## GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (HoFF): MEGHALAYA



No.MFG.38/85/Vol-I/ 8339

To,

The Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Forests & Environment Department.

Sub:

Proposal for diversion of 27.606 ha. of forest land for up-gradation to 2-lane of State Highway (SH-04) stretch from Panda to Baghmara (from existing Km 119.800 to 139.00) (design length – 17.085 Km) under SARD-NE PHASE-A in the State of Meghalaya by NHIDCL – Compliance Report.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am enclosing herewith the Compliance Report received from the Divisional Forest Officer, South Garo Hills (SF&T) Division, Baghmara vide letter No.SGH/SF&T/NH/95/1832 dated 01.02.2022 (Annexure-I) along with the FRA certificate (Annexure-II).

It may be noted that the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (C) vide letter F.No. 3-MG C 026/2021-SHI/5343-44 dated 28.03.2022 had modified condition no. 5 of the In-Principle Approval dated 03.09.2021 as the proposed diversion of 27.606 ha consists of 2 locations i.e. 13.91 ha each, both of which were found to be 'Inviolate' (due to the presence of hydrological layer and Very Dense Forest). The User Agency was instructed vide letter No.SGH/SF&T/NH/95/1 dated 04.04.2022 to comply to the additional conditions issued by the Ministry.

However, the UA had initially refused to comply to one of the additional conditions issued by MoEF&CC which required the UA to take up soil and moisture conservation in consultation with the Forest Department wherever needed leading to undue delay in submission of the compliance report and in issuing of working permission. The UA finally complied to the condition and made payment of  $\gtrless$  96,50,167/- towards construction of retaining wall along Panda stream as part of SMC measures dated 03.08.2022 (Annexure-III).

Further, the Muck Disposal Plan initially submitted by the UA in PARIVESH was also found to be inadequate. Subsequently, the Divisional Forest Officer, South Garo Hills (SF&T), Baghmara vide letter No.SGH/SF&T/NH/95/956 dated 18.08.2022 (Annexure-IV) forwarded the Muck Disposal Plan submitted by UA vide letter No.PMU-TURA/P/RMB/02/III/1543 dated 12.07.2022. It may be noted that UA vide letter No.PMU-BAGHMARA/P/RMB/Pkg-VI/777 dated 17.08.2022 informed that alternate locations for dumping of muck had been arranged on another private land outside the Forest Area and the UA will submit a detailed Muck Disposal Plan as soon as the same is received from the EPC Contractor.

The undertaking towards the modified conditions is enclosed as Annexure-V.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

(S. A. Nongsiej, IFS) Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation & CAMPA) Meghalaya, Shillong.

Dated Shillong, the 1997. September, 2022.

## No.MFG.38/85/Vol-I/ 8340

Copy to:-

a con a concentrate of India Integrated Regional