<u>Title of the project</u>: Diversion of 19.5896 Ha. Forest land for Rehabilitation and Upgradation to Two lane with paved shoulder configuration & Strengthening of Padhar to Bijni (Package-VA) from Km 180.00 to Km 202.815 (Design Length 19.050 km) of NH-20 (New NH-154) of Pathankot-Mandi Section in the state of Himachal Pradesh. File No.

Date of proposal:

JUSTIFICATION FOR LOCATING THE PROJECT ROAD IN FOREST LAND

The project road starts from existing km 180.00 near Padhar & ends at existing km 202.815 near Bijni having total design length 19.050 km. The project road is a part of Pathankot - Mandi section of NH- 20 (New NH-154) in the state of Himachal Pradesh. The project road is strategically very important road as it provides connectivity to International Borders i.e. Pakistan & China.

Thus, Considering the widening proposal of Project road from existing 2-lane to Two lane with paved shoulder with geometrical improvements, realignment as per relevant design standards. Since, Existing Right of Way (EROW) is restricted, thus additional right of way (ROW) has been acquired for 2-laning with Paved Shoulder on existing alignment. There is no other alternative alignment feasible for this project. Thus, resulting into involvement of forest land of forest land 19.5896 ha.

CIS

Deputy Conservation of Forests, Mandi Forest Division Mandi (H.P.

Col. Anil Sen GM/Project Director NHAI, PIU-Palampur (H.P) Project Director, N.H.A.I. PIU, Palamour