

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)

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Justification for locating the project in forest Land

Upper Bhadra Project envisages providing irrigation facility to drought prone areas and also aims at providing drinking water and underground recharge by filling MI tanks in Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Davanagere and Tumkur Districts. The Stage II Forest Clearance has already been approved by MoEF&CC, GoI for diversion of forest land (111.57 Ha) with respect to construction of Chitradurga Branch Canal (CBC). During the course of implementation of the project, the alignment of CBC has been altered from CH 73.728 Km to CH 81.948 Km, thereby reducing the length of open canal and proposing tunnel which has minimized the impact of flora and fauna in the forest area. Upon undertaking detailed alignment survey on ground, there is slight modification in requirement of forest land. The total area required is 103.60 Ha out of the approved 111.57 Ha of forest land. The present alignment is most Techno-Economically feasible in view of following reasons:

1. Width of the land required for spoil bank is increased as per actual requirement for disposal of muck considering safety of the canal in Devargudda forest reach and the area as per actual is considered.
2. Width of 7.00 m which is the outer diameter of tunnel is considered for arriving at the area required for tunnel where tunnels are proposed. This is as per the actual requirement.
3. The area of the forest land required for adit (inclined shaft) in the tunnel 1 passing through Lakkihalli forest is included.

Hence, there is a reduction in number of trees to be removed and reduction in the environmental impact.


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