Full Title of the proposal:- Additional Forest land requirement of 11.7936 ha. for four laning of proposed Shimla Bypass from Kaithlighat to Shakral Section (Package-I) of NH-22 (Chainage from Km. 128.835 to Km. 146.300) in already approved FCA case of the entire section from Kaithlighat to Dhalli (Chainage from Km. 128.835 to Km. 156.560) of NH-22 for 40.3 Ha in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

File No.: FP/HP/ROAD/151117/2022

Date of Proposal: 13 Jan 2022

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

Stage II approval for forest diversion proposal of the entire section from Kaithlighat to Dhalli (Chainage from Km. 128.835 to Km. 156.560) of NH-22 for 40.3 Ha was obtained by NHAI vide MOEF& CC, Dehradun letter dated 15.09.2017.

However, some additional forest land of area 11.7936 Ha is required to be diverted for four laning of proposed Shimla Bypass from Kaithlighat to Shakral Section (Package-I) of NH-22 (Chainage from Km. 128.835 to Km. 146.300) for the following purposes:

- (i) Dumping sites for muck disposal.
- (ii) Diversion of land over Tunnels.
- (iii) Four laning of structures against 2-lane in previous project.
- (iv) Slope protection measures at fragile hill strata locations.
- (v) Minor modifications in the alignment for improving geometry of Highway.

As all the Govt. waste land in shimla district is considered as forest land in view of the Notification Ft.29-241/B/C/49 dated 25.02.1952 of Govt. of Himachal Pradesh. Hence there is no availability of suitable non-forest land within district Shimla.

The proposed 4-lane road necessarily passes through forest land because there is no non-forest land available. These forests are located along the already approved alignment in scattered patches on either side of the road. The four laning of Shimla Bypass will require bare minimum diversion of forest land. Also, the project road is located in hilly areas and an alternative option to the road would not be viable. Hence there is no escape from using the forest land.

(Suresh Kumar Sharma)

GM (Tech.)-cum-Project Director

NFIAI, PIU-Shimla

Divisional Forest Officer, Shimla Forest Division Distt. Shimla (HP)

Divisional Forest Officer Shimla Forest Division SHIMLA