JUSTIFICATION OF LOCATING THE PROJECT IN FOREST AREA

In order to eradicate low voltage problem in the western part of the State it is felt essential to go for installation of 2 x 160 MVA, 220/132KV Transformers adjacent to the existing 132/33KV sub-station at Kesinga, Kalahandi District will be connected to the system by drawing 79.378KM of 220KV DC line from existing 220/132KV sub-station at-Bolangir. Day today Govt. Offices like Tahasil, Blocks, NAC, Hospitals, Schools, Colleges are expanding resulting increase of commercial Houses, Business activities, Small to Medium Industries and lift Irrigation activities for agriculture purpose.

This project is meant for uninterrupted, reliably and quality power supply in the District of Kalahandi, Nuapada, Bolangir and associated system connected to 220/132/33KV Grid Sub-Station at Kesinga. The project will help in improving Irrigation, Agriculture, Industry and other small scale which will improve the living standard of the public. The main objects of this project are.

- Improvement of power supply will overcome Low Voltage problems; reduce outage thus improving the efficiency of the domestic and agriculture appliances.
- Quality power will encourage small scale and medium scale industries which will generate employment in the area of Kalahandi, Nuapada, Bolangir District and its associated areas.
- Due to Electrification of the villages and Cities with quality power, this will reduce growth of the criminal activities.
- Quality power supply will facilitate Administration to provide common people better equipped Hospital and help in upgraded Technical Institutions for education and administration.
- Growth of Trade and Commerce will boost up due to improvement in the agriculture products, small scale Industrial Development and increase area under cultivation due to quality supply of power.

Alternate Alignment

All possible alternatives have been explored to reduce the area of forest land avoiding thickly populated village areas and thickly forest area before finalization of the selected route, the area was studied thoroughly and found that other routes area having impact on forest areas. The shortest distance and suitable route (Route-III) of the Transmission line from existing 220/132/33KV Grid Sub-Station at- Sadeipali, New- Bolangir to 220/132KV Grid Sub-Station at- Kesinga over 79.378Kms. This project involves 254.194Ha Non-Forest Land and 39.288Ha of Forest Land (Bolangir Forest Division 32.557Ha + Kalahandi North Forest Division 6.731Ha). This project area does not come under any protected areas.

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Route -I: -

The length of the Transmission Line is about 86 Kms and having 94 Angle points. This route involves total forest area **63.319Ha** including **24.032Ha** of Reserved Forest and passing through Matkhai RF, Samra RF Barhanai RF, Barha Tikhari RF and Bazargarh RF.

Route - II:-

The length of the Transmission Line in about 88 Kms and having 92 Angle points, this route involved total forest area **77.901Ha** including **38.614Ha** of Reserved Forest and passing through Matkhai RF, Siskela RF and Bazargarh RF.

Route - III:-

The length of Transmission Line is **79.378Kms** having 110 Angle points. This route involves **39.288Ha** of Forest Land including **7.585Ha** of Reserved Forest and passing through Matkhai and Bazargarh RF.

After extensive exercise 3 alternate route (Route-I, Route-II & Route-III) are analyzed for construction of Transmission line. Out of the above 3 routs, Route no.III has been finalized for the following reasons.

- This route involves a less forest area 39.288Ha (Bolangir Forest Division 32.557Ha + Kalahandi North Forest Division 6.731Ha) compared with the forest areas of other alternate routes.
- Other then route no.III, no alternate route can be considered to save green land and plain area.
- This route is well located for incoming and outgoing Transmission line with a proper road connectivity with less power loss.
- This proposed route is aligned in such a way, so that lesser no's of tress and enumeration for cutting and pruning.
- 5. For Construction of the Transmission line & Grid Sub-Station there is a requirement of huge employment potential. Beside we have already engaged local people for detailed survey of the proposed project area. Around 200 people will be engaged continuously for 5 to 6months during construction period. Also opportunities will be developed after strengthening of power scenario in course of construction. Local contractors shall be benefited to a large extent.

Beside the above employment indirect but continuous engagement of some local people is being generated for statutory work, maintenance work etc.