND

PROJECT DETAILS:-

CONSTRUCTION OF 132 kV West Phaileng – Marpara Transmission Line at Mamit district IN THE STATE OF MIZORAM UNDER NORTH EASTERN REGION POWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NERPSIP).

Forest area involved: 104.77 hectare

The construction of the *132 kV West Phaileng – Marpara Transmission Line at Mamit district* is a sub-project which is conceived under the ambitious power strengthening project namely “*North Eastern region Power System Improvement Project (NERPSIP)*” which aims in major improvement of power scenario of the North eastern States including Mizoram by constructing new transmission/distribution lines and associated sub-stations. Ministry of Power, Govt. of India has conveyed approval of the project vide their letter dated. 1ST December, 2014 with a total financial implication of 5111.33 crore (*copy enclosed*). The project cost for Mizoram under NERPSIP is appx. 316 crores.

After careful route survey, the route alignment of the proposed *132 kV West Phaileng – Marpara Transmission Line at Mamit district* is finalized mostly through buffer zone of Dampa Tiger Reserve having less tree or very minimum trees involved. The route involves very minimum tree cutting owing to its careful alignment and hence impact to the forest and environment is expected to be minimum. The proposed route is found to be the most suitable among all the alternative routes examined from both construction and environment safeguard point of view.

However, some portion of the above *132 kV West Phaileng – Marpara Transmission Line* section of the route passes through areas having medium dense tree cover (*forest as per dictionary meaning*) mostly across both side of the river, which is unavoidable due to location the 132 kV West Phaileng Sub-station & 132 kV Marpara Sub-Station. However, the forest area involved (104.77 hectare) is the minimum requirement for the project. Since, the proposed line is an integral part of the main project which aims at improvement of transmission/distribution network in the Mamit district for better and uninterrupted power availability, therefore, it is mooted to apply for forest clearance as per MoEF guidelines.

Therefore, owing to the factors as mentioned above, it is found justifiable to locate the project in forest land but also ensuring minimum damage to the forest and environment.

Signature



For & On Behalf of P&E Dept.

Mizoram

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