

Justification for routing the pipelines in Forest Land

M/s Aaress Iron & Steel Limited (AISL), a company incorporated under the provisions of Indian Companies Act, is planning to set up an integrated steel plant of 3.5 MTPA capacity at Halavarthi Village, Koppal District, Karnataka. M/s MSPL Limited, a sister concern of AISL has one operational 1.4 MTPA capacity pellet plant at Halavarthi Village, Koppal District, Karnataka.

The Water Resources Department vide letter No. WRD 24 MTB 2014 dated 09th November 2015 has accorded approval to draw 10 MGD and 2.55 MGD water for AISL & MSPL respectively from Tungabhadra Reservoir.

The pipeline to be laid from Tungabhadra Reservoir to Project site located at Halavarthi village. This route passes through a patch of forest area. The topography of the area for laying pipelines from Tungabhadra Reservoir is such that the pipeline has to pass through the forest land. Private lands are not available in & around the proposed pipeline hence routing the pipeline in forest land is inevitable.

Initial proposal for diversion of 1.84 Ha of forest land, under Section - 2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, in Sy No, 25, Chikkakasanakandi Village and submerged villages of Mudlapur & Lingapur villages, Hitanala Hobli, Koppal Talukand District, for laying of Pipe line, Transmission Line, Substation and Break Pressure Tank was considered in 59th Regional Empowered Committee Meeting (REC). After detailed deliberation REC noted that alternatives examined routes were not provided with the proposal.

Subsequently MSPL has further examined three alternatives Option 1, Option 2 and Option 3 for laying of pipe line. After detailed examination Option 1 and Option 3 have been ruled out as requirement of Forest Land is increasing from initial proposal of 1.84 Ha on these routes.

To optimize the Pipe line routing, choice of route Option 2 is selected to minimize the use of forest land. The area required for Pipeline, transmission line, Sub-station & pumphouse has been kept bare minimum of 1.745 (HA) as against previous forest land requirement of 1.84 Ha, this is the best possible & Feasible option in terms of Cost and minimized forest Area

The proposed land use pattern is as follows:

Sl. No	Current Option Area Usage Details	Area in Ha
1	Area required for Pipeline	0.702
2	Area required for Sub-Station	0.050
3	Area required for Power Transmission Line	0.900
4	Area required for Jack well cum Pump House	0.093
	GRAND TOTAL	1.745

In this regards the area proposed for the water pipeline is justified and submitted for kind consideration.

For AARESS IRON AND STEEL LIMITED



Dr. Meda Venkataiah
Director