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Justification for locating the Project in Forest Area

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The project is site- specific. The target area, topographical features of area and technological considerations play crucial role in deciding the alignment of

The Delivery Chamber is situated at a point of higher elevation, from where the distribution of water to receiving ends, through gravity flow, is possible Alternative alignments have been examined technically & financially to avoid or minimize the use of Forest Land. The Rising Main i.e. the pipeline connecting to Delivery Chamber & Pumping Station and target area unavoidably passes through the Reserved Forests falling within the limits of GIB Wildlife Sanctuary & its ESZ and non-forest areas of ESZ. The level data examined for selection of route suggests that the proposed alignment has least obstructions while lifting and distribution of water. The proposed alignment is the shortest one among the available alternatives.

The proposed alignment has also been examined pursuant to proviso to Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, under Section 29 and Section 35 (6). There will be no physical disturbance to the wildlife habitat and animals, particularly, the Great Indian Bustard during execution and operation of the project.

The project is techno-specific. There is no any other technically feasible alternative to the proposed alignment. There is no suitable non-forest land obtainable for the project as well. Wherever possible, the alignment is proposed through private non-forest land.

As the project is site- specific, the diversion of Forest Land is unavoidable and the barest minimum Forest Land is proposed for diversion.

Office Seal:

District Water Conservation Officer

Ahmednagar