

**Justification for locating the project in forest area to be submitted by User Agency and countersigned by DFO.**

GAIL (India) Limited has been authorized by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulation Board to lay and operate underground Natural Gas Pipeline along with OFC from Dhamra district of State Odisha to Haldia district of State West Bengal. The proposed project is the laying of 18"Ø dia. underground pipeline to supply Natural Gas along with OFC across Bhadrak, Balasore & Mayurbhanj districts enroute Dhamra-Haldia pipeline in State Odisha. The proposed pipeline starts from Tap off point at Chainage 0.00 Km at Dhamra district and end point is at Chainage 252.954 Km at Haldia district. The total length at of DHPL pipeline is about 154.175 Km falling across Bhadrak, Balasore & Mayurbhanj districts in State Odisha. The start point co-ordinates of DHPL Natural Gas are Latitude 20°54'7.09" N & Longitude 86°46'56.02" E and end point co-ordinates are Latitude 21°47'24.31" N & Longitude 87°20'3.22" E in State Odisha. The total length at of DHPL pipeline is about 154.175 Km in State Odisha.

The Pipeline route has been fixed considering technical and economic feasibility of the project by GAIL (India) Limited. Since the proposed pipeline will be Crossing Revenue/Reserved Forest along Bhadrak district in 9 villages (Nauganichhapur, Nilakanthapur, Nahunipal, Sankapur, Balichaturi, Saya, Padmapur, Alabaga & Mirjapur of Chandbali, Tihidi and Basudebpur tahsils respectively), Balasore district in 15 villages (Baringia, Atapur, Mulakudai, Uthuli, Bimbiria, Tadap, Rasalpur, Kurunia, Bramahanchhada, Badpal, Kalyanpur, Lachhman Khunta, Manikapur, Balikbar & Amidhanagadia) of Bahanaga, Remuna, Basta, Jaleswar & Bhagorai tahsils respectively & Mayurbhanj district 1 village (Muruda) of Rasagobindapur tahsil respectively in the state of Odisha. As this is the most feasible route to connect the Dhamra - Haldia Gas Pipeline part of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline Project, crossing of the forest area is unavoidable.

In view of above, the proposed pipeline route is the most suitable route from social, environmental and economic point of view as the successful commissioning of said pipeline will lead to environmental benefits and availability of cleaner Natural gas to the citizens of the region. It will also benefit industrial and commercial units by ensuring the uninterrupted supply of natural gas.

**For, GAIL (India) Limited**



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Place: Bhubaneswar, Date: .

**Countersigned**

**Divisional Forest Officer (DFO)**