



GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (E)  
DEPARTMENT OF POWER :::::::::: TAWANG

Ph :: 03794 – 222249 (O)  
03794 – 223745 (Fax)  
E-mail : electricaltawang@gmail.com

## **Annexure VIII**

### **STATEMENT OF CASE FOR FOREST CLEARANCE OF FOREST LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 33KV JANG TO THINGBU TRANSMISSION LINE UNDER TAWANG FOREST DIVISON, TAWANG ARUNACHAL PRADESH.**

#### **GENERAL:**

The Ministry of Power(MOP), Govt. of India on 10/10/2014 has conveyed the approval for Comprehensive Scheme for strengthening of Transmission and Distribution system in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. Subsequently, an MOU was signed between DOP, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and POWERGRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED for strengthening T&D System in Arunachal Pradesh. Seeking the necessity, Tawang District, A.P is also kept in importance for improvement of Power Supply.

Hence, one project of construction of 33kV Line from existing Jang s/s, DOP to new yet to be constructed Thingbu S/S is approved. The aim of this project is for the better supply of the Power Source to the people and for the development of the area. The above project falls under the Tawang Forest Division, of Tawang District Arunachal Pradesh.

#### **JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST LAND:**

##### **Project Details:**

Construction of 33kV line from Jang to Thingbu, under Comprehensive scheme for Strengthening of Transmission and Distribution in Arunachal Pradesh.

Forest area involved: 28.67 hectares

The proposed 33kV Jang – Thinbu distribution line is a sub-project which is conceived under the Govt. of India's ambitious "**Comprehensive scheme for strengthening of transmission and distribution in Arunachal Pradesh**" which aims in major improvement of power scenario of the State 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 No. F.No. 3/23/2011-Trans, Dtd10th October, 2014. (Copy enclosed).

Subsequently, an MOU was entered between DOP, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and POWERGRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED, A Govt. of India undertaking for implementation of the comprehensive scheme for strengthening of T&D system in Arunachal Pradesh.

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Under the above cited comprehensive scheme of a new 33/11 kV substation at Thingbu in Tawang district along with associated 33kV Transmission Line connecting the existing 33/11kV Jang Substation of DOP,A.P to the proposed new substation has been envisaged.

After careful route survey, the route alignment of the proposed 33 KV line is finalized along the road side of the existing Jang-Thingbu road and some portion of the line is routed through nearby forest area of Tawang Forest division, since it is found to be the best feasible and shortest route from construction, operation and maintenance point of view. The route involves very minimum tree cutting owing to its alignment along the road side and forest land. Hence impact to the forest and environment is also found as minimum. Except for the proposed route, no other alternative is found suitable from both construction and environment point of view.

However, some few sections of the 33kV line passes through forest area because of critical and rough physical terrain. Therefore, avoiding the forest area is practically not possible in some few areas. The forest area involved (28.67 hectares) is the minimum requirement for the project. Since, the proposed 33kV line is an integral part of the main project which aims at improvement of Transmission and distribution network in the area for better and uninterrupted power availability; therefore, it is required to apply for forest clearance as per MoEF guideline.

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

  
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Executive Engineer (E)  
Tawang Electrical Division  
Deptt. of Power  
Tawang