

## **Minimum use of forest land and justification for locating the project on forest land**

Since, this pipeline project is linear in nature traversing 485 km from Dahej to Nagothane, routing the pipeline completely through non-forest land is not practically possible.

Selecting a pipeline route completely avoiding forest is almost impossible. However, it can be observed that in the interest of conserving forest and environment, almost 250 km out of the total 253 km section of the proposed Dahej Nagothane Ethane pipeline is planned to be laid in the existing RoU of the East-West Natural Gas pipeline (EWPL)/ Hazira-Dahej Gas Pipeline (HDPL) to avoid fresh RoU acquisition and fresh forest diversion. Forest lands in this section were already diverted for EWPL/HDPL. Only re-diversion is required where Social Forest encountered at Road & Canals Crossings locations.

Only 0.1809 ha of the pipeline is routed through fresh forest land (requires fresh diversion) out of the total RoU requirement of 637.2563 ha of land for laying the proposed Dahej-Nagothane Ethane pipeline in Gujarat section. This translates in to approximately just 0.03 % of the total RoU requirement in Gujarat.

Thus, the proposed Dahej Nagothane Ethane pipeline route is passing through as minimum fresh forest as possible. Reliance Gas Pipelines Limited hereby certifies that bare minimum forest land only being used for this project.