

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi: 110003,

Dated: 25th January, 2022

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forests and Environment,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,
Itanagar.

Sub: Proposal for Diversion of 94.712 ha of Forest Land for drilling of Oil well at 27 new locations in Changlang District of Arunachal Pradesh by M/s Geo-Enpro Petroleum Limited seeking forest clearance under Section 2(ii) of FC Act, 1980.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh's letter No. For.572/Cons/2014/5114 dated 24.12.2021 and meeting held on 17.12.2021 through VC in the matter. After prolonged deliberation and correspondence, the State government is not able to provide a clear status of the CA land. It is conveyed in the meeting that the proposed CA area was identified as a land bank and declared as VFR. In this regard it is requested to provide the necessary documents and date on which the area was notified /identified as land bank by the State government and the date on which the area was notified as VFR. From the present position of the area, as presented before the Ministry, it seems that the declaration of any area as VFR is a regular process. Once the area is declared as VFR, it is a reserved forest and the same cannot be considered for CA against the projects of State /private organizations. It may therefore be clarified whether the said area has been identified as land bank first for the purpose of CA and later notified as VFR or it is a regular process in the State of Arunachal Pradesh for notifying certain areas as VFR.

2. Moreover, as decided in the meeting held on 17.12.2021, the district-wise and project-wise details of already identified land for CA purpose in VFRs for various projects in the State of Arunachal Pradesh and balance lands available in VFRs for upcoming projects are not given.

In view of above, the State Govt. is requested to kindly send the clarification on the points as indicated above along with KML file of 83.412 ha. revised forest area and KML file of excluding wells with details and numbers to this Ministry for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours faithfully,



(Sandeep Sharma)

Asstt. Inspector General of Forests

25.1.2022

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
2. The Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.
3. The Nodal Officer, (FCA), Forest Department, Government Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading.