

Justification for locating the Project in Forest Land and Details of alternate examine:

Name of the Project: Erection of new 11 KV HT XLPE underground Electric Cable towards Electrification of Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Swamy Thirukkivil from Vazhaithoppu pathway to Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Thirukkivil area across Saptur R.F.

Arulmigu Sathuragiri Sundara Mahalingam Thirukkivil is located within Saptur R.F. is a pilgrimage site located 10 km away from Watrap near Srivilliputhur. There are three approach path ways available to this temple. The devotees are climbed up the hills from Thaniparai of Virudhunagar District, Vazhaithoppu in Madurai District and Varushanadu, Uppuparai in Theni District.

Hundreds of pilgrims from various districts thronged this temple on the occasions like Adi Amavasai, Pradosham and all the full moon and new moon days of the month. During full moon and new moon, devotees visit the temples and pay their penance and have darshan. Pilgrims will climb the mountain only in groups and not in solo, since the forest is full of animals.

Especially, during the day of Adi Amavasai (July – August), a festival will be celebrated at a grand level and attracts about 2 to 3 lakhs devotees who come there to have the darshan of the Lord Sundar Mahalingam Swamy. On these particular days, generators have been used for lighting facilities. The temple is seen without electricity. There are three main temples in the hill, Sri Sundara Mahalingam Swamy Temple, Sri Santhana Mahalingam Swamy Temple and Anandavalli Amman Temple.

The temples in the above said Saptur R.F. comes under the control of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department. Hence, the Executive Officer, Arulmigu Sundara Mahalingam Thirukkivil, Sathuragiri, Saptur has approached TANGEDCO Ltd., Madurai District to provide Electricity facility and also reported that the electricity facility will be very useful for the already available well and borewell for lifting water and also for devotee's rest halls and temple area lighting facility.


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Hence, considering the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, Executive Engineer / Distribution / TANGEDCO / Tirumangalam has been authorized by the Superintending Engineer, Madurai Electricity Distribution Circle, TANGEDCO, Madurai for preparing this proposal for obtaining permission from the Government of India through online. The area requested for **erection of new 11 KV HT 3 x 120 sq.mm. XLPE underground electric cable work for A/C circuit** line is the minimum considering the requirements and considering the improvement of public usage.

This Electrification project will be carried out with the cost of Rs.2.01 crore. The strategy of the underground cable erection work is as follows:

- On the plain land, the underground cable will be placed by digging with a depth of 1.3 meter and will be covered by cement trough and earth re-filling for a distance of 2270 meter in the forest land and 900 meters in the temple land.
- On the identified 2630 meter rocky portion in Kathadi rock area, the same underground cable will be inserted into the GI pipe of suitable size and the pipe will be clamped on the rock and covered with concrete.
- On crossing the stream area viz. Kurukku Odai, Chinna Kuzhiratti Odai, Periya Kuzhiratti Odai for a distance of 460 meter, the underground cable will be placed in a trench by digging with a depth of 2 meter, and will be concealed with cement concrete.
- Area identified as Elephant crossing path for distance of 250 meter, the underground cable will be placed by digging with a depth of 2 meter and the same will be covered by trough and earth re-fillings.
- Erection of Transformer: Four numbers of 11 KV 25 KVA Distribution transformer will be erected inside the temple area. The transformer will be placed inside the concrete room with necessary ventilation.
- LT UG Cable: 50 sqmm 3.5 core UG cable will be laid by digging 1 meter depth and will be covered by trough and earth filling, upto service point for a distance of 20 meter each.
- For every 100 metre, cable route marker will be provided.


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- Solar Power Plant can not be provided in this area for the following reasons.
 - For provision of 100 KW Solar Power Plant above 500 Sq.Mt. area is required in the forest area.
 - Frequent maintenance is required for the Solar photo voltaic (pv) cells.
 - Being a remote area deployment of man power for this purpose is also not economical.
 - It is not safe for the movement of the animals and birds, by the provision of Solar Photo Voltaic (pv) cells

The total area for the underground electrification work is 0.2805 ha.
The details are as follows:

Plain land	-	2270 mt.
Rocky area	-	2630 mt.
Stream area	-	460 mt.
Elephant path	-	250 mt.
Total Distance	-	5610.00 mt.
Width	-	0.50 mt.
Area	-	5610 x 0.50 = 2805 sq.mt. = 0.2805 Ha.

The norms/standard for laying underground insulated cables through forest areas will be followed in this UG cable erection work as prescribed in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Forest Conservation Rules, 2003 (Guidelines & Clarifications).

The area required for diversion is the barest minimum, which is a part of the protected forest land. The already existing foot pathway for the temple, this is the only shortest way is possible to approach the temple with shortest distance without affecting the forest area and animals and also considering the jurisdiction of the implementing office.


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