### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

eCF No.238662/308 Dated Dispur, the May, 2024

From: Smti. Neera Daulagupu, ACS,

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam.

To : The Deputy Director General of Forest (Central),

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Sub Office, Guwahati (Under Regional Office, Shillong) 4  $^{\rm th}$  Floor, Housefed Building, G.S Road, Rukminigaon,

Guwahati-781022.

Sub: Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle approval" for diversion proposal of 4.125 Ha. of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref : Government of India letter No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dated 07.07.2023.

Sir,

I am directed to submit herewith the report regarding compliance of the conditions enlisted in the Central Government's "In-Principle Approval/Stage-I" clearance issued vide the letter under reference for the above-mentioned forest diversion proposal as given below:

Condition	Compliance Report/Remarks			
No. A				
1	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited Rs.			
	46,07,212/- for Net Present Value against forest land to be			
	diverted.			
2	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited Rs.			
	70,08,360/- for raising of Compensatory Afforestation.			
3	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited a total			
	amount of Rs. 2,76,57,752/- into Ad-hoc CAMPA account			
	through online web portal (www.parivesh.nic. <u>in</u> ) of			
	MoEF&CCon 14.12.2023 (copy enclosed).			
	The details are as follows:			
	Net Present Value = Rs. $46,07,212$ /-			
	Compensatory Afforestation = Rs. 70,08,360/-			
	Over Head Cost = Rs. $35,04,180/$			
	2% total project cost for HEC & WLMP = Rs. 1,25,38,000/-			
	Total Rs. 2,76,57,752/-			
4	The notification declaring the non-forest land as RF/PRF			
	enclosed herewith.			
5	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has uploaded the			
	compliance report on e-portal.			

6	The KML file of proposed diversion area and Compensatory			
	Afforestation area uploaded in e-Green watch Portal (copy			
	enclosed).			
7 & 8 The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has depos				
	1,25,38,000/- for 2% of the total project cost into Ad-hoc			
	CAMPA account on 14.12.2023 for wildlife mitigation plan to			
	mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary			
	measures.			
9	The DFO, Golaghat Division has submitted the Human-			
	Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan			
	for Oil and Gas exploration development and productionduly			
	approved by the PCCF, Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden,			
10	Assam (copy enclosed) The Heart America (M/e Wedente Ltd.) has submitted EDA 2006			
10	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted FRA-2006			
11	certificate. (copy enclosed)			
11	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has been obtained the			
	Environment Clearance as per the provisions on Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 ( <b>copy enclosed</b> )			
12	The boundary of the diverted forest land has been demarcated			
12	on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high RCC			
	pillars, each inscribed with its serial number and GPS co-			
	ordinates by the DFO, Golaghat Division ( <b>Copy of</b>			
	Photographs enclosed herewith)			
13	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted			
	undertaking for condition No. (13) laid down in the "In			
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
14	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted			
	undertaking for condition No. (14) laid down in the "In			
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			

Condition	Compliance Report/Remarks		
No. B			
1	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (1) laid down in the "In Principle		
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)		
2	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (2) laid down in the "In Principle		
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)		
3	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (3) laid down in the "In Principle		
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)		
4	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (4) laid down in the "In Principle		
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)		
5	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (5) laid down in the "In Principle		
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)		
6	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted		
	undertaking for condition No. (6) laid down in the "In Principle		

	Approval" (Copy enclosed)
7	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (7) laid down in the "In Principle
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)
8	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (8) laid down in the "In Principle
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)
9	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (9) laid down in the "In Principle
	Approval" (Copy enclosed)
10	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (10) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
11	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (11) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
12	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
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19	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (19) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
20	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (20) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
21	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (21) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
22	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted
	undertaking for condition No. (22) laid down in the "In
	Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)
23	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted

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undertaking for condition No. (23) laid down in the "In			
Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
The boundary of the CA land has been demarcated on ground			
at the project cost, by erecting four feet high RCC pillars, each			
inscribed with its serial number and GPS co-ordinates by the			
DFO, Jorhat Division (Copy of Photographs enclosed			
herewith)			

You are, therefore, requested to kindly take necessary action for issuance of "Final Approval" for the forest diversion proposal.

Enclo: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department

Memo eCF No.238662/308-A Copy forwarded to:

Dated Dispur, the May, 2024

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Assam (i/c), Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

e-signed Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environment and Forest Department

## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND HEAD OF FOREST FORGE, ASSAM

ARANYA BHAWAN, PANJABARI, GUWAHATI-37

No. FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Golaghat Divn.

Email: addlpccf.nodal@gmail:com

Date: 22.05/2024

To

The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam Environment and Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6.

Sub:

Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle approval" for diversion proposal of 4.125 Ha. of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref:

Government of India letter No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dated 07.07.2023.

Sir.

With reference to the above, I am directed to submit herewith the report regarding compliance of the conditions enlisted in the Central Government's "In-Principle Approval" issued vide letter No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dated 07.07.2023 for the above-mentioned forest diversion proposal as given below:

Condition Compliance Report/Remarks No. A							
	1	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited Rs. 46,07,212/- for Net Present Value against forest land to be diverted.					
	2	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited Rs. 70,08,360/- for raising of Compensatory Afforestation.					
)	3	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited a total amount of Rs. 2,76,57,752/- into Ad-hoc CAMPA account through online web portal ( <a href="www.parivesh.nic.in">www.parivesh.nic.in</a> ) of MoEF&CC on 14.12.2023 (copy enclosed). The details are as follows:					
-		Net Present Value = Rs. 46,07,212/-					
		Compensatory Afforestation = Rs. 70,08,360/-					
		Over Head Cost = Rs. 35,04,180/-					
		2% total project cost for HEC & WLMP = Rs. 1,25,38,000/-					
		Total Rs. 2,76,57,752/-					
	4	The notification declaring the non-forest land as RF/PRF is enclosed herewith.					
	5	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has uploaded the compliance report on e-portal.					
	6	The KML file of proposed diversion area and Compensatory Afforestation area uploaded in e-Green watch Portal (copy enclosed).					
lu	7 & 8	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has deposited Rs. 1,25,38,000/- for 2% of the total project cost into Ad-hoc CAMPA account on 14,12,2023 for wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures.					
	9	The DFO, Golaghat Division has submitted the Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan for Oil and Gas exploration development and production duly approved by the PCCF, Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam (copy enclosed)					
	10	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted FRA-2006 certificate. (copy enclosed)					
	11	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has been obtained the Environment Clearance as per the provisions on Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (copy enclosed)					
	12	The boundary of the diverted forest land has been demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high RCC pillars, each inscribed with its serial number and GPS co-ordinates by the DFO, Golaghat Division (Copy of Photographs enclosed herewith)					
	13	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (13) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)					
	14	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (14) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)					

Condition No. B	Compliance Report/Remarks			
The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)				
2	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (2) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
3	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (3) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
4	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (4) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
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11	down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)  The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (11) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)  The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (12) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)  The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (13) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
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21				
22				
23	The User Agency (M/s Vedanta Ltd.) has submitted undertaking for condition No. (23) laid down in the "In Principle Approval" (Copy enclosed)			
	The boundary of the CA land has been demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high RCC pillars, each inscribed with its serial number and GPS co-ordinates by the DFO, Jorhat Division (Copy of Photographs enclosed herewith)			

. . .

Therefore, you are requested to kindly forward the compliance report to the Government of India, MoEF & CC, Sub Office, Guwahati for issue of "Final Approval" for the forest diversion proposal.

Encl: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. C Muthukumaravel, IFS)
Chief Conservator of Forests &
Nodal Officer (FC Act), Assam
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and
Head of Forest Force, Assam

#### Copy to:

1. The Circle In Charge, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for kind information.

2. The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Division, Golaghat for information.

3. The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited (Division Cairn Oil & Gas), DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana122002 for information.

Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC Act), Assam O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of Forest Force, Assam

# DIVERSION OF FOREST LAND FOR OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF WELL PAD NO. 29 $\underline{PROPFORMA}$

1	State/ District /Forest Division to which the proposal relates	Assam/ Golaghat / Golaghat Division.
2	Name of User Agency, nature of proposal	The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited (Division Cairn Oil & Gas), DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana122002.  Diversion proposal of 4.125 Ha. of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.
3	Extent of Forest area involved	4.125 Ha of Reserved Forest
4	Whether original, or extension	Original
5	If extension of lease, please clarify if proposal involves additional forest area, and if so, specify	Does not arise.
6	Date of 1st stage clearance	07.07.2023.
7	Extent of CAMPA charges, head wise viz.	
	(a) Compensatory Afforestation	Rs. 70,08,360/-
	(b) Additional CA.	NIL
	(c) Penal CA	NIL
	(d) Catchment Area Treatment	NIL
	(e) Wildlife Management Plan	Rs. 1,25,38,000/-
	(f) Additional charges for diversion of area falling under notified/ protected areas	NIL
	(g) Net Present Value	Rs. 46,07,212/-
	(h) Any other charges/ Levies (Pl specify)	Over Head Cost Rs. 35,04,180/-
8 Details of Bank Drafts (Bank, Draft NIL No, Date & Amount), head wise against items indicated in paragraph 7 above		NIL
9	Whether deposited by RTGS, if so the particulars and date of remittance	The User Agency has deposited an amount of Rs. 2,76,57,752/- into Ad-hoc CAMPA account through online web portal (www.parivesh.nic.in) of MoEF & CC on 14.12.2023.
10	Bank (Corporation Bank, Lodhi Complex/ Union Bank of India, Sunder Nagar) in which deposited with date deposition.	As stated in column No.9 above.
11	Any other remarks	NIL

Chief Conservator of Forest & Nodal Officer, (F.C. Act)
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and
Head of Forests Force Assam

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e-mail: dfo.skgolaghat@gmail.com

Letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/2221-22

Dated. 29 /12/2023.

To.

The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC Act)
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, Assam, Panjabari, Ghy-37.

Sub:

Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for proposal for forest diversion of 4.125 Ha. forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of Well Pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref:

Govt. Of India's letter No. F. No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dtd 07/07/2023 and CCF & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF. Assam vide letter No.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to submit/ furnish herewith the compliance report of conditions stipulated in the "In-Principal Approval", conveyed by the Govt. of India, Guwahati vide letter under reference regarding proposal for diversion of 4.125 Ha. Of forest land for Oil and Gas Exploration development and production of Well Pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department. SI. Conditions Stipulated by MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati In-Compliance by Vedanta No. Principal Approval 1. The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in Replied by the User Agency that: the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal. Demand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been vide letters no. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of Challan is 3/2011-FC(Vol-1) dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be enclosed as Annexure-1. transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net State concerned. Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM. Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2. Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Attached as Annexure 3. The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining 2. Replied by the User Agency that: the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in Demand note for the amount of INR 70.08.360.00 has consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/4814 dated scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been increase for works scheduled for subsequent years. generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of Challan is enclosed as Annexure-1. The fund of INR 70,08,360.00 towards raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation along with 50% Over Head cost of INR35.04.180.00 to CAMPA account through RTGS UTR vide RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM. Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2. Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Attached as Annexure 3.

3.	All the funds received from the user agency under the project	
	shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal ( <a href="http://parivesh.nic.in/">http://parivesh.nic.in/</a> ). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	raising & maintaining CA land and Wildlife conservation has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTG vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777  UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 a 05:32:09 PM
4.	The non-forest land/Village Reserve Forest proposed for CA	Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.  Replied by the User Agency that:
	shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/ PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under section 4 or section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval;	Mutation of CA Land and subsequently the notification declaring non-forest land to RF/PF is in progress.
5.	The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/).	Replied by the User Agency that:  Compliance report will be uploaded on e-porta (http://parivesh.nic.in/)
6.	The KML files of the area to be diverted and CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before submitting compliance report for seeking State-II approval;	To be complied with.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Demand note for the amount of INR 1.25.38.000.00 has been issued from the office of PCCF & CWLW vide letter no. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd/Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal.
		The fund of 1,25,38,000.00 INR has been allocated towards mitigation plan for Human Elephant Conflict. Fund has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.
8.	The State Govt, shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigation measures envisaged in Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.	To be complied with by state govt.
9.	The State govt, shall submit Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Assam along with detail cost of its implementation.	The Human Elephant/Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan against the Well Pad No. 28 & 29 had already been submitted by Golaghat Division to the PCCF (WL) & CWLW, Assam, Aranya Bhawan. Panjabari, Ghy-37 vide this office letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/2114-16, dtd. 11/12/2023.
10.	The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the District Collector.	Replied by the User Agency that: The certificate from District Collector has been granted under compliance of Forest Right Act, 2006 (FRA) vide letter no. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-I/2017/128&129 dtd. 5-1-2022. Copy of certificate is enclosed for your
11.	The user Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.	reference as Annexure-3, Replied by the User Agency that: Environmental Clearance (EC) has been obtained for the site vide EC letter no. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/1476 dtd. 28.07.21.
2.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.	Copy of EC letter is enclosed as Annexure-4.  An amount of Rs. 1,28,790.00 had been deposited in the account of DFO vide UTR no. CMS/001301430719/CMS3652452208, dated 18.10.2023. The boundary of the diverted forest land had been suitably

13.	An about the transfer of	demarcated. The photographs of the same are enclosed herewith.
	Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.;	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no. 24 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14,	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter I of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no.18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

B. Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

SI. No.	Conditions Stipulated by MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati In- Principal Approval	Compliance by Vedanta
1.	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 1 o "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of we pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
2.	The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of nonforest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No. 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 2 c "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest lan for Oil and exploration development and production of wel pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
3.	At the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 3 o  "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of wel pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
4.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 4 o "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of wel pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
5.	The period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 5 or "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golgabat
6.	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.	Division"  Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 6 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
7.	The user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labors and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 7 of  "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land  for Oil and exploration development and production of well  pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghut  Division"
8.	person without opproval a 6th a Control Co	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 8 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land

		for Oil and exploration development and production of we pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagh Division"
9.	No damages to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 9 and "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest lar for Oil and exploration development and production of we pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagh Division"
10.	The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. I of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest lan for Oil and exploration development and production of we pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
11,	The user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.	Replied by the User Agency that
12.	Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).	Replied by the User Agency that:
13.	The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. I of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest lan for Oil and exploration development and production of we pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
14.	Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. I of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest lan for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
15.	The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 1; of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha Division"
16.	The user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 16 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
17.	The user agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Govt, concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year; and	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 17 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land

	comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.	pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golarhat
19.	Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines Hon'ble court order(s) and NGT order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.	Replied by the User Agency that:
20.	regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC(Pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no. 20 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well and No. 20
21.	approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.	in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"  Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 21 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
22.	Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 22of  "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
23.	As per Ministry's letter no. 11-30/96-FC(Pt)dt. 14.09.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited from the state govt. for more than 5 (five) years, the in-principle approval would be summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 23 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: 3 sets of compliance report.

Yours Faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Copy to The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Memo. No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29 /Glt. Divn/2023/5648

Dtd. 29/12/2023.

Copy to The Deputy General Manager-Environment, Vedanta Ltd. Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas). ASF Centre Tower Tower, Udyog Vihar, Gurugram, Harayana for favour of his kind information.

> Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat



12/12/23 Vita.



Date: 18-12-2023 Ref: AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/02

To The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division, Golaghat, Assam.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and gas exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited: - Submission of evidence towards payments w.r.t compliance of conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval – regd.

Ref.: 1) In-Principle Approva. (Stage-1) Letter no.3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07.07.2023. 2) Our earlier submission letter no. AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/01 dated 12.12.2023.

Respected Sir,

With reference to above mentioned subject and our earlier letter submission for the compliance of conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval. In continuation of our earlier submission, we are hereby submitting the evidence/ details towards the payment for NPV, CA Scheme & Wildlife Conservation are as follows:

S. No. as stipulated in Stage-1 approval	Conditions stipulated in Stage-1 approval	Compliance by user agency
1.	The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters no. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-1_ dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through an online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned.	Damand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as Annexure-1.  The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account has been done through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR2023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.

#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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		Payment details are enclosed as <b>Annexure-2.</b>
		Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as <b>Annexure-3.</b>
2.	The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;	Damand note for the amount of INR 70,08,360.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as Annexure-1.
		The fund of INR 70,08,360.00 towards raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation alongwith 50% Over Head cost of INR 35,04,180.00 to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.  Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.
	*	Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as Annexure-3.
3.	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal ( <a href="http://parivesh.nic.in/">http://parivesh.nic.in/</a> ). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.
7	The user agency shall denosit 2% of the	Payment details are enclosed as <b>Annexure-2</b> .  Complied.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human	Damand note for the amount of INR 1,25,38,000.00 has been issued from the

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CIN: L132O9MH1965PLC291394





Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.

WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.

The fund of 1,25,38,000.00 INR has been allocated towards mitigation plan for Human Elephant Conflict. Fund has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.

Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.

Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as Annexure-3.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Enclosure: As above

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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### Annexure-1: Copy of online Challan generated through Parivesh Portal

AGENCY COPY







NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date: 13-12-2023

Agency Name.	M/s Vedanta Limited(Division Cairn Oil & Gas)
Application No.	5844361422
MoEF/SG File No.	3-AS-F-106/2022/GHY
Location.	ASSAM
Address.	Cairn Oil & Gas, Vedanta Limited, DLF Atria, OLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122002Gurgaon
Amount(in Rs)	27657752/-

Amount in Words: Two Crore Seventy-Six Lakh Fifty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Rupees Only

# NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	ASSAM CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UBIN0996335
Pay to Account No.	150615844361622 Valid only for this challan amount.
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank Of India FCS Centre,21/1, III Floor, Jelitta Towers, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

 This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only BANK COPY







NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date: 13-12-2023

Agency Name.	M/s Vedanta Limited(Division Cairn Oil & Gas)
Application No.	5844361622
MoEF/SG File No.	3-AS-B-106/2022/GHY
Location.	ASSAM
Address:	Cairn Oil & Gas, Vedanta Limited, DLF Atria, DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122002 Gurgaon
Amount(in Rs)	27657752/-

Amount In Words :Two Crore Seventy-Six Lakh Fifty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Rupees Only

# NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	ASSAM CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UB N0996335
Pay to Account No.	150615844361622 Valid only for this challan amount.
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank Of India FCS Centre, 21/1, III Floor, Jelitta Towers, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

 This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only

#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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#### Annexure-2: Payment Transaction Details

Date & Time of Transaction	Date	UTR No.	Amount
14/12/2023 05:32:09 PM	14/12/2023	RTG S/ICICR2202312140 0916777/UBIN0996335/ ASSAM CAMPA	2,76,57,752.00



#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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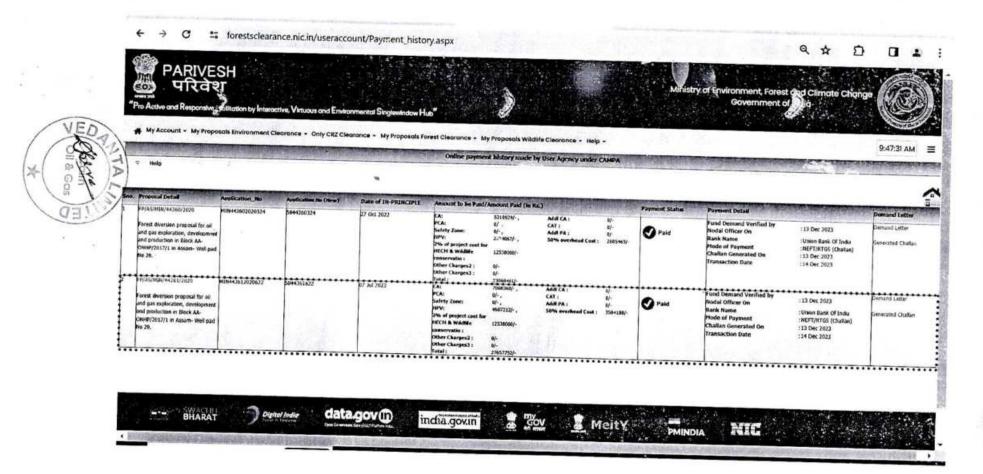
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# Annexure-3: Payment Status on Parivesh Portal



#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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CIN: L132O9MH1965PLC291394







Date: 12-12-2023 Ref: AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/01

To The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division, Golaghat, Assam

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and gas exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited: -Submission of compliance to the conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval – regd.

Ref.: In-Principle Approval (Stage-1) Letter no.3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 7th July, 2023 (copy enclosed).

Respected Sir,

With reference to above mentioned subject, we are pleased to submit the pointwise compliance of conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval for diversion of forest land for your kind perusal and favourable action.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Enclosure: As above

#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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### Compliance of conditions

 Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by State Forest Department.

S. No. as stipulated in Stage-1 approval	Conditions stipulated in Stage-1 approval	, , , , , ,
1.	The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters no. 5-3/2007 FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/3011-FC(Vol-1 dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through an online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned.	Damand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1A.  The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account through NEFT is in advanced stage.
2.	The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;	
	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal ( <a href="http://parivesh.nic.in/">http://parivesh.nic.in/</a> ). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	To be Complied with.  All funds such as NPV fund, raising and maintaining CA land to be deposited to CAMPA account through NEFT are in advanced stage.
4.	The non-forest land proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/ PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under section 4 or section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under	To be complied with.  Mutation of CA Land and subsequently the notification declaring non-forest land to RF/PF is in progress.

#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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CIN: L132O9MH1965PLC29139.1





	the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Govt. prior to Stage-II approval;	**
5.	The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/).	To be complied with.  Compliance report will be uploaded on e- portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/)
6.	The KML files of the area to be diverted and CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisites details before submitting compliance report for seeking State-II approval;	To be complied with.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.	Damand note for the amount of INR 1,25,38,000.00 has been issued from the office of PCCF & CWLW vide letter no. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1B.
	10	The fund of 1,25,38,000.00 INR has been allocated towards mitigation plan for Human Elephant Conflict. Fund transfer to CAMPA account through NEFT is in the advanced stage.
		The detailed Human-Elephant Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan has also been submitted to DFO, Golaghat for approval vide letter no. WLCP/AA-1/3 dtd. 04.12.2023. the same has been forwarded to the office of CWLW by DFO vide letter no. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt.Divn/2023/2114-16 dated 11/12/2023. Copy of plan alongwith letter is enclosed as Annexure-2.
8.	The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigation measures envisaged in Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.	To be complied with by state govt.
9.	The State govt. shall submit Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt of Assam along with detail cost of its	To be complied with by state govt.

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	implementation.	
10.	The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way prescribed certificate from the District Collector.	Complied.  The certificate from District Collector has been granted under compliance of Forest Right Act, 2006 (FRA) vide letter no. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-I/2017/128 & 129 dtd. 5-1-2022. Copy of certificate is enclosed for your reference as Annexure-3.
11.	The user Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act 1986.	Environmental Clearance (EC) has been obtained for the site vide EC letter no. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/1476 dt. 28.07.21. Copy of EC letter is enclosed as Annexure-4.
12.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.	Complied.  Damand note for the amount of INR 82,251.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/3347 dated 24/07/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1C.  The amount of 1,28,790.00 INR has been deposited in the account of DFO vide UTR no. CMS/001301430719/CMS3652452208 dated
13.	Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.;	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no.24 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no.18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"



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B. Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approvals:

S. No.	Conditions	Compliance
1.	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 1 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
2.	The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of nonforest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No. 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point to 2 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4 125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
3.	At the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point to 3 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4 125 ha of forest land for Oil and emploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
4.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no. 4 of "Al undertakings for diversion of 4 123 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well par No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
5.	The period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period coterminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;	
6.	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 6 of "Al undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well page No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
7.	The user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labors and	Agreed TA L/A

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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A Sa	the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;	undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
8.	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any agency, department or person without approval of the Central Government;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 8 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
9.	No damages to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 9 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
10.	The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 10 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
11.	The user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 11 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
12.	Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 12 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
13.	The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 13 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 14 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under

Oil & Gas Cairn Oil & Cas: ASF Center Tower A, 362-363, Jwala Mill Road, Phase IV. Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Curugram - 122016, Haryana, India T -91 124 459 3000 | F -91 124 411 5612 | www.cairnindia.com

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CIN: LI32O9MH1965PLC291394





16	The concerned Divisional Francisco	Golaghat Division"
15.	monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area;	Undertaking furnished in point no. 15 of "Al undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well page No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
16.	phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining pian shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed;	Undertaking furnished in point no. 16 of "Al undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
17.	The user agency shall submit the annual self- compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Govt., concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the and of March every year; and	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 17 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
18.	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 18 of *All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines Hon'ble court order(s) and NGT order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 19 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	All other clearance/ NOCs under different applicable rules/ regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwelle's (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF,	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 20 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration

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Oil & Gas





	New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC(Pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.	development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"		
21.	This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 21 of "All		
22.	Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 22 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"		
23.	As per Ministry's letter no. 11-30/96-FC (Pt)dt. 14.09.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited from the state govt. for more than 5 (five) years, the in-principle approval would be summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 23 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"		



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CIN: L132O9MH1965PLC291394



e-mail: dfo.t.golaghafa gmail.com

Letter No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 4&14

Dated, 07/11/2023.

To.

The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited (Division Cairn oil &Gas), DLF Phase-2. DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002.

Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for forest diversion Sub: proposal of 4.125 Ha. forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

1.CCF & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam vide letter Ref. No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd /Well Pad No.28/Golaghat Divn. dtd. 29.09.2023. 2.0/o the Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle vide letter No. FG.24/Diversion Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Genl/EAC dtd. 04/11/2023.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that the Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati- 22 has conveyed the "In Principal Approval" for forest diversion proposal for 4.125 ha. of forest land for Oil & Gas exploration, development and production of Well Pad No. 29 of M/s Vedanta Limited in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division.

In this regard, I would like to request you to transfer/deposit to Compensatory Afforestation fund of Assam State managed by the Ad-hoc CAMPA only through e-portal (https://panivesh.aic.in/). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted.

You are also requested to communicate the same along with a list of documents, certificates and undertakings in compliance with the conditions stipulated in the "In Principle Approval" for Final -1 /6---- II olograpes

1	Approval (Stage -II clearance).	-	Rs.	46,07,212.00
i.	Net present Value @ Rs. 11,16,900/- lakhs per Ha. For 4.125	-	ICS.	40,07,212,00
	ha	=	Rs.	70,08,360.00
ii	Compensatory Afforestation	-	Rs.	35,04,180.00
iii	50% Over Head Cost	=	KS.	33,04,100,00
	Total		Rs.	1,51,19,752.00

(Rupees One crore, fifty-one lakhs, nineteen thousand, seven hundred and fifty-two) only

Yours Faithfully

risional Forest Officer Golaghat Division

Golaghat Dated. 07/11/2023.

Memo No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 1935 - 36

1. The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (F.C. Act), O/o the Principal Chief Copy to: Conservator of Forests & head of Forest Force, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37

for favour of his kind information. 2. The Conservator of Forest, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

> Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golagha



#### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

# OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE) AND CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN, ASSAM::PANJABARI::GUWAHATI-37

Email Id: pccf.wl.assam@gmail.com

No. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn.

Date: 30/11/2023

To.

The Sr. Managar-Environment,
M/s Vedanta Limited (Diversion Cairn Oil & Gas),
DLF Phase-2, DLF City,
Gurgaon, Ha yana-122002
Envail Id: dilipkumar.bera@cairnindia.com

Sub: Deposition of 2% Project cost for Human Elephant Conflict Mitigation & Wildlife Conservation purpose against diversion proposal of 4.125 ha forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambor South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited and regarding.

Ref: 1. MoEF & CC, Govt of India's letter F.No.3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dated 07.07.2023.(copy enclosed)

 CCF & Nodal Officer (FC Act) letter No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No. 29/Golaghat Divn., dated 19.07.2023 & 04.10.2023.(copy enclosed)

Sir.

Pursuant to the MoEF & CC, Govt of India's letter F.No.3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dated 07.07.2023 (ref. Sl. No.1) granting "In Principle Approval/Stage-I" for diversion proposal of 4.125 ha forest land f. Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambor South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited and with reference to letters quoted under reference Sl. No. 2, it is requested to deposit 2% of the estimated project cost to the account of CAMPA.

(a) Area of forest land proposed for diversion

= 4.125 Ha.

(b) Estimated cost of the project

= Rs. 62,6900,000

(c) 2% of total project cost = 0.02 x 626900000

= Rs. 1,25,38,000

The Bank Account details are furnished below:

Bank Name: Union Bank of India, Lodhi Complex Branch, New Delhi-110003.

Account No.: 520101263743434 IFS code: UBIN0903710

The above mentioned amount of Rs. 1,25,38,000 /- (Rupees one crore twenty five lakh thirty eight thousand only) may be deposited to the account of CAMPA of the IPA accorded by the ministry for the proposal.

This is for favor of your kind information and early necessary action.

Enclo: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Kamar, IFS)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam

Copy to:

 Chief Conservator of Forest & Nodal Officer (FC Act) O/e the PCCF & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for information and necessary action.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forests Force, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahti-37 for favour of his kind information.

 Accountant, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for his information.

> Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam

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e-awil: dfo.t.gologhafa.gmail.com

Letter No. B/62/Vedanta/WPi/29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 3.347

Dated, 24/07/2023.

Te.

The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited. (Division Cairn oil & Cas), DLF Phase-2. DLF City, Gurgaon, Harvana-122002.

Sub: Comp. ance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for forest diversion prop. at of 4.125 Ha, forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well bad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref: CCF and Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, o/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam vide letter No. FG 27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn., dtd. 18.7.2023 and Govt. of India's letter No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07/07/2023.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that the Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati-22 has conveyed the "In Principal Approval" for forest discretion proposal for 4.125 has of forest land for Oil & Gas exploration, development and production of Well Pad No. 29 of M/s Vedanta Limited in Number South Reserved Forest under Golagian Division.

You are requested to transfer/deposit an amount of Rs. 1,28,790.00 (One takhs, twenty eight thousand, seven hundred and ninety) only for fitting and fixing and Primer & Paint for writing GPS co-ordinates & carings of boundary pillar of the proposed forest diversion site is to deposited in the Account No. "3100294420900, IFSC Code HDFC0002937. As mentioned in the "In Principal Approval" oxisined from Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati vide letter Govt. Of India's letter No. F. No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07/67/2023

Yours Faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer Goldghat Division Goldghay

Dated. 24/07/2023.

Memo No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 1445-46 Copy to:

 The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (F.C. Act), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & head of Forest Force, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37 for favour of his kind information.

2. The Conservator of Forest, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorlan for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

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Date: 27.11.2023 Ref: WLCP/AA-1/2

To.

Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam O/o The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati, Assam-37

Sub: Submission of Revised Human-Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan for Diversion of Forest land of 2.43 Ha (Wellpad No. 28) AND 4.125 Ha (Wellpad No. 29) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Development and Production – Regd.

#### References:

- Our initial submission of HECM & Wildlife Conservation Plan to the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. WLCP/AA-1/2 dated No.3-AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150, dtd. 02.12.2022
- Submission of HECM & Wildlife Conservation Plan to Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Waren, Assam by the office of DFO, Golaghat vide ref. no. A/62/ Vedanta/ Well Pad#28&29/ GD/ 2022/ 2992-93 dtd. 27.12.2022.
- FC Stage-1 'In Principle Approval' for diversion of 2.43 ha of forest land for oil & gas exploration, development and production of wellpad no. 28 in Diphu Reserve Forest vide letter no. 3-AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150 dtd. 18th October 2022
- FC Stage-1 'In Principle Approval' for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for oil & gas exploration, development and production of wellpad no. 29 in Nambar South Reserve Forest ride letter no. 3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dtd. 7th July 2023.

Respected Sir.

With reference to above mentioned subject, we had submitted the Human-elephant/wildlife conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan to the office of DFO, Golaghat (enclosed as Annexure-1). DFO, Golaghat then forwarded the same to your good office for approval (enclosed as Annexure-2).

As desired, we are hereby again submitting the revised/ updated plan (enclosed as Annexure-3). We request you to kindly approve the conservation plan. For any additional information required, we will be pleased to provide the same.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedaota Umited (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Dilip Komar Bera

DGM- Environment

Enclosure: As above

Copy to: The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division, Golaghat, Assam

VEDANTA LIMITED

Cairn Oil 5-Cas: ASF Center Tower A. 362-363 (wata Mil Road Phase IV Jayorg Vinar, Sector & Curugram - 122016 Haryand Inditival 124 459 3000 | Five 124 414 5612 | www.cairninala.com

Registered Office; Vedanta Umited, 1º Floor, C wing unit 103, Corporate avenue, atu Projects, Charata, Andher (East), Mumbiol - Waharashtra, India, T. 49, 12, 664, 34500 | First 22, 664, 34500 | www.vedantai.mited.com

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e-mail: dfo.t.golaghat@gmail.com

Letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/ 2114-16

Dated. 11/12/2023.

To.

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

Sub: Submission of Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan against the Well Pad No. 28 and 29 in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited (Diversion Cairn oil & Gas) under Golaghat Division.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to submit herewith the Revised Human-elephant/Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan duly prepared by Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) for the Well Pad No. 28 & 29 under Golaghat Division.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: As stated acove

Yours faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Copy to:

- The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF. Assam Panjabari, Ghy-37 for favour of his kind information.
- 2. The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat Dated, 11/12/2023.

Memo No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/ Copy to:

1. The DGM - Environment, Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas), for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

# GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR ,GOLAGHAT

NO. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-1/2017/722/ 129

Dated: 5-1-2023

#### TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

In compliance of the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), Government of India's letter No. 11-9/98/FC(Pt.) Dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 wherein the MoEF issued guidelines on submission of evidences for having initiated and completed the process of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. 2006 (FRA, for short), on the forest land proposed to be diverted for non-forest purposes read with MoEF's letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 wherein MoEF Issued certain relaxation in respect of linear projects, it is certified that 4.125 Hectares of forest land proposed to be diverted in favour of Vedanta Ltd.(Division: Cairn Oil and Gas) for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam –Well pad No. 29 (Purpose for diversion of forest land) in Golaghat district falls within jurisdiction of Christian Basti village in Sarupathar tehsil.

#### It is further certified that:

- (a) The complete process for identification and settlement of rights under FRA has been carried out for the entire 4.125 Hectares of forest area proposed for diversion. A copy of records of all consultations and meeting of the Forest Rights Committee(s), Gram Sabha(s), Sub-Division Level Committee(s) and the District level Committee are enclosed as Annexure 1 to II
- (b) The proposal for such diverson (with full details of project and its implication, in vernacular/local language) have been placed before each concerned gram sabha of forest dwellers, who are eligible under FRA.
- (d) The discussion and decision on such proposal had taken place only when there was a quorum of minimum 50 of members of Gram Sabha present.
- (e) The diversion of forest land facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed and the Gram Sabhas have given their consent to it.
- (f) The right of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agriculture Communities, where applicable have been specifically safeguarded as per section 3(1)e of FRA.

Enclo: As above .

(Digesh Narayan Barua , ACS)
Deputy Commissional Conghat
(Full name and official Collector)

# STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, ASSAM Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India BAMUNIMAIDAM, GUWAHATI-21

No. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/ 1476 Proposal No: SIA/AS/IND2/143861/2020 Dated: 28/7/21

To

My. Vedanta Ltd (Division Cairn Oil & Gas) <sup>4h</sup> Floor, Vipul Plaza, Suncity Sector 54, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002

Sub: Environment Clearance for Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration & Appraisal Project in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Hydrocarbon Block falling in Dist-Karbi Anglong & Golaghat, Assam.

Dear Sir.

This has reference to your application dated 23/11/2020 seeking Environmental Clearances for the above project under EIA Notification 2006. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of provisions under the EIA Notification 2006 and subsequent modification vide S.O. 236(F) dtd 16/01/2020 and on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application viz. the questionnaire, EIA, EMP and additional clarifications furnished in response to the observation of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, Assam dtd 18/06/2021 field visit conducted by members of SEAC and also presentation given before the SEAC & SEIAA.

#### 2. Brief details of the Project:

1	Category/ Item No. (In Schedule):	1(b) B2		
2.	Location of Project	(a) Plot/ survey/ Khasra No. G46J/12, G46J/16, G46P/9, G46P/13, Pin:- 782460 (b) Bounded Latitudes (North) From 2857396.16 to 2857607.91 (c) Bounded Longitudes (East) From 566813.25 to 600221.64 (d) Survey of India Topo Sheet No G46J/12, G46J/16,G46P/9,G46P/13 (e) Distant of nearest HFL from the project boundary within the study area 5 (f) Seismic Zone - 5  M/s Vedanta Limited (Division cairns oil & Gas) proposes to drill 20 Nos of exploratory & Appraisal wells in the AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block,(wells name being - (11,12,14,17,19,20,21,22,27,28,29,34,35,37,39,40,41,42,45,46) The total area are 715 Sq K.M. All activities involve in the exploratory process will be restricted within the block area situated in the Karbi Anglong & Golaghat District, Assam. The exploratory wells in the		
3.	Project Details			
		Geographical location has been given in Table-4 (Details of proposed well location) are approved for exploration.		
4.	Total Project Cost	Rs. 320 Crores.		
5.	Water Requirement & source	Water requirement: 102 Cu.M per day per well water will be required for drilling of wells.  Sourcing of water requirement: water requirement for all the project activities would be sourced locally through approved/ authorized sources of surface water and/ or ground water (e.g PHD bore wells, privately owned bore wells, irrigation Dept./ water Resources Dept. of state Govt.).		
	Fuel & Energy:	Location	DG Capacity	
6.		Camp site	2x 350 KVA (one working and one standby)	

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Assessment Authority, Assam.
Bamunimaidam, Ghty-21

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		Drilli	ng Site	3X 1000 standby) or and one sta	KVA(two working and one r 2x 1850 KVA (one working ndby)	
90		Cost of planta The to enviro	A office. of Environment Ma- tion:- entative budget for	nagement P r implement and Green	EMP) has been submitted to lan (EMP) including Greenbelt matation of the EMP including plantation would be INR 10.0 activity.	
7.	Environment Management Plan	SI. No.	Particulars		Approx. budget/ well (INR in Lakh	
	- Management i ian	1			3.5	
	1	2			0.75	
		3	Surface and Ground water		2.0	
	1	4	The state of the s		0.75	
		and the same of th	Waste management		2.5	
		6. Total:	Greenbelt/ Planta	ition	0.5	
8	CSR /ESR Activities	May 2018 OM w.r.t. CER (Corporate Environmental Responsibilities), CER would be spent in various social development cost based on the assessed needs  Investment Cost Allocation (INR, crores)				
					Crores	
		Total CER (indicative) 1.5%		of 320 Crores		
9	Green Belt/ Plantation	Greenbelt/ Plantation will be carried or 33% of the total project area.			ut suitably.	
		Estimat The fol	ed Budgetary Break lowing provisions w	our Welfare: towards Labour Welfare:		
		S. No.	Particulars		Estimated Budget per well (in Lakhs)	
		1.	Safe drinking workforce	water fo		
10	Budgetary Breakup	2.	Sanitation facilities	es		
,,,	for Labour	3.	First aid facility and ambulance for emergency medical evacuation		6.0 Lakhs/Well (Approx.)	
		4.	PPEs (Safety Boots, Helmet, Mask, ear plugs, gloves, etc.			
•	-	5.	Environmental, safety & occupational health and wellness awareness program		1	

The SEIAA, Assam after considering the proposal and recommendations of the SEAC, Assam in its 20th Meeting held on 18.06.2021, relevant documents/ clarification submitted by P.P., hereby accord Environmental Clearance for drilling at 20 Nos of wells to the project as per the

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provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments, subject to production of required land documents for the well nos. 11,12.14, 17,19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 34, 35, 37,40, 41,42, 45 and 46 (20 nos.) as per SOP before starting the field activities. The proponent shall have to strictly adhere to the general terms and condition applicable for such projects.

### I. Statutory compliance:

- The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
- ii. The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- iii. The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan & Wildlife Management Plan and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. The recommendations of the approved Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. The implementation report shall be furnished along with the six-monthly compliance report. (in case of the presence of Schedule-I species in the study area)
- iv. The Project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish / Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee.
- v. The project proponent shall obtain authorization under the Hazardous and other Waste Management Rules, 2016 as amended from time to time.
- vi. The Company shall strictly comply with the rules and guidelines under Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 as amended time to time. All transportation of Hazardous Chemicals shall be as per the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA), 1989.

### II. Air quality monitoring and preservation.

- i. The project proponent shall install 24×7 continuous emission monitoring system at process stacks to monitor stack emission with respect to standards prescribed in Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 and connected to SPCB and CPCB online servers and calibrate these system from time to time according to equipment supplier specification through labs recognized under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or NABL accredited laboratories.
- ii. The project proponent shall monitor fugitive emissions in the plant premises at least once in every quarter through labs\_recognized under environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- iii. The project proponent shall install system to carryout Ambient Air Quality monitoring for common/criterion parameters relevant to the main pollutants released (e.g. PM10 and PM25 in reference to PM emission, and SO2 and NOx in reference to SO2 and NOx emissions) within and outside the plant area at least at four locations (one within and three outside the plant area at an angle of 120 each), covering upwind and downwind directions.
- iv. To control source and the fugitive emissions, suitable pollution control devices shall be installed to meet the prescribed norms and/or the NAAQS. Sulphur content should not exceed 0.5% in the coal for use in coal fired boilers to control particulate emissions within permissible limits (as applicable). The gaseous emissions shall be dispersed through stack of adequate height as per CPCB/SPCB guidelines.
- v. Storage of raw materials, coal etc shall be either stored in silos or in covered areas to prevent dust pollution and other fugitive emissions.
- vi. National Emissions Standards for Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. 608(E) dated 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2010 and amended from time to time shall be followed.
- vii. The National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No. 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009 shall be complied with.

## III. Water quality monitoring and preservation

i. The project proponent shall provide online continuous monitoring of effluent, the unit shall install web camera with night vision capability and flow meters in the channel/drain carrying effluent within the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving ZLD)

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- ii. As already committed by the project proponent, Zero Liquid Discharge shall be ensured and no waste/treated water shall be discharged outside the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving the ZLD).
- iii. The effluent discharge shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986, or as specified by the State Pollution Control Board while granting Consent under the Air/Water Act, whichever is more stringent.
- iv. Total fresh water requirement shall not exceed the proposed quantity or as specified by the Committee. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority/ CGWA in this regard.
- v. Process effluent/any waste water shall not be allowed to mix with storm water. The storm water from the premises shall be collected and discharged through a separate conveyance system.
- vi. The company harvest rainwater from the roof tops of the buildings and storm water drains to recharge the ground water and utilized the same for different industrial operations within the plant.
- vii. The DG sets shall be equipped with suitable Pollution control devices and the adequate stack height so that the emissions are in conformity with the extant regulations and the guidelines in this regard.

### IV. Noise monitoring and preservation

- Acoustic enclosure ε<sup>t</sup> all be provided to DG set for controlling the noise pollution.
- ii. The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation.

iii. The ambient noise levels should conform to the standards prescribed under E(P)A Rules, 1986 viz, 75 dB(A) during day time and 70 dB(A) during night time.

### V. Energy Conservation measures

i. The energy sources for lighting purposes shall preferably be LED based.

### VI. Waste management

 Hazardous chemical shall be stored in tanks, tank farms, drums, carboys etc. Flame arresters shall be provided on tank farm and the solvent transfer through pumps.

 Process organic residue and spent carbon, if any, shall be sent to cement industries. ETP sludge, process inorganic & evaporation salt shall be disposed off to the TSDF.

- iii. The Company shall undertake waste minimization measures as below:
- a. Metering and Control of quantities of active ingredients to minimize waste.
   b. Reuse of by-products from the process as raw materials or as raw material substitutes in other
- c. Use of automated filling to minimize spillage.
- d. Use of Close Feed system into batch reactors.
- e. Venting equipment through vapors recovery system.
- f. Use of high pressure hoses for equipment clearing to reduce waste water generation.

### VII. Green Belt

The green belt of 5-10 m width shall be developed in more than 33% of the total project area, mainly along the plant periphery, in downward wind direction, and along road sides etc. Selection of plant species shall be as per the CPCB guidelines in consultation with the State Forest Department.

Member Secretary State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Assam. Bamunimaldam, Ghty-21

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# VIII. Safety, Public hearing and Human health issues

Emergency preparedness plan based on the Hazard identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) and Disaster Management Plan shall be implemented.

ii. The unit shall make the arrangement for protection of possible fire hazards during manufacturing process in material handling. Fire fighting system shall be as per the norms.

iii. The PP shall provide Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) as per the norms of Factory Act.

iv. Training shall be imparted to all employees on safety and health aspects of chemicals handling. Preemployment and routine periodical medical examinations for all employees shall be undertaken on regular basis. Training to all employees oh handling of chemicals shall be imparted.

Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, creche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed

vi. Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records

vii. There shall be adequate space inside the plant premises ear marked for parking of vehicles for raw materials and finished products, and no parking to be allowed outside on public places.

# IX. Corporate Environment Responsibility

i. The project proponent shall comply with the provisions contained in this Ministry's IM vide F.No. 22-65/2017-IA III dated 1st May 2018, as applicable, regarding Corporate Environment Responsibility.

ii. The company shall have a well laid down environment policy duly approve by the Board of Directors. The environment policy should prescribe for standards operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/ violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements / deviation / violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions and / or shareholders / stake holders. The copy of the board resolution in this regard shall be submitted to the MOEF& CC as a part of six-

iii. A separate environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly to the head of the

iv. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six Monthly Compliance Report.

v. Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental

### X. Miscellaneous

The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safe guards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.

ii. The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government

who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.

iv. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly

The project proponent shall monitor the criteria pollutants level namely; PMio, SO2, NOx (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or criteria sevtoral parameters, indicated for the projects and display the same at a convenient location for disclosure to the public and put on the website of the company.

> more Member Secretary State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Assam. munimaldem, Ghty-21

vi. The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.

vii. The project proponent shall submitted the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection)

Rules, 1986, as amended suggequently and out on the website of the company,

viii. The project proponent shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities, commencing the land development work and so at of production operation by the project.

ix. The project of thorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control

Board and the State Government.

x. The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert Appraisal Committee.

xi. No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

xii. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act,

xiii. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is

not satisfactory.

xiv. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.

xv. The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the

requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

xvi. The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) 2 ... 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other or, as passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of La relating to the subject matter.

xvii. Any appeal against this EC shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of 30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

Member-Secretary,

SEIAA, Assam Bamunimaidam, Guwahati 781021. seela

Dated:

Memo No. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/ 1476 -A

Copy to:-

The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environmental & Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for favour of kind information.

The Chairman, PCBA for information.

The Regional Office, MoEF, Govt. of India, Low-U-sib, Lumbatngen, Near MTC Workshop, Shillong-21 for ormation.

Office Copy.

8d/-

Member-Secretary, SELAA, Assam Bamunimaidam, Guwahati 781021. Bond



# **Indian-Non Judicial Stamp** Harvana Government



26/07/2023

Certificate No.

G0Z2023G463

GRN No.

105413838



(Rs. Only)

Penalty:

₹0

Cairn

Oil & Gas

Stamp Duty Paid: ₹ 101

(Rs. Zero Only)

Deponent

Name:

Phone:

Vedanta Ltd

H:No/Floor: 362/363

87\*\*\*\*\*89

Sector/Ward: 18

Landmark: Asf center tower a

City/Village: Gurugram

District: Gurugram

State: Haryana



ose: Forest Clearance only for used to be submitted at Gurugram

The authenticity of this document can be verified by scanning this QrCode Through smart phone or on the website https://egrashry.nic.in

"All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 Ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

## Proposal No. FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020

1. Undertaking regarding Legal status of the diverted forest land Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.

2. Undertaking regarding compensatory afforestation maintenance Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent non-forest land 4.13 ha at Patta No. 34, Dag No. 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.

3. Undertaking regarding time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that at the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

4. Undertaking for demarcation of Boundary

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the boundary of the divarted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per TA Othe directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

Undertaking regarding period of forest land TTESTED Regn. No.

M. S. PUNIA ADVOCATE & NOTARY Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) India Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under.

6. Undertaking regarding labour camp

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that NO labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

7. Undertaking regarding provision of fuel to the labors at site

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that fuels preferable alternate fuels will be provided to the labors and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.

8. Undertaking regarding transfer of diverted forest land

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any agency, department, or person without approval of the Central Government.

9. Undertaking regarding no damage to flora and fauna

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused.

10. Undertaking regarding no change in layout plan

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.

11. Undertaking regarding use of surrounding forest/ forest land

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.

12. Undertaking regarding diverted land to be returned after restoration.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).

13. Undertaking regarding precautions and care of forest/ forest lands.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities.

14. Undertaking regarding tree felling

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that tree felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department.

15. Undertaking regarding mitigation measures for adverse impacts on forest

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area:

there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area;

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ATTESTED

M. S. PUNIA

M. S. PUNIA

Wishington (ADVOCATE & NOTARY

Distr. Gurugram (Haryana) India

Cairn Oil & Gas 16. Undertaking regarding mining in phase manner

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed.

17. Undertaking regarding submission of annual self-compliance report

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Govt., concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year.

18. Undertaking regarding violation of conditions

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

19. <u>Undertaking regarding compliance of all Acts, Rules, Orders, pertaining to the project</u>

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the suer agency shall comply with all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order(s) and NGT Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

 Undertaking regarding applicability of all other clearances/ NOCs under different rules/ regulations etc.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that all other clearance/ NOCs under different applicable rules/ regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.

21. Undertaking regarding revocation of approval

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that this approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.

22. <u>Undertaking regarding compliance of conditions stipulated by IRO, Guwahati</u>
MoEF&CC

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.

23. Undertaking regarding compliance of conditions

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Carra Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that as per Ministry's letter no. 11-30/96-FC(Pt)dt. 14.09.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited ATTESTED

M. S. PUNIA
Winterfal (ADVOCATE & NOTARY
Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) India

Cairn Oil & Gas from the state govt. for more than 5 (five) years, the in-principal approval would summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.

24. <u>Undertaking regarding change in diameter of borehole & nos. of borehole</u> Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.

Place: Gurugram

Date: 12-12-2023

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Caim

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil and Gas)

ATTESTED

ATTESTED

M. S. PUNIA

POR INDIA DISTI GRAD VOCATE & NOTARY

Distr. Gurugram (Haryana) India



# भारत सरकार Government of India पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गुवाहाटी/Integrated Regional office, Guwahati चौथी मंजिल, हौसेफेड इमारत, जी एस रोड , रुक्मणी गाँव, गुवाहाटी- ७८१०२२ 4th Floor, Housefed building, GS Road, Rukmini gaon, Guwahati -781022



दूरभाष /Tel Fax: 0361-2330984, E-mail: iro.guwahati-mefcc@gov.in F.No.3 AS B 10-/2022-GHY/4121-22

07th July, 2023

सेवा मे

अतिरिक्त प्रमुख सचिन/ Addl. Chief Secretary, असम सरकार/Govt of Assam, पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/Environment and Forests Deaprtment, दिसपुर/Dispur, गुवाहाटी/Guwahati-781006.

Sub: Proposal is for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Sir.

This has got reference to the State Govt Assam letter No. FRS.64/2022/72 dated 26.05.2022 and No. ECF No. 238662/152 dated 27.02.2023 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the FCA, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted by Central Government under Section 3 of aforesaid Act.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Assam by the Regional Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 31.01.2023 and its recommendation and subsequent approval of Ministry, New Delhi on 28.06.2023 through e-office, I am to inform that the Central Government hereby conveys its "In Principle Approval" for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited subject to the following conditions:

- A. Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.
  - 1. The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in Writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned;

- 2. The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and relations the compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in constitution the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned state strongs online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for an appropriate increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- 3. All the funds received from the user agency under the project state of transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through the confidence of the Stage-I clearance.
- 4. The non-forest land/ Village Reserve Forest proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF process. Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval.
- 5. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/)
- The KML files of the area to be diverted and the CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before submitting compliance report for seeking Stage II approval;
- 7. The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.
- 8. The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigating measures envisaged in Human Elephant/wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.
- The State Govt shall submit Human Elephant/wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt of Assam along with detail cost of its implementation.
- The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the District Collector;
- 11. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 12. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

-

- 13. Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Government;
- 14. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.
- B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:
  - 1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
  - 2. The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of non forest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District at the cost of the User Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.
  - 3. At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
  - 4. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer:
  - 5. The period of d'version of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
  - 6. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
  - 7. The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
  - 8. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
  - 9. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

- 10. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval o he Central Government;
- 11. The user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance;
- 12. Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).
- 13. The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/activities;
- 14. Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any, shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;
- 15. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
- 16. The user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;
- 17. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Minis ry by the end of March every year; and
- 18. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019
- 19. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Rules Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order(s) and NGT Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
- 20. All other clearance /NOCs under different applicable rules/regulations /local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No.11-9/1998-FC(pt) dated 03.08 2009 shall be complied with.

- 21. This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.
- 22. Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife. The state govt shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;
- 23. As per Ministry's letter No 11-30/96-FC(Pt) dt 14.9.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited from the State Govt for more than 5(five) years, the in-principle approval would be summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.

After the receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final/stage-II approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, will be considered. Till the receipt of the Final / Stage-II approval of the Central Government for diversion of the said forest land from this Ministry, transfer of the said forest land to the User Agency shall not be affected by the State Government.

(Ms. Laetitia Jean Sylemiong) वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

Copy to:

 The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Govt of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwal Path, Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra, Panjabari, Guwahati-781037

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व्रम उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय) Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)



Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division









Divisional Perest Officer Golaghat Division



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[iccems as admin] State- Assam 27 May 2024, 11:28:24 IST

# FCA Projects, Diverted Land, CA Land Management

Home FCA-1980 Projects Diverted Lands CA Lands Reports

# Detailed Summary of Selected FCA Project

Project Basic details

S.No.	Project Name	Project Year	Project Type	Purpose of Diversion	Total Land Diverted	User Agency
1	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.	2023	Mining	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.	4.125	

D-1-11 F	Diverside	- 1 4	C	1
Details of	Diver	6.0	OFFSE	land

S.No.	Area Diverted (In Hac)	Division	Range	Forest Type	Location
1	4.000	Golaghat	Naojan	Reserved Forest (RF)	Nambor South Re
2	0.125	Golaghat	Naojan	Reserved Forest (RF)	Nambor South Re

## Details of Lands received from user agency for Compensatory Afforestation

S.No.	Land Type	Area(in Ha)	District	Range	Notification order No.
1	Revenue_land (Non-forest)	4.130	Jorhat [ Jorhat West ]	Jorhat [ Jorhat ]	

## Details of the amount demanded from UA against the FCA project

S.No.	FCA Proj. File No	Project Name	State	Proj. Year	Order No.	Date	NPV	CA	ACA	PCA	PAF	CAT	sz	Others	Total Demand
1	FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.		2023	B/62/Vedanta/WP29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814	07/11/2023	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	16042180	27657752
						Total	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	0	27657752

## Details of the amount received from UA against the FCA project.

S.No.	FCA Project File No	Proj. Name	State	Proj. Year	Ref. No.	Ref.Date	Receipt Date	NPV	CA	ACA	PCA	PAF	CAT	SZ	Others	Total Received
1	FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020	Forest diversion proposal for	AS	2023	B/62/Vedanta/WP29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814	07/11/2023	14/12/2023	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	16042180	27657752

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# GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

### ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

### **NOTIFICATION**

Dated Dispur ..... April, 202

ECF No. 468752/26: In exercise of the power conferred by Section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation of 1891 (VII of 1891), the Governor of Assam is pleased to declare that the land described in the schedule annexed here to and appoint the Addl. District Commissioner, Jorhat District to be the Forest Settlement Officer to inquire into and determine the existence, nature and extent of any right claimed by or alleged to exist in favour of any person in or over land comprised there in and the limits and described in the schedule annexed hereto and deal with same as prescribed in Chapter-II of the regulation.

Under the provisions of Section 5, Sub-Section (2) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891 the Governor of Assam is pleased to appoint the Divisional Forest Officer, Jorhat Forest Division to assist the Forest Settlement Officer, in the inquires prescribed in Chapter-II of the Regulation in connection with the proposed reservation.

### SCHEDULE "A"

### PROPOSED PAHUMORA RESERVED FOREST

- 1. Situation(a) District (Civil):- Jorhat District
  - (b) Forest Division:-Jorhat Forest Division (West)
  - (c) Forest Range:- Jorhat Forest Range
  - (d) Mauza:-Bali Gaon
  - (e) Name:- Pahumora Reserve Forest
  - (f) Area: 6.69 Ha.

### 2. Boundaries:

North: Land of Luknath Bora

South: Land of Tarun Goswami

East: Garuwa Bhagajan

West: Land of Babula Hazarika

Boundary along with GPS Co-ordinates:

S. No	LOCATION NO.	LONGITUDES	LATITUDES	AREA	NAME OF LOCATION
1.	CA05	94°8'35.198"E	26°48'8.652"N		

			Total Area	6.69 Ha	
22.	CA20	94°8'23.664" E	26°48'15.300" N		
21.	CA19	94°8'28.128" E	26°48'7.831" N		
20.	CA18	94°8'30.203" E	26°48'8.920" N		
19.	CA17	94°8'32.242" E	26°48'6.336" N		Assam
18.	CA05	94°8'35.198" E	26°48'8.652" N	4.13 Ha.	Jorhat District
17.	CA04	94°8'33.581" E	26°48'9.900" N		
16.	CA03	94°8'31.778" E	26°48'10.630" N		
15.	CA02	94°8'29.490" E	26°48'14.005" N		
14.	CA01	94°8'27.725" E	26°48'17.241" N		
13.	CA17	94°8'32.242"E	26°48'6.336" N		
12.	CA16	94°8'30.383"E	26°48'5.213" N		
11.	CA15	94°8'29.992"E	26°48'5.964" N		
10.	CA14	94°8'29.570"E	26°48'5.756" N		
9.	CA13	94°8'31.611"E	26°48'2.413" N		
8.	CA12	94°8'31.914"E	26°48'2.569" N		Assam
7.	CA11	94°8'32.486"E	26°48'1.783" N	2.56 Ha.	Jorhat District,
6.	CA10	94°8'33.325"E	26°48'2.394" N		
5.	CA09	94°8'34.053"E	26°48'2.746" N		
4.	CA08	94°8'34.707"E	26°48'3.001" N		
3.	CA07	94°8'36.958"E	26°48'3.536" N		
2.	CA06	94°8'38.809"E	26°48'3.911" N		

### Reason for Reservation:

- Compensatory Afforestation is towards the "In-Principle Approval/ Stage-I Forest Clearance" accorded by the Central Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide its letter No. 3 AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150 dated 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 for diversion of 2.43 Ha. of forestland under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s. Vedanta Ltd. (Div: Cairn Oil and Gas) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and development activity at Well Pad#28 in Diphu Reserve Forest under Golaghat Forest Division.
- 2. Compensatory Afforestation is towards the "In-Principle Approval/ Stage-I Forest Clearance" accorded by the Central Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide its letter No. 3 AS B 102/2022-GHY/4121-22 dated 7th July 2023 for diversion of 4.125 Ha. of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980in favour of M/s. Vedanta ltd. (Div: Cairn Oil and Gas) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and development activity at Well Pad#29 in Nambor South Reserve Forest under Golaghat Forest Division.
- To conserve the afforestation, the land for Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified as Reserve Forest by the State Government as per the conditions of Forest Clearance under The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980/ Amendment Act, 2023.

Signed by
Adil Khan
Secretary 19 the 524 16 of 8 495 am,
Environment & Forest Department



Memo No. ECF No. 468752/26-A

Dated Dispur, the ..... April, 2024

Copy to:

- The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Environment & Forests, Assam, for kind information of the Hon'ble Minister.
- The Secretary, Co-ordination to the Chief Secretary, Assam, for kind information of the 2. Chief Secretary.
- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37. 3.
- The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), UAZ, Jorhat. 4.
- The District Commissioner, Jorhat. 5.
- The Divisional Forest Officers, Jorhat Division. 6.
- The Divisional Forest Officers, Golaghat Division 7.
- The Regional Head-NE, (OALP Cairn Vedanta) Vedanta Ltd., Jorhat, Assam 8.
- The Deputy Director, Assam Government Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-2l, for 9. publication of the notification in the Assam Gazette extra ordinary and to send 100 copies to this department.

E-signed Secretary to the Govt. of Assam Environment & Forest Department

# Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division



# Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division



# Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division





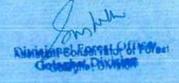
\*Evedanta

Project Name: Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and Early Production in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block, Karbi Anglong & Golaghat Districts of Assam

Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan

Submitted by:

Vedanta Limited (Div. Cairn Oil & Gas)
First Floor, Tower-A, ASF Centre, 362-363
Jwala Mill Rd, Phase IV, Udyog Vihar
Sec-18, Gurugram-1/22016
Haryana (INDIA)



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Vedanta Limited (Division Califo Ol) & Gas)

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Vedanta Limited (Division Calm Cil & Gas)

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Divisional Forest Officer

Colaghat Division

# Human-Elephant conflict Mitigation and Conservation Plan

#### 1.1 Introduction

Vedenta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) has proposed drilling of 20 onshore exploratory and appraisal wells and setting up of 6 Nos. Early Production Units (EPUs) for produced well fluid processing and production of up to 12000 8OPD crude oil and up to 2.4 MMSCFD associated natural gas in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block located in Karbi Anglong and Gelaghat districts of Assam. Environmental Clearance (EC) for this block has already been granted by Hon'ble SEIAA, Assam vide EC letter no. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/1476 dtd. 28.07.2021 for Exploratory & Appraisal of 20 Nos. well locations. The EC was later amended to include the 06 Nos. of Early Production Units vide EC No. SEIAA.1895/2021/EC/1516 dtd.12.01.2022.

A detailed study has been carried out to assess the impacts of the proposed Oil and Gas production activities in hydrocarbon Block AA-ONHP-2017/1 in Golaghat district in Assam on the existing faunal population including human-Elephant conflict. The government of India enacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 to effectively protect the wildlife of this country and to control poaching, smuggling, and illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. Therefore, the objective of the study was to identify the existing faunal population along with designated which are designated as Schedule-I species as per Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and prepare a Conservation plan to mitigate the Human-Elophant conflict management.

This Human-Elephant Conflict Management and Conservation plan has been prepared as part of the compliance report which is required to be submitted to MoEF&CC for obtaining Stage II Forest Clearance for the proposed well pad no 28 (FC proposal Number: FP/AS/MIN/44360/2020) and Well Pad no 29 (FC proposal Number: FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020.) located within Diphu Reserved Forest in Goleghat District, Assam. Latitude and longitude details of well pad 28 and Well Pad 29 are given in Table 1.

Table 1 Coordinate details of Well Pad No. 28 and well Pad no 29

SINO	Well Pad No	Latitude	Longitude
1	Well Pad No. 28 (FW-001)	26° 0′ 43,775° N	93* 48' 53.130" E
2	Well Pad No. 29 (FW-004)	26" 1" 13,717" N	93" 51" 20.055" E

### Environmental Setting of Block AA-ONHP-2017/1

- Dhansiri River, Dayang River, Rengma River, Yampar nadi and Zubza river are flowing within the block
- Total 38648 ha forest area is located within the AA-ONHP-2017/1.
- . There is no wildtife sanctuary and national park located within the 10 kilometres of the block boundary
- Land use classes with the Block comprise of fellow land agriculture land and forest land
- One Cement manufacturing unit is located in the study area.

### Location of Wells

Vedanta Limited. (Div.: Caim Oil & Gas) proposes to drill 20 No. of Exploratory & appraisal wells within the block boundary of AA-ONHP-2017/1. The proposed well sites were selected based primarily on the geological consideration but the environmental considerations viz. location of sensitive ecological habitats, settlements, schools/ hospitals, water bodies atc. have also been considered. Care had been taken to locate the wells distantly from these receptors. Proper environmental and safety measures would be adopted to minimize feetprints on these receptors.

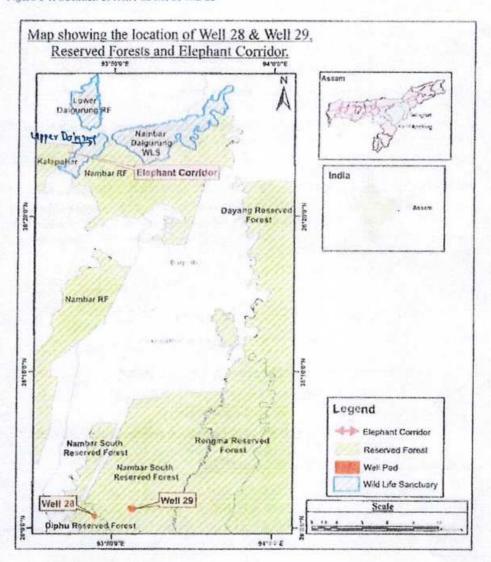
Vedante Limited (Division Caim Oli & Gre)

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Divisional Forest Offices
Golaghat Division

Out of the 20 proposed wells, this management plan covers two well locations i.e Well pad no. 28 and Well Pad no. 29, which are located within the forest area. Beside these, there are also 5 other well locations which are located within the forest area in the same geographic area & block. The exploration and appraisal activities in the rest of the 5 well (Well pad no.12, Well pad no.14, Well pad no.20, Well pad no.21) (coations would be undertaken in near future. Considering the same nature of anticipated impact and thereof proposed mitigation measures, this human- elephant conflict conservation plan has been formulated to cover the future exploratory and appraisal activities in this geographic area. The following figure 1-1 depicts the proposed well locations (i.e well pad no.28 and 29) and figure 1-2 depicts the all seven well locations located within the forest area.

Figure 3-1: Location of Well Pad no. 28 and 29



Vedenta Limited (Division Colm CF & Gps)

Divisional Forest Office Odlaghat Division

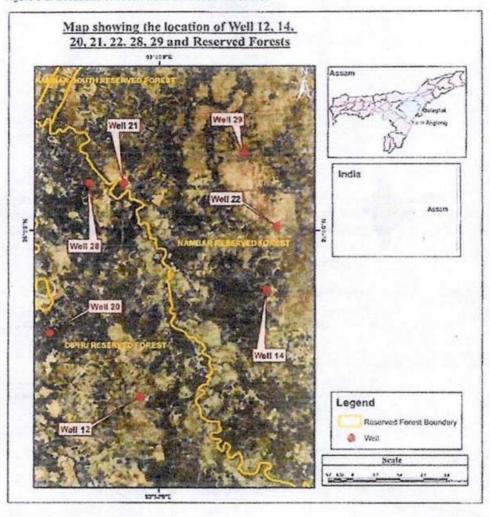


Figure 3-2: Locations of seven wells within the forest Area

### 3.1 Project Cost

Vedanta Limitod (Div.: Caim Oil and Gas) has planned to carry out the proposed project activities in the AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block over a period of 3-5 years. Total project cost for the exploration and early production at the proposed well locations has been estimated at about INR 584 Crores.

> Divisional Forest Offices Golaghat Division

## 3.2 Floral and Faunal Composition of the Area

To prepare the ecological-biodiversity report field visits of the project area have been done within 10 km radius of the periphery of the project site. From this study, a detailed report on floral-faunal status has been prepared. All the direct sightings were recorded during the study period. Also, we have noted the local species name after consultation with local villagers and secondary sources.

### Flora of the Study Area

The floristic baseline was carried out after considering the different habitats present in the study area. Forest types are also identified as per the Champion and Seth Classification, 1967. Forest working Plans of Golaghat, and Karbi Anglong District are also consulted during identification of Forest types.

### Forest Types

The study area falls within the Golaghat and Karbi-Anglong district of Assam. Both districts receive heavy rain fall in the monsoon season and moderate to light rainfall rest the year which. This type of rainfall helps to development of forest area. In Karbi-Anglong district, 76.51% of the Geographic area comes under forest cover whereas in Golaghat District, 18.59% of geographic area falls in the forest area (SoFR, 2017). The Major Forest types which are observed in the study area are Moist Semi Evergreen Forest, Moist mixed Deciduous Forest etc.

### Moist semi-evergreen forests (2BC 1/b and 2 BC)

These types of forests have a mixture of the wat evergreen trees and the moist deciduous trees. This type of forest is widely found in the block area and are covered with trees of commercial importance like Badam, Sopa, Bonsum, Bhola, Gornari, Ponam, Amari, Cham, etc.

### Moist Mixed Deciduous forests (3C/C 3b)

The trees in this category are mostly deciduous with sparkling of few evergreen and semi-evergreen species. Important species includes Albizia species (Siris, Kata siris), Ficus species (Bot, Bor, Dimoru), Careya arborea (Kumtirii), Mallotu species (Senduri, Joral, Dudhloti) and Lagerstroemia species (Jarul, Ajar).

### Riverain Type

This type of forest occupies the localities with alluvial soil of more recent origin in the vicinity of rivers and streams of the district. The common species of importance are Khair, Sissoo, Simul, Urium, Kokoli etc.

### Miscellaneous type with scattered pure or mixed patches of bamboos

Miscellaneous type of forest comprises of Amari, Sopa, Cham, Bonsum, Bogipoma, Gonsoroi, Dhuna and Hingori etc.

### Floristic Species Recorded

A consolidated list of flora species observed in the study area, prepared on the basis of primary survey. Orchids such as Cymbidium alaipholium, Dendrobium aphylium, Rhynchostylis rhetusa, Aerides rosea, Aerides odorata, Bulbophyllum sp. Papilionanth teres, Dendrobium densitlinum and Papilionanthe teres were observed in the study area.

### Trees

Total 44 species of trees have been recorded within the study area. Species belonging to family Moraceae showed highest diversity followed by Fabaceae and Euphorbiaceae. Species such as Tectona grandia. Streblus asper and Sterculia viollosa were commonly seen in the study area. List of tree species observed in the study area is given in Table 2.

Divisional Forest Office Colashat Division

Table 2 List of Tree species observed in the study area

Sr. No.	Botanical name	Local Name /Common Name	Family	IUCN Status*
1	Mangifera indica	Aam	Anacardiaceae	DO
2	Alstenia scholaris	Satwan	Apocynacese	rc
3	Holenhena antidysentenca	Dhulkari	Apocynaceae	Not assessed
4	Wrightie tinctona	Dudni	Аросупассая	LC
5	Wrightla tomentosa	Atkun	Apocynaceae	Not assessed
S	Oroxylum indicum (L.) Kurz	Toguna	Bignoniaceae	Not assessed
7	Bombax cribu L	Dumboil	Bombacaceae	Not assessed
8	Cossia fistulo	Amatas	Fabaceae	LC
3	Senna sp.		Fabaceae	Not assessed
10	Trema orientalis (L.) BL	Indian Charcost Tree	Cannebaceae	Not assessed
11	Alangium chinonso	Chinese Alangium	Cornacede	Not assessed
12	Croton oblangifatius		Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
13	Euphorbia sp.	•	Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
14	Malfotus philipponsis	Kamala tree	Euphorbiaceae	LC
15	Securinega virosa		Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
16	Trevia nudifiora	Many fruited trevia	Euphorbisceae	Not assessed
17	Acacia auriculifornia		Fabaceae	LC
18	Parkia sp.		Fabaceae	Not assessed
19	Pongamia pinnata	korosh	Fabaceae	LC
20	Albizio procera	Tantari asing	Fabasae	LC
21	Erythrina stricta	Shaul Shak	Fabaceae	Not assessed
22	Gmelina arboroa	Gamhar	Lamiaceae	LC
23	Detonix regia	Flamo tree	Loguminocoae	rc
24	Lageratroamia speciosa	Ejar	Lytheracasu	Not assessed
25	Garuga pinnata Roxb.	Pama	Burseraceae	Not assessed
26	Melia azadirach	Bakain	Meliaceae	Not assessed
27	Ficus religiosa	Ahot	Moraceae	LC
28	Artocarpus lakcocha	Schot	Moracege	Not assessed
29	Ficus hispida	Devil fig	Могаселе	LC
30	Strebius asper	Khorua	Moraceae	Not assessed
31	Artocurpus heterophyllus	Jackfruit	Moracage	Not assessed
32	Monus sp		Moracese	Not assessed
33	Psidium guajava		Myrtaceae	Net assessed
34	Glochidion sp.		Phyllanthaceae	Not assessed
35	Phyllanthus acidus		Phyllantheceae	Not assessed
36	Baintiusa sp.		Poeceae	Not assessed
37	Ziziphus jujuba		Rhamnaceae	LC
38	Neclamarckia cadamba	Kadamb	Rubiaceae	Not assessed
39	Murraya koenigii	Bishahari	Rutaceas	Not assessed
40	Murraya sp.		Rutaceae	Not assessed
41	Sterculia villasa	Udel	Sterculaceae	Not assessed

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Sr. No.	Botanical name	Local Name /Common Name	Family	IIJGN Status*
42	Grewia multiflora		Tilaceae	Not assessed
13	Lectona grandis	Sagun	Vurbensceae	Not assessed
44	Vitex negundo	Nirgundi	Verbenscese	Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern; DD- Data Deficient.

#### Shrubs

A total of 15 shrub species have been observed during field survey in study area. Species belonging to Lamiaceae family were found to be higher in the study area followed by Rubiaceae and Verbenaceae. Species such as Lantana camara, Solanum torvum, Cassia tora and Claredendrum viscosum were commonly observed in the study area. I antana Camara is an invasive weed. List of shrub species observed in the study area is given in Table 3.

Table 3 The List of Shrub species observed within the study area

Sr,no	Bolanical name	Common Name/Local Name	Family	IUGN Status*
1	Licusia peltata	Japi Pat	Агьсасвае	Not Assessed
2	Eupatonum odoratum	Motmoti	Asteraceae	Not Assessed
3	Cassia tore	Bon medelus	Cecselpinaccea	Not Assessed
4	Capparis spinosa		Capparoceae	LC
5	Intropha curcas	Bhenda	Euphortiaceae	rc
6	Clerodendrum viscosum	Shetita	Lamiaceae	Not Assessed
7	Clerodendrum sp.		Lamieceae	Not Assessed
5	Hyptis sp		Lamiaceae	Not Assessed
9	Molastoma melabathricum	Photoka	Melastomaceae	Not Assessed
10	txara polyantira	Many-Flowered Ixora	Rubiaceae	Not Assessed
11	Coffea benghalensis	Bongal coffee	Rublaceae	LC
12	Glycosmis pentaphytta	Giri Berry	Rutacese	LC
13	Solanum tarvum	Bhit tha	Solanaceae	Not Assessed
14	Stachytarpheta indica	Kariyartharani	Verbenaceae	LC
15	Lantana camara	Gubon	Verbenaceae	Not Assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern.

### Herbs

A total of 31 species of heros were observed in the study area. Herbs family belonging to Asteraceae was found to be higher, followed by Malvaceae. Species such as *Desmodium trillorum* showed higher diversity followed by *Urena lobate. Evolvulus sp. and Acalypha indica* were commonly observed in the study area. List of herb species observed in the study area is given in Table 4.

Table 4 List of Herbs Species observed in Study area

Sr.no	Potanical name	Family	Common Name/Local Name	IUCN Status*
1	Ruellia tuberosa	Acustiscese	Chalpati	Not assessed
2	Achyranthes aspera	Amaranthuçese	Chaff flower	Not assessed
3	Typhonium trilobatum	Asteraceae		Not assessed

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Sr.nc	Botanical name	Family	Common Name/Local Name	IUCN Status*
4	Ageratum conyzoides	Asteracene	Gest weed	Not assessed
5	Parthenium sp	Asteracoae		Not assessed
6	Parthenium hysterophorus	Asteraceae	Gajor Ghas	Not assessed
7	Parthonium haustorium	Asteraceae		Not assessed
6	Heliotropium indicum	Boraginaceae	Indian helitrope	Not assessed
9	Cassia occidentatis	Caesalpinacese	Hant-thungs •	Not assessed
10	Čassia sp	Causalpinaceae		Not assessed
11	Commelina benghalensis	Commelinaceau	Bengal day flower	Not assessed
12	Evolvulus ap	Convolvulaceae	-1	Not assessed
13	Costus speciosus	Costaceae	Jom lakhut	Not assessed
14	Cyperus rotundus	Cyperaceae	Keyaton	Not assessed
15	Cyperus sp	Cyperaceae		Not assessed
16	Desmodium triflorum	Fabaceae	Kodalia	Not assessed
17	Pogosteman benghalensis	Lamiaceae	Sukleti	Not assessed
18	Acatypha indica	Lamiaceae	Maktojhan	Not assessed
19	Lindernia sp.	Lindomiacose		Not assessed
20	Sidn sp	Malvaceae		Not assessed
21	Urena lobata	Malvateae	Cansarweed	Not assessed
72	Sida acuta	Malvaceae	Mallow	Not assessed
23	Mimosa pudica	Mimosaceae	nilajban	LC
24	Oxalis debilis	Oxalidaceae	Pink wood sorrol	Not assessed
25	Phyllanthus sp	Phylianthaceae		Not assessed
26	Borreria hispida	Rubiacase	Button wood	Not assessed
27	Scoperis dulcis	Scrophulariaceae	Sweet broom wood	Not assessed
28	Solanum indicum	Solanceae	Black berry	Not assessed
29	Chrystella parasitica	Thelypteridaceae		Not assessed
30	Stachytarpheta indica	Verbenacese	Common snake weed	Not assessed
31	Alpinia sp	Zingiberaceae		Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where -LC - Least Concern; DD- Data Deficient

### Climbers

A total of 13 species of climber belonging to 11 families have been recorded from the study area during site visit. Species belonging to Convolvulaceae showed higher diversity followed by Dioscoraceae. List of tree species observed in the study area is given in Table 5.

Table 5 List of Climbers observed in Study Area

Botanical name	Family	Common Name	IUCN Status*
Thunborgki grandiflora	Acanthaceas	Kokua lota	Not assessed
Calamus sp.	Arecaceae		Not assessed
Mikania microntha	Asteraceae	Chinese creeper	Not assessed
Ipamoes digitata	Convolvulaceae	Marring glary	Not assessed
Cuscuta reflexa	Convolvulaceae	Akashi lata	Net assessed
Ipomea sp.	Convolvulacese		Not assessed
	Thunborgia grandiflora Calamus sp. Mikania micrentha Ipomoca digitata Cuscuta reflexa	Thunbergla grandiflora Acanihaceae  Calamus sp. Arecaceae  Mikania micrantha Asteraceae  Ipomoca digitata Convolvulaceae  Cuscuta reflexa Convolvulaceae	Thunbergla grandiflora Acanihaceae Kokua lota  Calamus sp. Arecaceae -  Mikania micrentha Asteraceae Chinese creeper  Ipomoca digitata Convolvulaceae Moming glory  Cuscuta reflexa Convolvulaceae Akasti tala

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Sr.no	Botanical name	Family	Common Name	tUCH Status*
7	Momordica sp.	Cucurbitacese		Not assessed
8	Dioscora sp.	Dioscoraceae		Not assessed
9	Crolon caudatus	Euphorblaceac	Miracle plant	Not assessed
10	Abrus precatonus	Fabaceae	Catumoni	Not assessed
11	Cissampelos pareira	Menispermiaceae	Tubukilota	Not assessed
12	Pyrossia adnescence	Polypodiacese		Not assessed
13	Cayralia trifolia	Vitaceae	Chepeta lota	Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where -LC - Least Concern

### Fauna of the Study Area

The faunal baseline of the study area is based on the species having recorded ranges that include the study area, supported by the primary faunal data recorded during field visit. The following sub-sections provide details of the faunal species reported from or recorded in the study area.

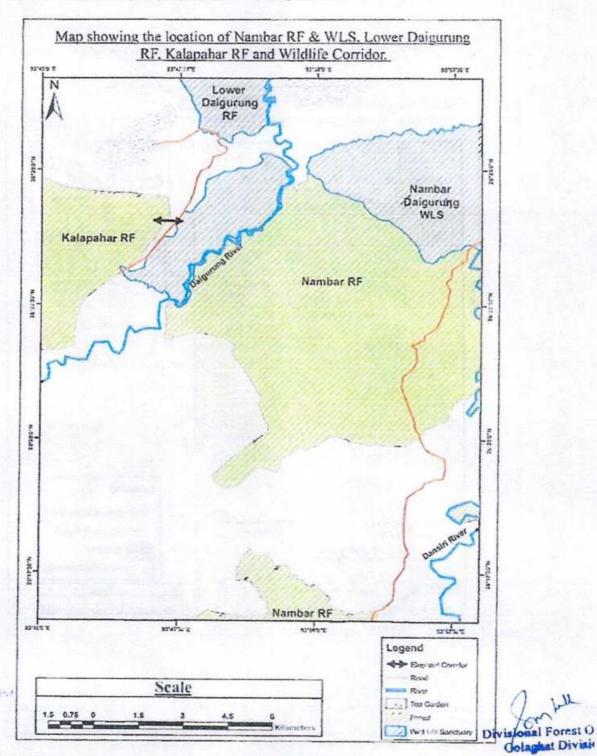
### Elephant Corridor:

One Elephant Corridors falls within the Golaghat district. It is called KALAPAHAR – DAIGURUNG1 (26°24' N, 93°47' E) (Figure 3-3). This corridor is 22 km from Silonijan (Karbi Anglong) on the Silonijan-Chokikhola road, is a small patch of forest located between Soliona and Parolijan Village (Parolijan River). It is encircled by two hills, namely Kalapahar and Risak on either side. This corridor has connectivity with the Kaziranga National Park via Kalioni Reserve Forest. The length and width of the corridor is 2 km. Elephants use this corridor regularly throughout the year. The Kalapahar-Doigurung Elephant Corridor is located at a distance of 43 km (Aerial distance) and 42 km Well pad 29 respectively. Though the project area comes under reserve forest, now it is completely degraded and converted into agricultural lands. The location of the Elephant corridor along with reserve forest is given in Figure 1-4 and 1-5 respectively.

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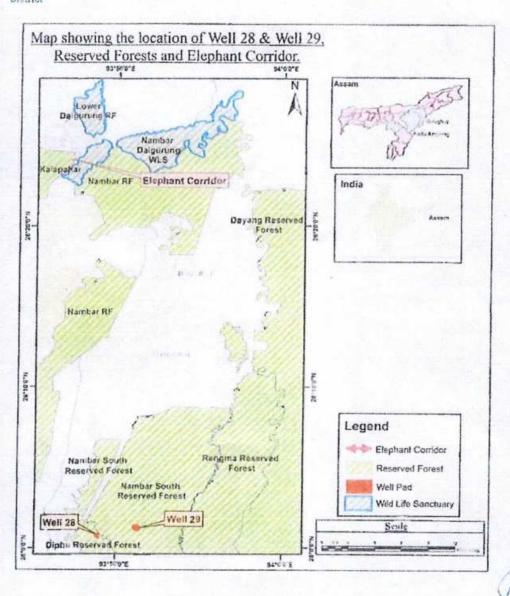
<sup>(</sup>http://www.asiannature.org/sites/default/files/2005%20Menon%20Sukumar%20Right-of-Passage.pdf

Figure 3-4 Kalapahar- Daigurung Elephant Corridor in Golaghat District



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Figure 3-5 Kalapahar- dalgurung Elephant Corridor along with Reserve Forest and well pad in Golaghat District



### Mammats

Among Mammals, only Hoary-beilled squirrel (Callosciurus pygerythrus) was observed in the study area during field visit. The IUCN status of this spacies is Least concern (LC) and as per Wildfife protection Act, 1972, this species is not enlisted in Schedule. However, 62 mammalian species have been reported from the Karbi-Anglong and Goleghat district from different secondary sources such as forest working Plan, peoples Biodiversity registrar,

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Sr. No.	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family	Status*	Schedule as per WPA, 1972**
21	Black Creasted Botbul	Pycnonatus flaviventris	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae	rc	īV .
22	Red-whickered Bulbul	Pycnonotus jocosus	Passenformes	Pycnonotidae	rc	IV .
23	Red Vented Builbul	Pycnonotus cafer	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae	LC	1V
24	Plain Prinia	Prinia inomata	Passenformes	Cisticolidae	LC	IV
25	Great Myna	Acridotheres grandis	Passeriformos	Stumidae	LC	IV
26	Jungle Myna	Acadothems fuscus	Passerformes	Sturnidae	LC	iV
27	Common Myria	Acridothares tristia	Passenformes	Sturnidae	LC	IV
28	Asian Pied Starling	Gracupica contra	Passeriformes	Sturnidae	LC	IV
29	Oriental Magpie Robin	Copsychus saulans	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	LC	1V
30	Black backed Forktail	Enicurus immaculatus	Passeriformes	Musclcapidae	I,C	IV
31	Golden fronted Leafbird	Chioropsis auritrons	Passenformes	Chloropseidae	LC	
32	Purple Sunbird	Cinnyns asiaticus	Passenformes	Nectannidae	LC	IA
33	Crimson Sunbird	Aethopyga siparaja	Passeriformes	Nectariolidae	LC	IV
34	House sparrow	Passer domesticus	Passeriformes	Passendae	LC	-
35	Eurasian Tree Spanow	Passer montanus	Passedformes	Passeridae	LC	
36	Saya Weaver	Ploceus philippinus	Passeriformes	Ploceidae	LC	IV
37	Chestnut Munia	Lonchura malacca	Passeriformes	Estrididae	r.c	IV
38	Indian Pend heron	Ardeola grayii	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	LC	IV
19	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	LC	iv
10	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	LC	IV
11	Lineated Barbet	Megalalma lineata	Piciformes	Mogalaimidae	LC	IV
2	Blue throated Barbot	Magalaima asiatica	Piciformes	Megala midae	LC	īV
3	Alexandrian parakeet	Psitacula eupatria	Psittaciformes	Psittacidae	NT	IV
14	Rase ringed parakoot	Psittacula krameri	Psitaelomes	Psittacidae	rc	IV
5	Blossom Headed parakeet	Psittacula rosesto	Psittaciformas	Psittacidae	NT	N
6	Red Breasted parekeet	Psittacula alexandri	Psittaciformes	Psittacidae	NT	IV
7	Asian Barred cwlet	Glaucidium cuculoides	Strigiformes	Strigidae	LC	IV
8	Spotted owlet	Athene brama	Strigiformes	Singidae	LC	IV
9	Asian Palm Swift	Cypsiarus balasiensis	Straiformes	Apodidae	LC	IV

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern NT – Near Threatened; Vu – Vulnerable; EN – Endangered \*\*Status assigned by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, where I – V are the schedules.

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scientific literatures etc. Though there are recorded ranges of Asian Etephant in and around the project area, however during field visit and consultation with the local people have not confirmed any elephant presence record in the area. The list of mammalian species which is observed in the study area is given in Table 6.

Table 6 Mammalian Species observed in the Study Area

Sr. No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family	IUCN Status	WPA 1972 Schedule
1	Hoary - belied Squirrel	Callosclurus pygerythrus	Sciundae	rc	-

LC: Least Concerned (IUCN), EN: Engandered (IUCN), Sch. I: 1972- Schedule I, Sch. II: - Schedule II (Wildlife protection Act, 1972)

#### Avifauna

Total 49 avian species have been observed in the study area. Among the avian species Alexandrian parakeet (Psittacula eupatria), Biossom Headed parakeet (Psittacula rosoate) and Red Breasted parakeet (Psittacula elexandri) are Near Threatened species according to IUCN red data Book. No other globally threatened avian species has been observed in the study area. Detailed checklist of birds observed in the study area is given in Table-7.

Table 7 List of Avifauna observed in the Study Area

Sr. No.	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family	IUCN Storage	Schedule as per WPA, 1972**
1	Oriental Honey buzzard	Pemis ptilorhynchus	Accipitriformes	Accipitridae	LC	
2	Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilomis cheela	Accipitationnes	Accipitridae	LC	-
3	Red-wattled lapwing	Vancilus indicus	Charadriformes	Charadrildae	LC	
4	Common Pigeon	Columba livia	Columbiformes	Columbides	LC	
5	Spotted Dove	Stigmatopelia Chinensis	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	IV
6	Thick billed Green Pigeon	Treron curvirostra	Columbiformes	Columbidae	rc	IV
7	Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	īV
5	Indian Roller	Coraclas benghulensis	Coraciformes	Coracildae	LC	IV
9	White throated Kingfisher	Haloyon smyrnensis	Coraciformes	Alcedinidao	i,C	IV
10	Common Hawk Cuckoo	Hierococcyx varius	Cuculiformes	Cuculidas	LC	IV
11	White-breasted waterheri	Amauromis phoenicums	Gruformes	Rallidao	LC	IV
12	Scarlet Minivot	Perigracolus apeciosus	Passenformes	Campephagidae	LC	iV
13	Long tailed Shrike	lanius schach	Passenformes	Laniidae	LC	
4	Spangled Drongo	Dicrurus hottetettus	Passeriformes	Dicruridae	LC	IV
5	Black Orongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Passenformes	Dicrundae	LG	(V
6	Black Hooded ericle	Onolus xanthomus	Passerformes	Oriolidae	LC	IV
7	Rufous Treepie	Dendrucitta vagabunda	Passeriformes	Corvidae	LC	īV
8	Eastern Jungle Crow	Coryus fevillantii	Passeriformes	Corvidae	LC	IV
9	Floure Crow	Corvus splendens	Pasaeriformes	Corvidae	LC	IV
0	Great Tit	Parus major	Paesenformes	Paridae	LC	IV

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### Conservation Plan for Indian Elephant (Elephas maximus indicus)

#### 3.4 General Information

The Indian elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*) is one of three extant recognized subspecies of the Asian elephant and native to maintand Asia. Historically, Elephas maximus had a geographic range of 9 million square kilometres across a large part of Asia. This range extended as far west as current-day Iraq, as far north as the Yangtze River in China, and across the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, including the islands of Sri Lanka and Sumatra (Indonesia). The current geographic range is 500,000 square kilometres, which is only about 5% of the historical range (Sukumar 2003). This range consists of small discontinuous areas in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia. Indian elephants may spend up to 19 hours a day feeding, and they can produce about 220 pounds of dung per day while wandering over an area that can cover up to 125 square miles. This helps to disperse germinating seeds. They feed mainly on grasses, but large amounts of tree bark, roots, leaves, and small stems are also eaten. Cultivated crops such as bananas, rice, and sugarcane are favoured foods as well. Since they need to drink at least once a day, these elephants are always close to a source of freshwater.

#### Classification

Table 8 Classification of Indian Elephant (Elephas maximus Indicus)

Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Marnmalia
Order	Proboscidea
Family	Elephantidae
Genus	Elephas
Species	maximus
Subspecies	E. m. indicus

#### 3.5 Physical Description

Elophas maximus is one of the largest terrestrial organisms. However, Asian elephants are smaller than African elephants and they have the highest body point on the head, Asian elephants have grey skin that is covered with hair. In adults, this hair is sparse, while calves have thicker brown hair. The body length ranges from 550 to 640 cm. The trunk is a distinctive feature of the elephant family (Elephantidae). There is a large degree of sexual dimorphism in elephants. The males are much larger than the females. Males have a height of 240 to 300 cm with a body mass of 3,500 to 6,000 kg. Females are 195 to 240 cm in height with a body mass of 2,000 to 3,500 kg. Males have tusks which are an elongation of the second upper incisors, while females tack tusks. Asian elephants have one finger-like projection at the tip of the trunk and have large flat ears. They have four hooves on the hindfoot (Sukumar 2006; Daniel 1998).

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#### 3.5.1 Habitat

Asian elephants five in a variety of habitats in the tropical region, including grasslands, tropical overgreen forests, moist deciduous forests, and scrub forests. They typically live in elevations from sea level to 3,000 meters, but elephants that live near the Himalaya Mountains sometimes move up higher than this range in hot weather.

#### 3.5.2 Behaviour

An elephant is a nomadic species, that can climb hills easily but are not able to jump and their fastest speed is approximately 32 km/hour. They are diumal and nocturnal because of the amount of time needed to spend searching for food to sustain their targe bodies. They spend 12 to 18 hours searching for and eating food and eat 10% of their body mass daily. Due to their large body size, the elephants are warm up quickly. Thus, during the hottest hours of the day, they are less active, spend time in shady areas, bathe frequently, submerge themselves in water to cool down, and use their trunk to spray water or saliva on themselves. Also, they flap their ear to got rid of excess heat and there is a positive correlation between the frequency of ear flapping and the temperature of the environment.

The females and offspring live together in a group, while the males live in smaller groups or atone. A clan consists of related females and their offspring with strong social bonds and is usually between 5 and 20 individuals in size. I arger groups are formed when clans loosely join. These groups form and break apart depending on the season, habitat, and other conditions. After males reach sexual maturity, they leave the group to live solitary or in small groups with other males with loose social bonds. Males are found with the larger groups when they are trying to mate with a female. There is combat and a dominance hierarchy for males that affects their ability to mate (Kurt & Garai 2007).

#### 3.5.3 Food Habits

Asian elephants are herbivores. Their diet consists of different plants, including bamboo, sugarcane, crops, roots of trees, flowers, fruit, seeds, grains, and the bark of trees. The trunk is important for the diversity of food habits in the elephant because it allows the elephant to grasp many types of food.

#### 3.5.4 Predation

The only predators of Elephas maximus are Bengal tigers (Panthers tigris), which attack calves. Adult elephants are very large and have tusks making it dangerous for predators to attack. To avoid predation, younger elephants stay towards the centre of a group, which provides protection.

#### 3.5.5 Reproduction

Asian elephants are polygynous, and males are competing for female selection, so not all sexually mature meles will be able to bread. A female in estrus is fertile and receptive to mating with males in musth. Females use auditory, visual, and chemical signals to indicate to males that they are in estrus. Musth is yearly and asynchronous, occurring at varying times of the year for different males. They breed every 4 to 5 years. Normally a female gives birth to one offspring each breeding season. The gestation period is usually 18 to 23 weeks. The average birth mass is 100 kg. The typical age of independence is 5 years. Females usually become sexually mature at 10 to 15 years old, but this can vary greatly depending on the environment, in general, well-nourished individuals become sexually active at an earlier age. Males become sexually active at around the same age as females, 10 to 15 years old.

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#### 3.5.6 Present threats

- Habitat fragmentation and habitat degradation due to encroachment of forest areas for non-forest activities, settlements etc.
- 2. Habitat loss/ alteration of forest area due to increase of agricultural activities.
- Expansion and development of the existing road networks increases number as well as the average speed of the vehicles which ultimately endanger the movement of the elephant.
- Illegal captures for poaching and wildlife trading are also a significent factor in contributing the decline of the species.
- Loss of genetic viability resulting from small, isolated population increases higher risk of becoming wiped out due to disasters, diseases, inbreeding.

The consequences of above-mentioned threats ultimately give rises to human-elephant conflict which is one of the most challenging problems in terms of future survival of elephants, elephant management and conservation.

#### 3.6 Potential Impacts

Potential impact on Ecological environment i.e impacts on existing Floral and faunal diversity is envisaged particularly during Site preparation phase and operation phase. The potential impacts on terrestrial Ecology in Site preparation and operational phase are given below.

#### Source of Impact:

The Potential Impacts on the existing floral and faunal diversity may arise due to following activities

- Vegetation Clearance.
- Generation of Noise and Illimitation from Site.

#### Impact Assessment:

#### Vegetation Clearance

The vegetation observed within the study area is common to these climatological conditions and no endangered floral species are observed. Further the distribution of vegetation is scattered in nature. Although the proposed well add are located within the reserved forest area, the present land use can be classified as agricultural land and homestead plantation. Clearance of vegetation for site preparation would be required during site preparation. However, considering the area of the well pad area and approach road, the impact of the vegetation clearance can be considered as low, and no habitation loss is envisaged for this activity.

#### Generation of Noise and Illumination from site

It is anticipated that noise would be generated particularly during the site preparation period and various operational activities from the drilling site. It is expected to get attenuated to baseline level of noise within 200-300 m from the proposed drilling locations. It is also found during the field visit that there is no ecologically sensitive area such as National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary within the Block area, the potential impacts on existing wildlife due to generation of noise can be considered as low.

It is envisaged that the drift site would be illuminated during both construction and operational phase as drifting will be conducted continuously for 24 hrs and thus may cause significant disturbance to local faunal population.

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#### 3.7 Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

- Loss of vegetational cover i.e tree cutting activity for preparation of well pad and approach road should be minimized as far as possible.
- The project site shall be properly fenced (chain-linked) to restrict the entry of wild animals within the well-pad, particularly during night-time.
- The borrow areas and quarries shall be located away from forests and ecologically sensitive areas.
- No temporary electric supply connection line from the grid shall be laid for the proposed project activity. All-electric requirements will be supplied from the internal DG sets.
- Appropriate shading of lights would be ensured to prevent unwanted scattering of light from the drilling site particularly during night-time.
- Movement of the heavy vehicles shall be restricted in the night-time, as most of the mammals' movement occurred during the night-time.
- Drill cutting & other drilling waste would not be deposited near or within the forest area.
- Discharge of wastewater from the drilling site shall not be taken place near the forest areas.
- > All the wastes shall be collected and treated as per the standard industrial practice.
- Proper signages and board in the local language would be installed at the established animal comdor, if any, near the drilling location.
- No temporary campsite would be constructed within the forest area and a minimum distance from the edge of the forest would be maintained.
- Clearance of vegetations, present in and around the project site, for cooking, burning, or healing purposes by the labourers should be prohibited and suitable alternatives such as kerosene shall be made available to the labourers for this purpose.
- No procurement of fuelwood and other resources from the forest area for preparation or cooking of food in the campsite.

#### Control of Noise

- Noise Levels at the drift site would be controlled as much as possible by using proper noise attenuating measures.
- Installing acoustic enclosures and muffler on engine exhaust of DG sets to ensure compliance with generator noise limits specified by CPCB. Selection and use of tow noise generating equipment equipped with angineering controls viz. mufflers, silencers etc would be encouraged.
- All vehicles utilized in transportation of raw material and personnel would have valid Pollution under Control Certificate (PUC).
- All high noise generating equipment will be identified and subjected to periodic preventive maintanance.
- No night-time operation of vehicles and construction activities will be undertaken.
- Engines of vehicles and construction equipment will be turned off when not in use for long periods.
- Restrict all noise-generating operations, except drilling, to daytime.
- Periodic monitoring of noise levels on-site and nearby receptors to ensure compliance with Noise Pollution (Regulation 8 Control) Rules 2000.

Divisional Forest Office Golaghat Division

#### 3.8 Action Plan for the Conservation of Elephant

The following actions plans should be taken as a priority for future survival and conservation of Asian Elephants.

- The plantation activity in the nearby villages will be undertaken under the guidance of the concerned Divisional Forest Department.
- 2. Fencing will be developed around the well pad and campsite to stop any encounter with wild elephants.
- Installation of road signage along the roadside depicting the maximum speed limit of vehicles near the project site.
- 4. Regular vigitance over the movement of elephants by Forest Department and early warnings of elephants moving towards habitation area is much required in conflict prone areas. Kunki elephants are very much effective and can be used in driving away wild elephants from human habitation and crop fields.
- 5. Creation of awareness program among working personnel involved in the project activity.
- Conduction of awareness program for project personnel associated with transportation, to ensure that
  they follow the rules properly and drive slowly in the Elephant corridor and forest area;
- Arrangement of Van Mahotsav, Wildlife week, World Biodiversity Conservation Day etc. to aware people
  of the importance of elephants in association with the Local Forest Department.
- Conservation message about the Elephant during awareness programs like ratiles, student competitions, community meetings, training workshops,
- Create awareness among local people, villagers, district administrative staff and forest personnel, NGOs, and educational institutes for the protection and research.
- Use successful preventive measures (eg. trip alarm, chilli fences, and early warning system) to prevent entry of elephants.
- Carryout periodic national elephant population survey to monitor elephant population abundance and distribution across landscapes in study area.
- Assess impact of developmental activities including land use change on elephant population, its migratory routes and corridors.
- Conduct economic valuation in elephant habitats and communicate the ecosystem services coming out from elephant habitats.
- 14. Prevent poaching and illegal trade of elephant parts and products.

Divisional Forest Office Golaghat Division

and the same



### 3.9 Budget for Conservation Activity

A budgetary estimate has been proposed for Wildlife Conservation Plan for two wells (i.e Well number 28 and 29) for 5 years under the following heads:

Table 9 Estimated Budget for Wildlife Conservation

N.	Budget Head	Year wise financial budget (Rs. IN Lakh.)					akh.)
		1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	4th Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Total
	Food Management					-	11.03
	Forest Habitat enrichment with plantation of fodder and fruit bearing plants	5	5	5	4	4	23
2	Water Management						
	Renovation, maintenance and building of water holes, ponds, solar power borewells within the forest area	6	6	4	3	3	22
3	Habitat Management						
	Removal of Invasive species, weeds; Protection of the grassland	3	3	2	2	2	12
	Plantation for shelter of Elephant	5	5	5	4	.4	23
	Controlled Forest fire and fire protection	3	3	3	3	3	15
4	Conflict Mitigation Management		-				
	Regular Patrolling and monitoring elephant movement in and around the project area (Anti- depredation squads, vehicles required for patrolling)	10	10	10	10	10	50
	Maintenanco/Building of watch tower nearby villages	2	2	2	2	2	10
	Site Specific Mitigation measures (i.e., construction of Fencing, Wall etc)	5	5	5	5	5	25
5	Training and awareness programme						
	Awareness programme in school and villages	4	4	4	4	4	20
	Training programme to the local communities for Strengthening people's participation in Human- elephant conflict mitigation	3	3	3	3	3	15
8	Eco Development of Conflict Prone Villages					To a	
	Renovation, maintenance of pond, dam, check point	4	4	4	4	4	20
	Installation of solar streetlamp in elephant affected villages	3	3	3	3	3	15
- 1	Total	52	52	En	47	479	

Chief Wildlife Warden Assam Guwahati-37

Vedanta Limited (Division Calm Oil & Cray

Divisional Forest Offices Geleghet Division

237



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e-mail: dfo.s/golaghat@gmail.com

Letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/2221-22

Dated. 29/12/2023.

To.

The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC Act)
O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests &
Head of Forest Force, Assam, Panjabari, Ghy-37.

Sub:

Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for proposal for forest diversion of 4.125 Ha. forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of Well Pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref:

Govt. Of India's letter No. F. No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dtd 07/07/2023 and CCF & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF. Assam vide letter No.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to submit/ furnish herewith the compliance report of conditions stipulated in the "In-Principal Approval", conveyed by the Govt. of India, Guwahati vide letter under reference regarding proposal for diversion of 4.125 Ha. Of forest land for Oil and Gas Exploration development and production of Well Pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department. SI. Conditions Stipulated by MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati In-Compliance by Vedanta Principal Approval No. The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in Replied by the User Agency that: the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal, Demand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated been issued from the office of DFO. Golaghat vide letter 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been vide letters no. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of Challan is 3/2011-FC(Vol-1) dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be enclosed as Annexure-1. transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net State concerned. Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM. Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2. Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Ponal. Attached as Annexure 3. 2. The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining Replied by the User Agency that: the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in Demand note for the amount of INR 70.08,360.00 has consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of been issued from the office of DFO. Golaghat vide letter CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/4814 dated scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been increase for works scheduled for subsequent years. generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of Challan is enclosed as Annexure-1. The fund of INR 70.08.360.00 towards raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation along with 50% Over Head cost of INR35.04.180.00 to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM. Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2. Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Attached as Annexure 3.

3.	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal ( <a href="http://parivesh.nic.in/">http://parivesh.nic.in/</a> ). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	Total fund of INR 2,76,57,752.00 towards NPV fund raising & maintaining CA land and Wildlife conservation has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777 UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 a 05:32:09 PM.
4.	The non-forest land/Village Reserve Forest proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/ PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under section 4 or section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval;	Mutation of CA Land and subsequently the notification declaring non-forest land to RF/PF is in progress.
5.	The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/).	Replied by the User Agency that: Compliance report will be uploaded on e-portal
6.	The KML files of the area to be diverted and CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before submitting compliance report for seeking State-II approval;	(http://parivesh.nic.in/) To be complied with.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Demand note for the amount of INR 1,25.38.000.00 has been issued from the office of PCCF & CWLW vide letter no. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal.
		The fund of 1,25,38,000.00 INR has been allocated towards mitigation plan for Human Elephant Conflict. Fund has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.
8.	The State Govt. shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigation measures envisaged in Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time	To be complied with by state govt.
9,	The State govt, shall submit Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt. of Assam along with detail cost of its implementation.	The Human Elephant/Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan against the Well Pad No. 28 & 29 had already been submitted by Golaghat Division to the PCCF (WL.) & CWLW, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37 vide this office letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/2114-16, dtd. 11/12/2023.
10.	The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the District Collector.	Replied by the User Agency that:  The certificate from District Collector has been granted under compliance of Forest Right Act, 2006 (FRA) vide letter no. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-I/2017/128&129 dtd. 5-1-2022. Copy of certificate is enclosed for your reference as Annexure-3.
11.	The user Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act. 1986.	Replied by the User Agency that: Environmental Clearance (EC) has been obtained for the site vide EC letter no. SEIAA,1251/2020/EC/1476 dtd. 28.07.21.
12.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.	Copy of EC letter is enclosed as Annexure-4.  An amount of Rs. 1,28,790.00 had been deposited in the account of DFO vide UTR no. CMS/001301430719/CMS3652452208, dated 18.10.2023. The boundary of the diverted forest land had been suitably

13.	Any observation to the Transaction of the Transacti	demarcated. The photographs of the same are enclosed berewith.
	Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.;	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no. 24 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter I of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act. 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no. 18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

B. Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:

SI. No.	Conditions Stipulated by MoEF & CC, IRO, Guwahati In- Principal Approval	
1.	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged:	Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 1 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat
2.	The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of non-forest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No. 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 2 o "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of wel pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golagha
3.	At the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 3 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
4.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 4 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
5.	The period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 5 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golapha.
7.	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.	Division"  Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 6 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	The user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labors and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 7 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Collaboration
8.	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any agency, department or person without approval of the Central Government;	Division  Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 8 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land

		for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat
9.	No damages to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused;	Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 9 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for. Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat
10.	changed without the prior approval of the Central Government:	Division"  Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 10 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
11.	surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 11 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
12.	Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 12 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
13.	The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 13 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambur Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 14 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
15.	The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 15 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
16.	The user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt, and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed:	Reptied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 16 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
17.	The user agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Govt., concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year; and	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 17  of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
18.	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land

	comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.	pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghar
19,	The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines Hon'ble court order(s) and NGT order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.	Replied by the User 1
20.	All other clearance/ NOCs underdifferent applicable rules/ regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC(Pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.	Replied by the User Agency that: Undertaking furnished in point no. 20 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
21.	This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 21 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
22.	Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt, shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 22 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
23.	As per Ministry's letter no. 11-30/96-FC(Pt)dt. 14.09.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited from the state govt. for more than 5 (five) years, the in-principle approval would be summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.	Replied by the User Agency that:  Vedanta agreed the Undertaking furnished in point no. 23 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: 3 sets of compliance report.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Copy to The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Memo. No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29 /Glt. Divn/2023/5648

Dtd. 29/12/2023.

Copy to The Deputy General Manager-Environment, Vedanta Ltd. Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas), ASF Centre Tower Tower, Udyog Vihar, Gurugram, Harayana for favour of his kind information

> Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat



\$ 2/14 23 Veter.



Date: 18-12-2023

Ref: AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/02

To The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division, Golaghat, Assam.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and gas exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited: - Submission of evidence towards payments w.r.t compliance of conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval – regd.

Ref.: 1) In-Principle Approval (Stage-1) Letter no.3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07.07.2023. 2) Our earlier submission letter no. AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/01 dated 12.12.2023.

Respected Sir,

With reference to above mentioned subject and our earlier letter submission for the compliance of conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval. In continuation of our earlier submission, we are hereby submitting the evidence/ details towards the payment for NPV, CA Scheme & Wildlife Conservation are as follows:

S. No. as stipulated in Stage-1 approval	Conditions stipulated in Stage-1 approval	Compliance by user agency
1.	The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters no. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-1_ dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through an online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned.	Complied.  Damand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as Annexure-1.  The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account has been done through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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Registered Office: Vedanta Limited, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 'C' wing, Unit 103, Corporate Avenue, Atul Projects, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbal - 400093, Maharashtra, India | T +91 22 664 34500 | F +91 22 664 34500 | www.vedantalimited.com





		Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.
		Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as <b>Annexure-3</b> .
2.	The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;	Damand note for the amount of INR 70,08,360.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as Annexure-1.
7		The fund of INR 70,08,360.00 towards raising and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation alongwith 50% Over Head cost of INR 35,04,180.00 to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.
	e e	Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.  Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as Annexure-3.
3.	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	Complied.  Total fund of INR 2,76,57,752.00 towards NPV fund, raising & maintaining CA land and Wildlife conservation has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/ UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.  Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human	Complied.  Damand note for the amount of INR 1,25,38,000.00 has been issued from the office of PCCF & CWLW vide letter no.

VEDANTA LIMITED

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Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.

WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023. Online Challan for the payment has been generated through Parivesh portal. Copy of challan is enclosed as **Annexure-1**.

The fund of 1,25,38,000.00 INR has been allocated towards mitigation plan for Human Elephant Conflict. Fund has been transferred to CAMPA account through RTGS vide UTR no. RTGS/ICICR22023121400916777/UBIN0996335/ASSAM CAMPA dated 14/12/2023 at 05:32:09 PM.

Payment details are enclosed as Annexure-2.

Payment status shows 'paid' on Parivesh Portal. Screenshot is attached as Annexure-3.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Enclosure: As above

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

Cairn Oil & Cas: ASF Center Tower A, 362-363, Jwala Mill Road, Phase IV, Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Gurugram - 122016, Haryana, India T +91 124 459 3000 | F +91 124 414 5612 | www.cairnindia.com

Registered Office: Vedanta Limited, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 'C' wing, Unit 103, Corporate Avenue, Atul Projects, Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai – 400093, Maharashtra, India | T +91 22 664 34500 | F +91 22 664 34530 | www.vedantalimited.com





#### Annexure-1: Copy of online Challan generated through Parivesh Portal

AGENCY COL

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NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date: 13-12-2023

Agency Name.	M/s Vedanta Limited(Division Cairn Oil & Gas)
Application No.	5844361622
MoEF/SG File No.	3-AS-B-106/2022/GHY
Location.	ASSAM
Address.	Cairn Oil & Gas, Vedanta Limited, DLF Atria, DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122002Gurgaon
Amount(in Rs)	27657752/-

Amount in Words: Two Crore Seventy-Six Lakh Fifty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Rupees: Only

### NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	ASSAM CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UBIN0996335
Pay to Account No.	150615844361622 Valid only for this challan amount.
Bank Name & Address:	Union Bank Of India FCS Centre,21/1, III Floor, Jelitta Towers, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560027

 This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only









NEFT / RTGS CHALLAN for CAMPA Funds

Date: 13-12-2023

Agency Name.	M/s Vedanta Limited(Division Cairn Oil & Gas)
Application No.	5844361622
MoEF/SG File No.	3-AS-B-106/2022/GHY
Location.	ASSAM
Address:	Cairn Oil & Gas, Vodanta Limited, DLF Atria, DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122002 Gurgaon
Amount(in Rs)	27657752/-

Amount In Words: Two Crore Seventy-Six Lakh Fifty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Two Rupees Only

### NEFT/RTGS to be made as per following details;

Beneficiary Name:	ASSAM CAMPA
IFSC Code:	UB N0996335
Pay to Account No.	150615844361622 Valid only for this challan amount.
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 This Challan is strictly to be used for making payment to CAMPA by NEFT/RTGS only



#### **VEDANTA LIMITED**

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#### Annexure-2: Payment Transaction Details

Date & Time of Transaction	Date	UTR No.	Amount
14/12/2023 05:32:09 PM	14/12/2023	RTGS/ICICR2202312140 0916777/UBIN0996335/ ASSAM CAMPA	2,76,57,752.00



#### VEDANTA LIMITED

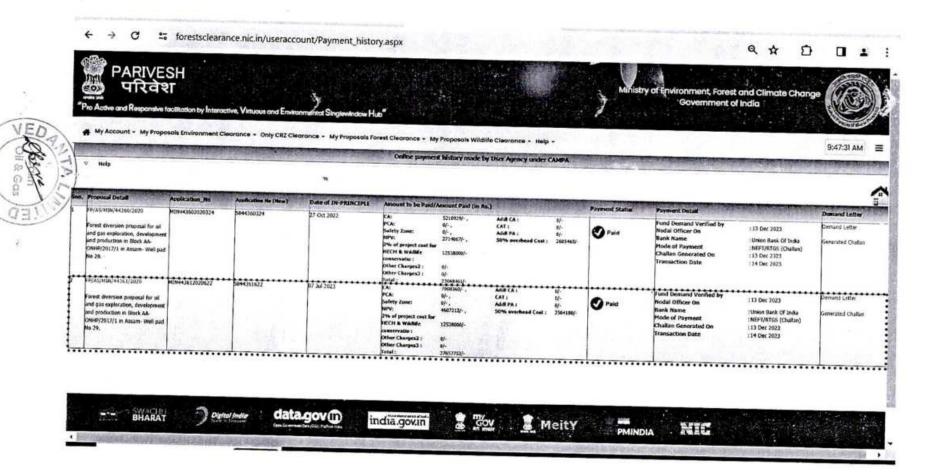
Cairn Oil & Cas: ASF Center Tower A, 362-363, Jwala Mill Road, Phase IV. Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Gurugram - 122016, Haryana, India T +91 124 459 3000 | F +91 124 414 5612 | www.cairnindia.com

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### Annexure-3: Payment Status on Parivesh Portal



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CIN: LI32O9MHI965PLC291394



A4 12/23



Date: 12-12-2023

Ref: AA-1/FC/WP29/Stage-1/01

To The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division Golaghat, Assam

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and gas exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited: -Submission of compliance to the conditions stipulated under In- Principle (Stage-I) approval – regd.

Ref.: In-Principle Approval (Stage-1) Letter no.3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 7th July, 2023 (copy enclosed).

Respected Sir,

With reference to above mentioned subject, we are pleased to submit the pointwise compliance of conditions stipulated in Stage-I approval for diversion of forest land for your kind perusal and favourable action.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Caim Oil & Gas

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Enclosure: As above

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

Cairn Oil 6- Gas: ASF Center Tower A, 362-363, Jwala Mill Road. Phase IV, Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Gurugram - 122016, Haryana, India T +91 124 459 3000 | F +91 124 414 5612 | www.cairnindia.com

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#### Compliance of conditions

 Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by State Forest Department.

S. No. as stipulated in Stage-1 approval	approv <sub>4</sub> i	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters no. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-1 dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through an online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned	Damand note for the amount of INR 46,07,212.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1A.  The fund transfer of INR 46,07,212.00 towards Net Present Value (NPV) to CAMPA account through NEFT is in advanced stage.
2.	The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation at current stage wage rate in consultation with the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned State through online portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for anticipated cost increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;	Damand note for the amount of INR 70,08,360.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814 dated 07/11/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1A.  The fund of INR 70,08,360.00 towards raising
3.	All the feet of	and maintaining the Compensatory Afforestation to CAMPA account through NEFT is in advanced stage.
<b>5</b> .	All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through e-portal ( <a href="http://parivesh.nic.in/">http://parivesh.nic.in/</a> ). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the State-I clearance.	To be Complied with.  All funds such as NPV fund, raising and maintaining CA land to be deposited to CAMPA account through NEFT are in advanced stage.
.,*,	The non-rorest land proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/ PF prior to Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest land under section 4 or section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under	To be complied with.  Mutation of CA Land and subsequently the notification declaring non-forest land to RF/PF is in progress.

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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	the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Govt. prior to Stage-II approval;	•
5.	The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (http://parivesh.nic.in/).	
6.	The KML files of the area to be diverted and CA areas shall be uploaded on the e-Green watch portal with all requisites details before submitting compliance report for seeking State-II approval;	To be complied with.
7.	The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.	Damand note for the amount of INR 1,25,38,000.00 has been issued from the office of PCCF & CWLW vide letter no. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn. dated 30/11/2023
		The detailed Human-Elephant Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan has also been submitted to DFO, Golaghat for approval vide letter no. WLCP/AA-1/3 dtd. 04.12.2023. the same has been forwarded to the office of CWLW by DFO vide letter no. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt.Divn/2023/2114-16 dated 11/12/2023. Copy of plan alongwith letter is enclosed as Annexure-2.
8.	The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigation measures envisaged in Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.	To be complied with by state govt.
9.	The State govt. shall submit Human Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt of Assam along with detail cost of its	To be complied with by state govt.

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Oil & Gas





	implementation.	
10.	The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way prescribed certificate from the District Collector.	Complied.  The certificate from District Collector has been granted under compliance of Forest Right Act, 2006 (FRA) vide letter no. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-I/2017/128 & 129 dtd. 5-1-2022. Copy of certificate is enclosed for your reference as Annexure-3.
11.	The user Agency shall obtain Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act 1986.	Environmental Clearance (EC) has been obtained for the site vide EC letter no. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/1476 dt. 28.07.21. Copy of EC letter is enclosed as Annexure-4.
12.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.	Complied.  Damand note for the amount of INR 82,251.00 has been issued from the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt.Divn/2023/3347 dated 24/07/2023. Copy enclosed as Annexure-1C.
		The amount of 1,28,790.00 INR has been deposited in the account of DFO vide UTR no. CMS/001301430719/CMS3652452208 dated 18.10.2023 at 06:31:08 PM.
13.	Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.;	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no.24 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no.18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"



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B. Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approvals:

S. No.	Conditions	Compliance
1.	Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point so. 1 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
2.	The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of nonforest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No. 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.	undertakings for diversion of 4.25 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division*
3.	At the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in grant no. 3 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4 125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
4.	The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no 4 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
5.	The period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period coterminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;	Agreed.  Undertaking furnished in point no. 5 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
6.	No labour camp shall be established on the forest land.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 6 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
7.	The user agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labors and	Agreed TA L

#### VEDANTA LIMITED

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CIN: LI32O9MHI965PLC29I394





	the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;	undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
8.	The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any agency, department or person without approval of the Central Government;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 8 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
9.	No damages to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 9 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
10.	The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 10 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
11.	The user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 11 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
12.	Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 12 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
13.	The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 13 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
14.	Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 14 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under

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15.	The concerned Divisional Farest Off	Golaghat Division"
	monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area;	Undertaking furnished in point no. 15 of "Al undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha o forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well page No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
16.	The user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed;	Undertaking furnished in point no. 16 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
17.		Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 17 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 18 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
19.	The user agency shall comply with all the provisions of all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines Hon'ble court order(s) and NGT order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 19 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
	All other clearance/, NOCs under different applicable rules/ regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Aci, 2006 as required vide MoEF,	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 20 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration

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	New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC(Pt) dated 03.08.200 shall be complied with.	development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
21.	This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 21 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
22.	Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 22 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"
23.	and the Constitution of Constitution and Constitution of Const	Agreed. Undertaking furnished in point no. 23 of "All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"



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Cairn Oil & Gas: ASF Center Tower A, 362-363, Jwala Mill Road, Phase IV, Udyog Vihar, Sector 18, Curugram - 122016, Haryana, India T +91 124 459 3000 | F +91 124 414 5612 | www.cairnindia.com

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e-mail: dfo.t.golaghafa gmail.com

Letter No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/4214

Dated, 07/11/2023.

Te.

The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited (Division Cairn oil &Gas), DLF Phase-2. DLF City, Gurgaou, Haryana-122002.

Compliance of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for forest diversion Sub: proposal of 4.125 Ha. forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

1.CCF & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam vide letter Ref. No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd /Well Pad No.28/Golaghat Divn. dtd. 29.09.2023. 2.0/o the Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle vide letter No. FG.24/Diversion Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Genl/EAC dtd. 04/11/2023.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that the Govt. of India, MoEF & CC, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati- 22 has conveyed the "In Principal Approval" for forest diversion proposal for 4.125 ha. of forest land for Oil & Gas exploration, development and production of Well Pad No. 29 of M/s Vedanta Limited in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division.

In this regard, I would like to request you to transfer/deposit to Compensatory Afforestation fund of Assam State managed by the Ad-hoc CAMPA only through e-portal (https://panvesh.nic.in/). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted.

You are also requested to communicate the same along with a list of documents, certificates and undertakings in compliance with the conditions stipulated in the "In Principle Approval" for Final

P	Approval (Stage -II clearance).	=	Rs.	46,07,212.00
i.	Net present Value @ Rs. 11,16,900/- lakhs per Ha. For 4.125		1	
	ha.	=	Rs.	70,08,360,00
ii	Compensatory Afforestation		Rs.	35,04,180.00
iii	50% Over Head Cost	-	NS.	
	Total		Rs.	1,51,19,752.00

(Rupees One erore, fifty-one lakhs, nineteen thousand, seven hundred and fifty-two) only

Yours Faithfully

visional Forest Officer Golaghat Divisjon Golaghat 7

Dated. 07/11/2023.

Memo No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 1935-36 Copy to:

1. The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (F.C. Act), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & head of Forest Force, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37 for favour of his kind information.

2. The Conservator of Forest, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golagha



#### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

## OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (WILDLIFE) AND CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN, ASSAM::PANJABARI::GUWAHATI-37

Email Id: pccf.wl.assam@gmail.com

No. WL/FG.35/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn.

Date: 30/11/2023

To,

The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited (Diversion Cairn Oil & Gas), DLF Phase-2, DLF City, Gurgaon, Haryana-122002 Email Id: dilipkumar.bera@cairnindia.com

Sub: Deposition of 2% Project cost for Human Elephant Conflict Mitigation & Wildlife Conservation purpose against diversion proposal of 4.125 ha forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambor South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited and regarding.

Ref: 1. MoEF & CC, Govt of India's letter F.No.3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dated 07.07.2023.(copy enclosed)

 CCF & Nodal Officer (FC Act) letter No.FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No. 29/Golaghat Divn., dated 19.07.2023 & 04.10.2023.(copy enclosed)

Sir.

Pursuant to the MoEF & CC, Govt of India's letter F.No.3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dated 07.07.2023 (ref. Sl. No.1) granting "In Principle Approval/Stage-I" for diversion proposal of 4.125 ha forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambor South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited and with reference to letters quoted under reference Sl. No. 2, it is requested to deposit 2% of the estimated project cost to the account of CAMPA.

(a) Area of forest land proposed for diversion

= 4.125 Ha.

(b) Estimated cost of the project

= Rs. 62,6900,000

(c) 2% of total project cost =  $0.02 \times 626900000$ 

= Rs. 1,25,38,000

The Bank Account details are furnished below:

Bank Name: Union Bank of India, Lodhi Complex Branch, New Delhi-110003.

Account No.: 520101263743434 IFS code: UBIN0903710

The above mentioned amount of Rs. 1,25,38,000 /- (Rupees one crore twenty five lakh thirty eight thousand only) may be deposited to the account of CAMPA of the IPA accorded by the ministry for the proposal.

This is for favor of your kind information and early necessary action.

Enclo: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

(Sandeep Kamar, IFS)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam

#### Copy to:

 Chief Conservator of Forest & Nodal Officer (FC Act) O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for information and necessary action.

 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forests Force, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahti-37 for favour of his kind information.

3. Accountant, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for his information.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam

#### 

e-mail: dfo.t.golaghata.gmail.com

Letter No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#29/GB. Divn/2023/ 3.347

Dated, 24/07/2023.

To.

The Sr. Manager-Environment, M/s Vedanta Limited. (Division Caim oil & Cas), DLF Phase-2. DLF City, Gorgaon, Haryana-122002.

Sub: Complisace of the conditions laid down in the "In-Principle Approval" for forest diversion proposal of 4,125 Ha, forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Ref: CCF and Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, o/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam vide letter No. FG.27/FCA/Proposal/Vedanta Ltd./Well Pad No.29/Golaghat Divn., dtd. 18.7.2023 and Govt. of India's letter No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07/07/2023.

Sir.

With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that the Govt, of India, MoEF & CC, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati- 22 has conveyed the "In Principal Approval" for forest diversion proposal for 4.125 has of forest land for Oil & Gas exploration, development and production of Well Pad No. 29 of M/s Vedanta Limited in Nambor South Reserved Forest under Colagina Division.

You are requested to transfer/deposit an amount of Rs. 1,28,790.00 (One takhs, twenty eight thousand, seven hundred and ninety) only for fitting and fixing and Primer & Paint for writing GPS co-ordinates & searings of boundary pillar of the proposed forest diversion site is to deposited in the Account No. 50100294420900, IFSC Code HDFC0002937. As mentioned in the "In Principal Approval" of tained from Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Colore, Guwahati vide letter Govt, Of India's letter No. F. No. 3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22, dtd. 07/07/2023.

Yours Faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer Gonghat Division

Golaghar 27 Dated: 24/07/2023.

Memo No. A/62/Vodanta/WP#29/Glt. Divn/2023/ 1445-46 Copy to:

 The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (F.C. Act), O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & head of Forest Force. Assam. Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Ghy-37 for favour of his kind information.

The Conservator of Forest, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

0/0





Date: 27.11.2023 Ref: WLCP/AA-1/2

To,
Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam
O/o The Principal Chief Conservator of Forest,
Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati, Assam-37

Sub: Submission of Revised Human-Elephant/ Wildlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan for Diversion of Forest land of 2.43 Ha (Wellpad No. 28) AND 4.125 Ha (Wellpad No. 29) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Development and Production - Regd.

#### References:

- Our initial submission of HECM & Wildlife Conservation Plan to the office of DFO, Golaghat vide letter no. WLCP/AA-1/2 dated No.3-AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150, dtd. 02.12.2022
- Submission of HECM & Wildlife Conservation Plan to Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Waren, Assam by the office of DFO, Golaghat vide ref. no. A/62/ Vedanta/ Well Pad#28&29/ GD/ 2022/ 2992-93 dtd. 27.12.2022.
- FC Stage-1 'In Principle Approval' for diversion of 2.43 ha of forest land for oil & gas exploration, development and production of wellpad no. 28 in Diphu Reserve Forest vide letter no. 3-AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150 dtd. 18th October 2022
- FC Stage-1 'In Principle Approval' for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for oil & gas exploration, development and production of wellpad no. 29 in Nambar South Reserve Forest vide letter no. 3-AS B 106/2022-GHY/4121-22 dtd. 7th July 2023.

Respected Sir,

With reference to above mentioned subject, we had submitted the Human-elephant/wildlife conflict mitigation and wildlife conservation plan to the office of DFO, Golaghat (enclosed as Annexure-1). DFO, Golaghat then forwarded the same to your good office for approval (enclosed as Annexure-2).

As desired, we are hereby again submitting the revised/ updated plan (enclosed as Annexure-3). We request you to kindly approve the conservation plan. For any additional information required, we will be pleased to provide the same.

Thanking You,

Yours faithfully,

For Vedante Umited (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)

Dilip Komar Bera DGM- Environment

Caim

Enclosure: As above

Copy to: The Divisional Forest Officer, Golaghat Forest Division, Golaghat, Assam

VEDANTA LIMITED

cairn 08 6 Cas; ASF Center Tawer A 363-363 (wata the Road Phase N udyog Vinar Sector is Cutugram - 1220th Harvand Indi-1-91-124-459-3000 | Fi-91-124-414-5612 | www.cairningia.com

Registered Office: Vedania umired: " Floor: C wing unit 103. Corporate 4venue, Atu Projects. Chakara, Andhen (Basti Mumba - Maharashtra, India): T +91.12 6+4.34500; F +91.22 6+4.34500; www.vedania-mirea.com

CALLDOCAMHIGASPLESGISTA



#### 

e-mail: dfo.t.golaghat@gmail.com

Letter No. A/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/ 2114-16

Dated. 11/12/2023.

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam, Aranya Bhawan, Panjabari, Guwahati-37.

Sub: Submission of Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan against the Well Pad No. 28 and 29 in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited (Diversion Cairn oil & Gas) under Golaghat Division.

Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I have the honour to submit herewith the Revised Human-elephant/Wi'dlife Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan duly prepared by Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) for the Well Pad No. 28 & 29 under Golaghat Division.

This is fo. favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: As stated above

Yours faithfully

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

Copy to

- The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, FC. Act. Assam, O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam Panjabari, Ghy-37 for favour of his kind information.
- 2. The Conservator of Forests, Eastern Assam Circle, Jorhat for favour of his kind information.

Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat Dated, 11/12/2023.

Memo No. B/62/Vedanta/WP#28/Glt. Divn/2023/ Copy to:

> The DGM - Environment, Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas), for favour of his kind information.

> > Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division Golaghat

FORM -

ANNEXTURE-I

## GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR

NO. ITDP/G/FRA-2006/89/PT-I/2017/ 128

Dated: 5-1-2022

#### TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

In compliance of the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), Government of India's letter No. 11-9/98/FC(Pt.) Dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2009 wherein the MoEF issued guidelines on submission of evidences for having initiated and completed the process of settlement of rights under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act. 2006 (FRA, for short) on the forest land proposed to be diverted for non-forest purposes read with MoEF's letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 wherein MoEF Issued certain relaxation in respect of linear projects, it is certified that 4.125 hectures of forest land proposed to be diverted in favour of Vedanta Ltd. ( Division: Cairn Oil and Gas) (name of the user agency) purpose for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam –Well pad No. 29 (Purpose for diversion of forest land) in Golaghat district falls within jurisdiction of Christian Basti village in Sarupathar tehsil.

It is further certifled that:

- (g) The complete process for identification and settlement of rights under FRA has been carried out for the entire 4.125 hectares of forest area proposed for diversion. A copy of records of all consultations and meeting of the Forest Rights Committee(s), Gram Sabha(s), Sub-Division Level Committee(s) and the District level Committee are enclosed as annexure I to II.
- (h) The diversion of forest land facilities managed by the Government as required under section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed and the Gram Sabhas have given their consent to it.
- (i) The proposal does not involve recognized right of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agricultural communities.

Enclo: As above .

(Full name and official Seal of the District Collector)

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NO. HTDP/G/FDX-2005/89/PT-1/2017/727/ \$ 2.7

(a) The compile, the second of relative and certification of rights under FRA has been carried out me in the 10 to 10 of lecolar or ... TO WHO VISOEVERHT MAY COME [M. Rights Committeens), Granasouth, allthe second of the second second committee are encoused

in 图的语言 of the Ministry of Environment and Forges (2007年至2007年 latter 5 11 19/58, 19t.) Dated 3" August 2009 wherein the Mote 25th Bland half of endances for having initialid and completed the profess of water the profess of the complete of School ded in the Soft other Traditional Softest Coolings (Coolings) for about on the Softest land proposed to be diverted for coolings of the Softest land proposed to be diverted for coolings of the softest land proposed to be diverted for the s letter thread Takingary 2013 wherein Watt journs a meligringen to the processing from is carafied that 4.125 Nectares of forest land proposed to be diverted in the diverted in the control of Virginia Ltd. (Division : Cairn Oil and Gas) for oil and gas exploration, development and 30 graphs of 199/2017/2 in Assam -Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam -Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and No. 29 (Purpose for civic ion C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and C. 199/2017/2017/2 in Assam - Well and C. 199/2017/2 in Assam - Well and C.

it is further certified that:

assisting at

con our file the locatrations as required onese (a) the complete process for identification and so that the high so have been invalid one for the entire 4.1% Hectains of love a tring to a self-to (lygram), a copy of report of all consultations and meeting of the formulations and meeting of the formulations are the consultations. Safring(s), So 3-Division Level Committee(s) and the Division Contrained and are the of I Par e I to if

1" 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 2 2 1 3

- (b) the proposal for such diverson (with full details of project and its implies for , in renascular/local language) have been placed before such operational grown states of crost divellers, who are oligible under FRA.
  - (c) The each of concerned gram sabha(s), has certified that all increasion forcess under the Fig. have been carried out and they have plann the consensation and the consensation and ameliorative measures , if you, having understood the purpose and details of proposed diversion . A copy of partition a line by great parties of Village(s) is enclosed as annoused......
  - (d) The discussion and decision on such proposal had taken place and whom these was a quocum of minimum 50 of members of Gram Sabba prepart.
  - (e) The diversion of forest lend facilities managed by the consequences as remained engine section 3(2) of the FRA have been completed and the Gram Section shall be section at the complete section of the section of th consent to it.
  - (f) The right of Primitive Tribal Groups and Pre-Agriculture Communities, where applicable have been specifically safeguarded as per section 3(1)e of FRA.

Engle: As above .

Odepsty Farayan Sanva , ACS)
Deputy Commission Separat

(Full name and only 1885) of the District Collector)



# STATE ENVIRONMENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY, ASSAM Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India BAMUNIMAIDAM, GUWAHATI-21

No. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/ 147-6 Proposal No: SIA/AS/IND2/143861/2020 Dated: 28/7/21

To

My. Vedanta Ltd (Division Cairn Oil & Gas)

4th Floor, Vipul Plaza,
Suncity Sector 54,
Gurgaon, Haryana-122002

Sub: Environment Clearance for Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration & Appraisal Project in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Hydrocarbon Block falling in Dist-Karbi Anglong & Golaghat, Assam.

Dear Sir.

This has reference to your application dated 23/11/2020 seeking Environmental Clearances for the above project under EIA Notification 2006. The proposal has been appraised as per prescribed procedure in the light of provisions under the EIA Notification 2006 and subsequent modification vide S.O. 236(E) dtd 16/01/2020 and on the basis of the mandatory documents enclosed with the application v.z. the questionnaire, EIA, EMP and additional clarifications furnished in response to the observation of the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee, Assam dtd 18/06/2021 field visit conducted by members of SEAC and also presentation given before the SEAC & SEIAA.

#### 2. Brief details of the Project:

1	Category/ Item No. (In Schedule):	1(b) B2		
2.	Location of Project	(a) Plot/ survey/ Khasra No. G46J/12, G46J/16, G46P/9, G46P/1 Pin:- 782460 (b) Bounded Latitudes (North) From 2857396.16 to 2857607.91 (c) Bounded Longitudes (East) From 566813.25 to 600221.64 (d) Survey of India Topo Sheet No G46J/1 G46J/16,G46P/9,G46P/13 (e) Distant of nearest HFL from the project boundary within t study area 5 (f) Seismic Zone - 5		
3.	Project Details	M/s Vedanta Limited (Division cairns oil & Gas) proposes to drill 20 Nos of exploratory & Appraisal wells in the AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block, (wells name being – (11,12,14,17,19,20,21,22,27,28,29,34,35,37,39,40,41,42,45,46) The total area are 715 Sq K.M. All activities involve in the exploratory process will be restricted within the block area situated in the Karbi Anglong & Golaghat District, Assam. The exploratory wells in the Geographical location has been given in Table-4 (Details of proposed well location) are approved for exploration.		
4.	Total Project Cost	Rs. 320 Crores.		
5.	Water Requirement & source	Water requirement: 102 Cu.M per day per well water will be required for drilling of wells.  Sourcing of water requirement: water requirement for all the project activities would be sourced locally through approved/ authorized sources of surface water and/ or ground water (e.g PHD bore wells, privately owned bore wells, irrigation Dept./ water Resources Dept. of state Govt.).		
	Fuel & Energy:	Location	DG Capacity	
6.		Camp site	2x 350 KVA (one working and one standby)	

Member Setretary
State Level Environment Impact
Assessment Authority, Assam.
Barnunimaidam, Ghty-21

Page 1 of 6

		Drilli	ing Site   s	3X 1000 standby) o	KVA(two working and one r 2x 1850 KVA (one working andby)		
		Cost plants The enviro	A office, of Environment Man ation:- tentative budget for	impleme	EMP) has been submitted to Plan (EMP) including Greenbelt/ intation of the EMP including by plantation would be INR 10.0 activity.		
7.	7. Environment Management Plan		Particulars		Approx. budget/ well (INR) in Lakh		
	- Hanagement I tan	1			3.5		
		2	Noise monitoring		0.75		
		3	Surface and Grou Quality	nd water	2.0		
		4	Soil Quality		0.75		
		5.	Waste managemen		2.5		
	j	6.	Greenbelt/ Plantat	ion	0.5		
-		Total:	-10.1 6000		10.0 Environmental Responsibility)		
8	CSR /ESR Activities	May Respondevelo	nsibilities), CER v pment cost based on t	would be	(Corporate Environmental spent in various social ed needs Allocation (INR, crores)		
		Total F	Total Estimated Project Cost 320 Cr		rores		
			CER (indicative)	TOUGOST (O.S.)	of 320 Crores		
9	Green Belt/ Plantation	Greenb 33% of	elt/ Plantation will be the total project area	carried o	ut suitably.		
	,	Estimat The fol	ed Budgetary Breaku lowing provisions wi	p for Labo II be made	our Welfare: towards Labour Welfare:		
		S. No.	Particulars		Estimated Budget per well (in Lakhs)		
4		1,	Safe drinking workforce	water for			
10	Budgetary Breakup for Labour	2.	Sanitation facilities				
	To Diovat	3.	First aid facil ambulance for e medical evacuation	emergency	6.0 Lakhs/Well (Approx.)		
		4.	PPEs (Safety Boots Mask, ear plugs, gle				
*		5.		afety &	-		

The SEIAA, Assam after considering the proposal and recommendations of the SEAC, Assam in its 20th Meeting held on 18.06.2021, relevant documents/ clarification submitted by P.P., hereby accord Environmental Clearance for drilling at 20 Nos of wells to the project as per the

Member Secretary
State Level Environment Impact
Assessment Authority, Assam.
Bamunimaidam, Ghty-21

provisions of Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006 and its subsequent amendments, subject to production of required land documents for the well nos. 11,12,14, 17,19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 ,29, 34, 35, 37,40, 41,42, 45 and 46 (20 nos.) as per SOP before starting the field activities. The proponent shall have to strictly adhere to the general terms and condition applicable for such projects.

#### 1. Statutory compnance:

- i. The project proponent shall obtain forest clearance under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1986, in case of the diversion of forest land for non-forest purpose involved in the project.
- ii. The project proponent shall obtain clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, if applicable.
- iii. The project proponent shall prepare a Site-Specific Conservation Plan & Wildlife Management Plan and approved by the Chief Wildlife Warden. The recommendations of the approved Site-Specific Conservation Plan / Wildlife Management Plan shall be implemented in consultation with the State Forest Department. The implementation report shall be furnished along with the six-monthly compliance report. (in case of the presence of Schedule-I species in the study area)
- iv. The Project proponent shall obtain Consent to Establish / Operate under the provisions of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 from the concerned State Pollution Control Board/Committee.
- v. The project proponent shall obtain authorization under the Hazardous and other Waste Management Rules, 2016 as amended from time to time.
- vi. The Company shall strictly comply with the rules and guidelines under Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 as amended time to time. All transportation of Hazardous Chemicals shall be as per the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA), 1989.

#### II. Air quality monitoring and preservation.

- i. The project proponent shall install 24×7 continuous emission monitoring system at process stacks to monitor stack emission with respect to standards prescribed in Environment (Protection) Rules 1986 and connected to SPCB and CPCB online servers and calibrate these system from time to time according to equipment supplier specification through labs recognized under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 or NABL accredited laboratories.
- ii. The project proponent shall monitor fugitive emissions in the plant premises at least once in every quarter through labs recognized under environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- iii. The project proponent shall install system to carryout Ambient Air Quality monitoring for common/criterion parameters relevant to the main pollutants released (e.g. PM10 and PM25 in reference to PM emission, and SO2 and NOx in reference to SO2 and NOx emissions) within and outside the plant area at least at four locations (one within and three outside the plant area at an angle of 120 each), covering upwind and downwind directions.
- iv. To control source and the fugitive emissions, suitable pollution control devices shall be installed to meet the prescribed norms and/or the NAAQS. Sulphur content should not exceed 0.5% in the coal for use in coal fired boilers to control particulate emissions within permissible limits (as applicable). The gaseous emissions shall be dispersed through stack of adequate height as per CPCB/SPCB guidelines.
- v. Storage of raw materials, coal etc shall be either stored in silos or in covered areas to prevent dust pollution and other fugitive emissions.
- vi. National Emissions Standards for Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. 608(E) dated 21th July, 2010 and amended from time to time shall be followed. vii. The National Ambient Air Quality Emission Standards issued by the Ministry vide G.S.R. No.
- 826(E) dated 16th November, 2009 shall be complied with.

#### III. Water quality monitoring and preservation

i. The project proponent shall provide online continuous monitoring of effluent, the unit shall install web camera with night vision capability and flow meters in the channel/drain carrying effluent within the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving ZLD)

> Member Secretary State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Assam. Bamunimaldam, Ghty-21

- ii. As already committed by the project proponent, Zero Liquid Discharge shall be ensured and no waste/treated water shall be discharged outside the premises (applicable in case of the projects achieving the ZLD).
- iii. The effluent discharge shall conform to the standards prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Rules. 1986, or as specified by the State Pollution Control Board while granting Consent under the Air/Water Act, whichever is more stringent.
- iv. Total fresh water requirement shall not exceed the proposed quantity or as specified by the Committee. Prior permission shall be obtained from the concerned regulatory authority/ CGWA in this regard.
- v. Process effluent/any waste water shall not be allowed to mix with storm water. The storm water from the premises shall be collected and discharged through a separate conveyance system.
- vi. The company harvest rainwater from the roof tops of the buildings and storm water drains to recharge the ground water and utilized the same for different industrial operations within the plant.
- vii. The DG sets shall be equipped with suitable Pollution control devices and the adequate stack height so that the emissions are in conformity with the extant regulations and the guidelines in this regard.

#### IV. Noise monitoring and preservation

- i. Acoustic enclosure shall be provided to DG set for controlling the noise pollution.
- ii. The overall noise levels in and around the plant area shall be kept well within the standards by providing noise control measures including acoustic hoods, silencers, enclosures etc. on all sources of noise generation.

 The ambient noise levels should conform to the standards prescribed under E(P)A Rules, 1986 viz, 75 dB(A) during day time and 70 dB(A) during night time.

V. Energy Conservation measures

The energy sources for lighting purposes shall preferably be LED based.

#### VI. Waste management

- Hazardous chemical shall be stored in tanks, tank farms, drums, carboys etc. Flame arresters shall be provided on tank farm and the solvent transfer through pumps.
- Process organic residue and spent carbon, if any, shall be sent to cement industries. ETP sludge, process inorganic & evaporation salt shall be disposed off to the TSDF.
- iii. The Company shall undertake waste minimization measures as below:-
- Metering and Control of quantities of active ingredients to minimize waste.
- Reuse of by-products from the process as raw materials or as raw material substitutes in other processes.
- Use of automated filling to minimize spillage.
- d. Use of Close Feed system into batch reactors.
- e. Venting equipment through vapors recovery system.
- f. Use of high pressure hoses for equipment clearing to reduce waste water generation.

#### VII. Green Belt

The green belt of 5-10 m width shall be developed in more than 33% of the total project area, mainly along the plant periphery, in downward wind direction, and along road sides etc. Selection of plant species shall be as per the CPCB guidelines in consultation with the State Forest Department.

Member Secretary State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Assam, Bamunimaidam, Ghty-21

Page 4 of 6

### VIII. Safety, Public hearing and Human health issues

Emergency preparedness plan based on the Hazard identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) and Disaster Management Plan shall be implemented.

ii. The unit shall make the arrangement for protection of possible fire hazards during manufacturing process in material handling. Fire fighting system shall be as per the norms.

iii. The PP shall provide Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) as per the norms of Factory Act.

iv. Training shall be imparted to all employees on safety and health aspects of chemicals handling. Preemployment and rout te periodical medical examinations for all employees shall be undertaken on regular basis. Training to all employees oh handling of chemicals shall be imparted.

v. Provision shall be made for the housing of construction labour within the site with all necessary infrastructure and facilities such as fuel for cooking, mobile toilets, mobile STP, safe drinking water, medical health care, creche etc. The housing may be in the form of temporary structures to be removed after the completion of the project.

vi. Occupational health surveillance of the workers shall be done on a regular basis and records

vii. There shall be adequate space inside the plant premises ear marked for parking of vehicles for raw materials and finished products, and no parking to be allowed outside on public places.

### IX. Corporate Environment Responsibility

i. The project proponent shall comply with the provisions contained in this Ministry's IM vide F.No. 22-65/2017-1A III dated 1st May 2018, as applicable, regarding Corporate Environment Responsibility.

ii. The company shall have a well laid down environment policy duly approve by the Board of Directors. The environment policy should prescribe for standards operating procedures to have proper checks and balances and to bring into focus any infringements/ violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions. The company shall have defined system of reporting infringements / deviation / violation of the environmental/ forest/ wildlife norms/ conditions and / or shareholders / stake holders. The copy of the board resolution in this regard shall be submitted to the MOEF& CC as a part of six-

iii. A separate environmental Cell both at the project and company head quarter level, with qualified personnel shall be set up under the control of senior Executive, who will directly to the head of the

iv. Action plan for implementing EMP and environmental conditions along with responsibility matrix of the company shall be prepared and shall be duly approved by competent authority. The year wise funds earmarked for environmental protection measures shall be kept in separate account and not to be diverted for any other purpose. Year wise progress of implementation of action plan shall be reported to the Ministry/Regional Office along with the Six Monthly Compliance Report.

Self environmental audit shall be conducted annually. Every three years third party environmental

#### X. Miscellaneous

- The project proponent shall make public the environmental clearance granted for their project along with the environmental conditions and safe guards at their cost by prominently advertising it at least in two local newspapers of the District or State, of which one shall be in the vernacular language within seven days and in addition this shall also be displayed in the project proponent's website permanently.
- ii. The copies of the environmental clearance shall be submitted by the project proponents to the Heads of local bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government who in turn has to display the same for 30 days from the date of receipt.
- iv. The project proponent shall upload the status of compliance of the stipulated environment clearance conditions, including results of monitored data on their website and update the same on half-yearly
- The project proponent shall monitor the criteria pollutants level namely; PMio, SO2, NOx (ambient levels as well as stack emissions) or criteria sevtoral parameters, indicated for the projects and display the same at a convenient location for disclosure to the public and put on the website of the company.

husas Member Secretary State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Assam. amunimaidam, Ghty-21

vi. The project proponent shall submit six-monthly reports on the status of the compliance of the stipulated environmental conditions on the website of the ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at environment clearance portal.

vii. The project proponent shall submitted the environmental statement for each financial year in Form-V to the concerned State Pollution Control Board as prescribed under the Environment (Protection)

Rules, 1986, as amended subsequently and out on the website of the company.

viii. The project proponent shall inform the Regional Office as well as the Ministry, the date of financial closure and final approval of the project by the concerned authorities, commencing the land development work and start of production operation by the project.

ix. The project authorities must strictly adhere to the stipulations made by the State Pollution Control

Board and the State Government.

The project proponent shall abide by all the commitments and recommendations made in the EIA/EMP report, commitment made during Public Hearing and also that during their presentation to the Expert

xi. No further expansion or modifications in the plant shall be carried out without prior approval of the

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

xii. Concealing factual data or submission of false/fabricated data may result in revocation of this environmental clearance and attract action under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act,

xiii. The Ministry may revoke or suspend the clearance, if implementation of any of the above conditions is

xiv. The Ministry reserves the right to stipulate additional conditions if found necessary. The Company in a time bound manner shall implement these conditions.

xv. The Regional Office of this Ministry shall monitor compliance of the stipulated conditions. The project authorities should extend full cooperation to the officer (s) of the Regional Office by furnishing the

requisite data / information / monitoring reports.

xvi. The above conditions shall be enforced, inter-alia under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, the Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016 and the Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 along with their amendments and Rules and any other orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India / High Courts and any other Court of Law relating to the subject matter.

xvii. Any appeal against this EC shall lie with the National Green Tribunal, if preferred, within a period of

30 days as prescribed under Section 16 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

Member-Secretary, SEIAA, Assam Bamunimaidam, Guwahati 781021. ottolor

Dated:

28/7/21

Memo No. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/ 1476 -A

The Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Environmental & Forest Department, Dispur, Guwahati-Copy to:-6 for favour of kind information.

The Chairman, PCBA for information.

The Regional Office, MoEF, Govt. of India, Low-U-sib, Lumbatngen, Near MTC Workshop, Shillong-21 for information.

Office Copy.

Member-Secretary, SELAA, Assam Bamunimaidam, Guwahati 781021.



## Indian-Non Judicial Stamp Harvana Government



26/07/2023

Cairn

Oil & Gas

rtificate No.

G0Z2023G463

Stamp Duty Paid: ₹ 101

GRN No.

105413838

(Rs. Only) Penalty:

₹ 0

(Rs. Zero Only)

Deponent

Vedanta Ltd

Floor: 362/363

Sector/Ward: 18

Landmark: Asf center tower a

Village : Gurugram

District: Gurugram

State: Haryana

87\*\*\*\*\*89 one:

sose: Forest Clearance only for used to be submitted at Gurugram

The authenticity of this document can be verified by scanning this QrCode Through smart phone or on the website https://egrashry.nic.in

"All undertakings for diversion of 4.125 Ha of forest land for Oil and exploration development and production of well pad No.29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division"

#### Proposal No. FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020

1. Undertaking regarding Legal status of the diverted forest land Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.

2. Undertaking regarding compensatory afforestation maintenance Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent non-forest land 4.13 ha at Patta No. 34, Dag No. 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, Baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District of Assam at the cost of the user Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted, and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.

3. Undertaking regarding time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that at the time of payment of Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

4. Undertaking for demarcation of Boundary

Rein. No.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as perTA Othe directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

Undertaking regarding period of forest land TTEST

M. S. PUNIA ADVOCATE & NOTARY Distt. Gur., gram (Haryana) India Besenberg treems (CS)

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the period of diversion of the forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Acts, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under.

6. Undertaking regarding labour camp

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that NO labour camp shall be established on the forest land.

7. Undertaking regarding provision of fuel to the labors at site

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that fuels preferable alternate fuels will be provided to the labors and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas.

8. Undertaking regarding transfer of diverted forest land

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any agency, department, or person without approval of the Central Government.

9. Undertaking regarding no damage to flora and fauna

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that no damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining areas shall be caused.

10. Undertaking regarding no change in layout plan

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.

11. Undertaking regarding use of surrounding forest/ forest land

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/ forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance.

12. Undertaking regarding diverted land to be returned after restoration.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.; Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).

13. Undertaking regarding precautions and care of forest/ forest lands.

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/ activities.

14. Undertaking regarding tree felling

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that tree felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department.

15. Undertaking regarding mitigation measures for adverse impacts on forest

NOT

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigation measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests the surrounding area:

ATTESTED

Distt. Gurugram (Haryana) India

Cairn Oil & Gas 16. Undertaking regarding mining in phase manner

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt. and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactory executed.

17. Undertaking regarding submission of annual self-compliance report
Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the user agency shall
submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to
the State Govt., concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end
of March every year.

18. Undertaking regarding violation of conditions

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter no. 5-2/2017-FC dated 28.03.2019.

19. Undertaking regarding compliance of all Acts, Rules, Orders, pertaining to the project

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that the suer agency shall comply with all Acts, Rules, Regulations, Guidelines, Hon'ble Court Order(s) and NGT Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.

20. <u>Undertaking regarding applicability of all other clearances/ NOCs under different rules/ regulations etc.</u>

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that all other clearance/ NOCs under different applicable rules/ regulations/ local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/1998-FC (pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.

21. Undertaking regarding revocation of approval

Vedanta Ltd. (Div. Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that this approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.

22. Undertaking regarding compliance of conditions stipulated by IRO, Guwahati

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may be stipulated from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forest & wildlife. The state govt. shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions.

23. Undertaking regarding compliance of conditions

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Carra Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that as per Ministry's letter no. 11-30/96-FC(Pt)dt. 14.09.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited ATTESTED

M. S. PUNIA

Distt. Gurugram (Hammar)

Cairn Oil & Gas from the state govt, for more than 5 (five) years, the in-principal approval would summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.

24. <u>Undertaking regarding change in diameter of borehole & nos. of borehole</u>

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) hereby undertakes that any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Govt.

Place: Gurugram Date: 12-12-2023

Dilip Kumar Bera DGM- Environment

Cairn

For Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil and Gas)

ATTESTED

ATTESTED

M. S. PUNIA

Disti. Gurugram (Harris)



#### भारत सरकार Government of India ण वन एवं जलवाय परिवर्तन मंत्राल

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, गुवाहाटी/Integrated Regional office, Guwahati चौथी मंजिल, होसेफेड इमारत, जी एस रोड , रुक्मणी गाँव, गुवाहाटी- ७८१०२२ 4th Floor, Housefed building, GS Road, Rukmini gaon, Guwahati -781022

दूरभाष /Tel Fax: 0361-2330984, E-mail: iro.guwahati-mefcc@gov.in

F.No.3 AS B 106/2022-GHY/4/21-22

07th July, 2023



अतिरिक्त प्रमुख सचिव/ Addl. Chief Secretary,

असम सरकार/Govt of Assam,

पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/Environment and Forests Deaprtment,

दिसपुर Dispur, गुवाहाटी/Guwahati-781006.

Sub: Proposal is for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Govt Assam letter No. FRS.64/2022/72 dated 26.05.2022 and No. ECF No. 238662/152 dated 27.02.2023 on the subject mentioned above seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the FCA, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted by Central Government under Section 3 of aforesaid Act.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government of Assam by the Regional Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 31.01.2023 and its recommendation and subsequent approval of Ministry, New Delhi on 28.06.2023 through e-office, I am to inform that the Central Government hereby conveys its "In Principle Approval" for diversion of 4.125 ha of forest land for Oil and Gas exploration development and production of well Pad No. 29 in Nambar South Reserved Forest under Golaghat Division in favour of M/s Vedanta Limited subject to the following conditions:

## A. Conditions which need to be complied prior to handing over of forest land by the State Forest Department.

1. The user agency shall transfer, the Net Present Value (NPV) in the revised rate of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in Writ petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009 and File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 21.03.2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State concerned;

- 2. The user agency shall transfer the cost of raising and compensatory afforestation at the current wage rate in consultation of the State Forest Department in the account of CAMPA of the concerned state account on line portal. The scheme may include appropriate provision for an account increase for works scheduled for subsequent years;
- 3. All the funds received from the user agency under the project that a transferred/ deposited to CAMPA account only through count (https://parivesh.nic.in/). Amount deposited through other mode and the be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
- 4. The non-forest land/ Village Reserve Forest proposed for CA shall be transferred and mutated in the name of Forest Department and notified as RF/PF provides Stage-II approval. A copy of the original notification declaring the non-forest same under Section 4 or Section 29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927, or under the relevant section of the State Forest Act as the case may be, will be submitted by the State Government prior to Stage-II approval.
- 5. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.ia/)
- The KML files of the area to be diverted and the CA areas shall be uploaded at the e-Green watch portal with all requisite details before submitting compliance report for seeking Stage II approval;
- 7. The user agency shall deposit 2% of the total project cost into the account of CAMPA which will be utilized to prepare and implement elephant centric wildlife mitigation plan to mitigate the Human Elephant Conflict and precautionary measures to ensure free movement of the elephants in the landscape.
- 8. The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of such mitigating measures envisaged in Human Elephant/wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.
- The State Govt shall submit Human Elephant/wildlife Conflict mitigation and elephant centric wildlife conservation plan approved by Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt of Assam along with detail cost of its implementation.
- The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the District Collector;
- 11. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- 12. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.

- 13. Any change in the diameter of borehole and number of bore holes will be reported to the concerned Integrated Regional Office in advance for consideration and recommendations to the Central Government;
- 14. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019.
- B: Conditions which need to be strictly complied on field after handing over of forest land to the user agency by the State Forest Department but the compliance in form of undertaking shall be submitted prior to Stage-II approval:
  - 1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
  - 2. The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department over equivalent area of non forest land of 4.13 ha has been selected for compensatory afforestation at Patta No 34, Dag No 53 of Village No. 2 Pahumora, baligaon Mouza, Jorhat in Jorhat District at the cost of the User Agency. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and monoculture of a species has to be avoided.
  - At the time of payment of the Net Present Value (NPV) at the then prevailing rate, the User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India;
  - 4. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer;
  - 5. The period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended and the Rules framed there-under;
  - 6. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
  - 7. The User Agency shall provide fuels preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas;
  - 8. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
  - 9. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused;

- 10. The layout plan of the mining plan/ proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
- 11. The user agency shall not expand its occupation or use surrounding forest/forest land in any manner otherwise expressed in this clearance;
- 12. Land so diverted shall revert back to the Forest Department in case it is not needed for the above use after due restoration to its original status (as far as possible and to the satisfaction of State Forest Department).
- 13. The user agency shall take all possible precautions & care all the time not to impact adversely the surround forests and forestland by their actions/activities;
- 14. Trees felling shall be done only when absolutely unavoidable and such removal, if any, shall be done under the supervision of the Forest department;
- 15. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
- 16. The user agency shall undertake mining in a phase manner after taking due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan as per the approved mining plan shall be executed by the user agency from the very first year, and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Forest (Conservation)Act, 1980, in the concerned State Govt and the concerned Integrated Regional Office of the Ministry. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan area not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the concerned Integrated Regional Office may direct that the mining activities shall remain suspended till such time, reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;
- 17. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated condition to the State Government, concerned Integrated Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year; and
- 18. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of comprehensive guidelines of Forest (Conservation Act, 1980 as issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-Fc dated 28.03.2019
- 19. The user agency shall comply all the provisions of the all Acts, Research Regulations, Guideline's, Hon'ble Court Order(s) and NGT Order(s) pertaining to this project, if any, for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
- 20. All other clearance /NOCs under different applicable rules/regulations flocal laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 are required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No.11-9/1998-FC(pt) dated 03.08.2009 shall be complied with.

- 21. This approval may be revoked if the above conditions of approval are not complied to the satisfaction of the Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati.
- 22. Any other conditions that the Regional Office of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife. The state govt shall ensure compliance of all the above conditions;
- 23. As per Ministry's etter No 11-30/96-FC(Pt) dt 14.9.2001, if the compliance of stipulated conditions is awaited from the State Govt for more than 5(five) years, the in-principle approval would be summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.

After the receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final/stage-II approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, will be considered. Till the receipt of the Final / Stage-II approval of the Central Government for diversion of the said forest land from this Ministry, transfer of the said forest land to the User Agency shall not be affected by the State Government.

(Ms. Laetitia Jean byiemiong) वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Govt of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwal Path, Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra, Panjabari, Guwahati-781037

व्रम उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

0/



Divisional Forest Officer Golaghat Division



Divisional Forces Officer Gologhat Division



Education Education

[iccems as admin] State- Assam 27 May 2024, 11:28:24 IST

## FCA Projects, Diverted Land, CA Land Management

Home FCA 1980 Projects Diverted Lands CA Lands Reports

## Detailed Summary of Selected FCA Project

Pro	ect	Basic	det	tai	15

S.No.	Project Name	Project Year	Project Type	Purpose of Diversion	Total Land Diverted	User Agency
1	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.	2023	Mining	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.	4.125	

#### Details of Diverted forest land

	S.No.	Area Diverted (In Hac)	Division	Range	Forest Type	Location
	1	4.000	Golaghat	Naojan	Reserved Forest (RF)	Nambor South Re
1	2	0.125	Golaghat	Naojan	Reserved Forest (RF)	Nambor South Re

#### Details of Lands received from user agency for Compensatory Afforestation

S.No.	Land Type	Area(in Ha)	District	Range	Notification order No.
1	Revenue_land (Non-forest)	4.130	Jorhat [ Jorhat West ]	Jorhat [ Jorhat ]	

#### Details of the amount demanded from UA against the FCA project

S.No.	FCA Proj. File No	Project Name	State	Proj. Year	Order No.	Date	NPV	CA	ACA	PCA	PAF	CAT	sz	Others	Total Demand
1	FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020	Forest diversion proposal for oil and gas exploration, development and production in Block AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam- Well pad No 29.	AS	2023	B/62/Vedanta/WP29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814	07/11/2023	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	16042180	27657752
						Total	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	0	27657752

#### Details of the amount received from UA against the FCA project.

	**					-7	2072									
S.No.	FCA Project File No	Proj. Name	State	Proj. Year	Ref. No.	Ref.Date	Receipt Date	NPV	CA	ACA	PCA	PAF	CAT	SZ	Others	Total Received
1	FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020	Forest diversion proposal for	AS	2023	B/62/Vedanta/WP29/Glt.Divn/2023/4814	07/11/2023	14/12/2023	4607212	7008360	0	0	0	0	0	16042180	27657752

oil and gas exploration, development and production in Biock AA-ONHP/2017/1 in Assam-Well pad No 29. FCA-View and Lock Project Registration Details

Total 4607212 7008360 0 0 0 0 16042180 27657752

Lock and Print Details Go Back



#### GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT JANATA BHAWAN, DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

#### ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

#### NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur ...... April, 20

ECF No. 468752/26: In exercise of the power conferred by Section 5 of the Assam Forest Regulation of 1891 (VII of 1891), the Governor of Assam is pleased to declare that the land described in the schedule annexed here to and appoint the Addl. District Commissioner, Jorhat District to be the Forest Settlement Officer to inquire into and determine the existence, nature and extent of any right claimed by or alleged to exist in favour of any person in or over land comprised there in and the limits and described in the schedule annexed hereto and deal with same as prescribed in Chapter-II of the regulation.

Under the provisions of Section 5, Sub-Section (2) of the Assam Forest Regulation, VII of 1891 the Governor of Assam is pleased to appoint the Divisional Forest Officer, Jorhat Forest Division to assist the Forest Settlement Officer, in the inquires prescribed in Chapter-II of the Regulation in connection with the proposed reservation.

#### SCHEDULE "A"

#### PROPOSED PAHUMORA RESERVED FOREST

- 1. Situation(a) District (Civil):- Jorhat District
  - (b) Forest Division:-Jorhat Forest Division (West)
  - (c) Forest Range:- Jorhat Forest Range
  - (d) Mauza:-Bali Gaon
  - (e) Name:- Pahumora Reserve Forest
  - (f) Area :- 6.69 Ha.

#### 2. Boundaries:

North: Land of Luknath Bora

South: Land of Tarun Goswami

East: Garuwa Bhagajan

West: Land of Babula Hazarika

Boundary along with GPS Co-ordinates:

S. No	LOCATION NO.	LONGITUDES	LATITUDES	AREA	NAME OF LOCATION
1.	CA05	94°8'35.198"E	26°48'8.652"N		

			Total Area	6.69 Ha		
22.	CA20	94°8'23.664" E	26°48'15.300" N			
21.	CA19	94°8'28.128" E	26°48'7.831" N			
20.	CA18	94°8'30,203" E	26°48'8.920" N			
19.	CA17	94°8'32.242" E	26°48'6.336" N		Assam	
18.	CA05	94°8'35.198" E	26°48'8.652" N	4.13 Ha.	Jorhat District	
17.	CA04	94°8'33.581" E	26°48'9.900" N			
16.	CA03	94°8'31.778" E	26°48'10.630" N			
15.	CA02	94°8'29.490" E	26°48'14.005" N			
14.	CA01	94°8'27.725" E	26°48'17.241" N			
13.	CA17	94°8'32.242"E	26°48'6.336" N			
12.	CA16	94°8'30.383"E	26°48'5.213" N			
11.	CA15	94°8'29.992"E	26°48'5.964" N			
10.	CA14	94°8'29.570"E	26°48'5.756" N			
9.	CA13	94°8'31.611"E	26°48'2.413" N			
8.	CA12	94°8'31.914"E	26°48'2.569" N		Assam	
7.	CA11	94°8'32.486"E	26°48'1.783" N	2.56 Ha.	Jorhat District	
6.	CA10	94°8'33.325"E	26°48'2.394" N			
5.	CA09	94°8'34.053"E	26°48'2.746" N			
4.	CA08	94°8'34.707"E	26°48'3.001" N			
3.	CA07	94°8'36.958"E	26°48'3.536" N			
2.	CA06	94°8'38.809"E	26°48'3.911" N			

#### Reason for Reservation:

- Compensatory Afforestation is towards the "In-Principle Approval/ Stage-I Forest Clearance" accorded by the Central Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide its letter No. 3 AS B 102/2022-GHY/3149-3150 dated 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 for diversion of 2.43 Ha. of forestland under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in favour of M/s. Vedanta Ltd. (Div: Cairn Oil and Gas) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and development activity at Well Pad#28 in Diphu Reserve Forest under Golaghat Forest Division.
- 2. Compensatory Afforestation is towards the "In-Principle Approval/ Stage-I Forest Clearance" accorded by the Central Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change vide its letter No. 3 AS B 102/2022-GHY/4121-22 dated 7th July 2023 for diversion of 4.125 Ha. of forest land under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980in favour of M/s. Vedanta ltd. (Div: Cairn Oil and Gas) for Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and development activity at Well Pad#29 in Nambor South Reserve Forest under Golaghat Forest Division.
- To conserve the afforestation, the land for Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified as Reserve Forest by the State Government as per the conditions of Forest Clearance under The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980/ Amendment Act, 2023.

Signed by

Adil Khan

ecretary to the Govt of Ass

Secretary 19 the 2024 to 6845 am, Environment & Forest Department 4808/2024

Memo No. ECF No. 468752/26-A

Dated Dispur, the ...... April, 2024

Copy to:

- The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Environment & Forests, Assam, for kind information of the Hon'ble Minister.
- The Secretary, Co-ordination to the Chief Secretary, Assam, for kind information of the Chief Secretary.
- 3. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37.
- 4. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), UAZ, Jorhat.
- 5. The District Commissioner, Jorhat.
- 6. The Divisional Forest Officers, Jorhat Division.
- 7. The Divisional Forest Officers, Golaghat Division
- 8. The Regional Head-NE, (OALP Cairn Vedanta) Vedanta Ltd., Jorhat, Assam
- The Deputy Director, Assam Government Press, Bamunimaidam, Guwahati-2l, for
  publication of the notification in the Assam Gazette extra ordinary and to send 100 copies
  to this department.

E-signed Secretary to the Govt. of Assam Environment & Forest Department

## Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division



# Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division



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JORHAT DIVISION, JORHAT

# Demarkation of CA Land at 2 No. Pohumora Gaon against Wellpad No. 28 & 29 under Jorhat Forest Division







Project Name, Onshore Oil & Gas Exploration, Appraisal and Early Production in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block, Karbi Anglong & Golaghat Districts of Assam

Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation and Wildlife Conservation Plan

## Submitted by:

Vedanta Limited (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas)
First Floor, Tower-A, ASF Centre, 362-363
Jwala Mill Rd, Phase IV, Udyog Vihar
Sec-18, Gurugram-122016
Haryana (INDIA)

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#### 1. Human-Elephant conflict Mitigation and Conservation Plan

#### 1.1 Introduction

Vedanta Ltd. (Div.: Cairn Oil & Gas) has proposed drilling of 20 onshore exploratory and appraisal wells and setting up of 6 Nos. Early Production Units (EPUs) for produced well fluid processing and production of up to 12000 8OPD crude oil and up to 2.4 MMSCFD associated natural gas in AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block located in Karbi Anglong and Golaghat districts of Assam. Environmental Clearance (EC) for this block has already been granted by Hon'ble SEIAA, Assam vide EC letter no. SEIAA.1251/2020/EC/1476 dtd. 28.07.2021 for Exploratory & Appraisal of 20 Nos. well locations. The EC was later amended to include the 06 Nos. of Early Production Units vide EC No. SEIAA.1895/2021/EC/1516 dtd.12.01.2022.

A detailed study has been carried out to assess the impacts of the proposed Oil and Gas production activities in hydrocarbon Block AA-ONHP-2017/1 in Golaghat district in Assam on the existing faunal population including human-Elephant conflict. The government of India chacted the Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 to effectively protect the wildlife of this country and to control peaching, smuggling, and illegal trade in wildlife and its derivatives. Therefore, the objective of the study was to identify the existing faunal population along with designated which are designated as Schedule-I species as per Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, and prepare a Conservation plan to mitigate the Human-Elephant conflict management.

This Human-Elophant Conflict Management and Conservation plan has been prepared as part of the compliance report which is required to be submitted to MoEF&CC for obtaining Stage II Forest Clearance for the proposed well pad no 28 (FC proposal Number: FP/AS/MIN/44360/2020) and Well Pad no 29 (FC proposal Number: FP/AS/MIN/44361/2020.) located within Diphu Reserved Forest in Golaghat District, Assam. Latitude and longitude details of well pad 28 and Well Pad 29 are given in Table 1.

Table 1 Coordinate details of Well Pad No. 28 and well Pad no 29

SI No	Well Pad No	Latitude	Longitude
1	Well Pad No. 28 (FW-001)	26° 0′ 43.775° N	93" 48' 53.130" E
2	Well Pad No. 29 (FW-004)	26° 1° 13.717" N	93" 51" 20.055" E

#### Environmental Setting of Block AA-ONHP-2017/1

- Dhansiri River, Dayang River, Rengma River, Yampar nadi and Zubza river are flowing within the block
- Total 38648 ha forest area is located within the AA-ONHP-2017/1.
- There is no wildfife sanctuary and national park located within the 10 kilometres of the block boundary
- Land use classes with the Block comprise of fellow land agriculture land and forest land
- One Cement manufacturing unit is located in the study area.

#### Location of Wells

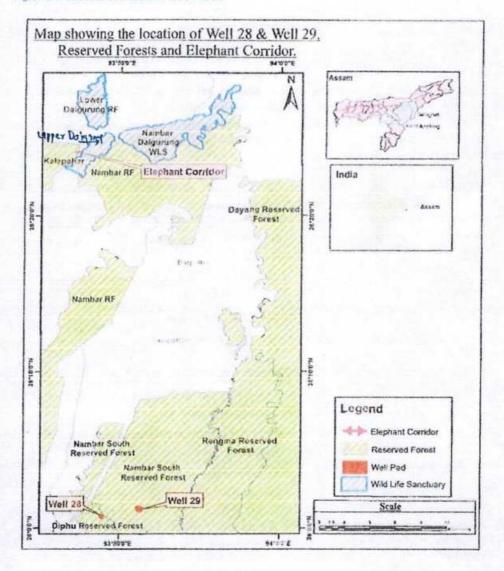
Vedanta Limited. (Div.: Caim Oil & Gas) proposes to drill 20 No. of Exploratory & appraisal wells within the block boundary of AA-ONHP-2017/1. The proposed well sites were selected based primarily on the geological consideration but the environmental considerations viz. location of sensitive ecological habitats, settlements, schools/ hospitals, water bodies etc. have also been considered. Care had been taken to locate the wells distantly from these receptors. Proper environmental and safety measures would be adopted to minimize footprints on these receptors.

Vedenta Limited (Division Caim Oil & Gres)

Divisional Forest Office

Out of the 20 proposed wells, this management plan covers two well locations i.e Well pad no. 28 and Well Pad no. 29, which are located within the forest area. Beside these, there are also 5 other well locations which are located within the forest area in the same geographic area & block. The exploration and appraisal activities in the rest of the 5 well (Well pad no.12, Well pad no.14, Well pad no.20, Well pad no.21) locations would be undertaken in near future. Considering the same nature of anticipated impact and thereof proposed mitigation measures, this human- elephant conflict conservation plan has been formulated to cover the future exploratory and appraisal activities in this geographic area. The following figure 1-1 depicts the proposed well locations (i.e well pad no 28 and 29) and figure 1-2 depicts the all seven well locations located within the forest area.

Figure 3-1: Location of Well Pad no. 28 and 29



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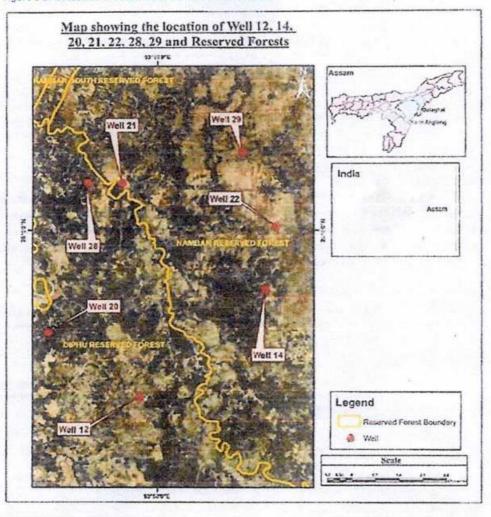


Figure 3-2: Locations of seven wells within the forest Area

#### 3.1 Project Cost

Vedanta Limitod (Div.: Calm Oil and Gas) has planned to carry out the proposed project activities in the AA-ONHP-2017/1 Block over a period of 3-5 years. Total project cost for the exploration and early production at the proposed well locations has been estimated at about INR 584 Crores.

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#### 3.2 Floral and Faunal Composition of the Area

To prepare the ecological-biodiversity report field visits of the project area have been done within 10 km radius of the periphery of the project site. From this study, a detailed report on floral-faunal status has been prepared. All the direct sightings were recorded during the study period. Also, we have noted the local species name after consultation with local villagers and secondary sources.

#### Flore of the Study Area

The floristic baseline was carried out after considering the different habitats present in the study area. Forest types are also identified as per the Champion and Seth Classification, 1967. Forest working Plans of Golaghat, and Karbi Anglong District are also consulted during identification of Forest types.

#### Forest Types

The study area falls within the Golaghat and Karbi-Anglong district of Assam. Both districts receive heavy rain fall in the monsoon season and moderate to light rainfall rest the year which. This type of rainfall helps to development of forest area. In Karbi-Anglong district, 76.51% of the Geographic area comes under forest cover whereas in Golaghat District, 18.59% of geographic area falls in the forest area (SoFR. 2017). The Major Forest types which are observed in the study area are Moist Semi Evergreen Forest, Moist mixed Deciduous Forest etc.

#### Moist semi-evergreen forests (2BC 1/b and 2 BC)

These types of forests have a mixture of the wet evergreen trees and the moist deciduous trees. This type of forest is widely found in the block area and are covered with trees of commercial importance like Badam, Sopa, Bonsum, Bhola, Gomari, Ponam, Amari, Cham, etc.

#### Moist Mixed Deciduous forests (3C/C 3b)

The trees in this category are mostly deciduous with sparkling of few evergreen and semi-evergreen species. Important species includes Albizia species (Siris, Kala siris), Ficus species (Bot, Bor, Dimoru), Careya arborea (Kumbhi), Mallotu species (Senduri, Joral, Dudhloti) and Lagerstroomia species (Jarul, Ajar).

#### Riverain Type

This type of forest occupies the localities with alluvial soil of more recent origin in the vicinity of rivers and streams of the district. The common species of importance are Khair, Sissoo, Simul, Urium, Kokoli etc.

#### Miscellaneous type with scattered pure or mixed patches of bamboos

Miscellarieous type of forest comprises of Amari, Sopa, Cham, Bonsum, Bogipoma, Gonsoroi, Dhuna and Hingori etc.

#### Floristic Species Recorded

A consolidated list of flora species observed in the study area, prepared on the basis of primary survey. Orchids such as Cymbidium aloipholium, Dondrobium aphyllum, Rhynchostylis rhetusa, Aerides rosea, Aerides odorata, Bulbophyllum sp. Papilionanth teres, Dendrobium densiffirum and Papilionanthe teres were observed in the study area.

#### Trees

Total 44 species of trees have been recorded within the study area. Species belonging to family Moraceae showed highest diversity followed by Fabaceae and Euphorbiaceae. Species such as *Tectona grandia*. Streblus asper and Sterculia viollosa were commonly seen in the study area. List of tree species observed in the study area is given in Table 2.

Divisional Forest Office Golaghat Division

Table 2 List of Tree species observed in the study area

Sr. No.	Botanical name	Local Name /Germon Name	Family	IUCN Status*
1	Mangifera indica	Aam	Anacardiaceae	DO
2	Alstonia scholaris	Satwan	Apocynacese	rc
3	Holanhena antidysentenca	Dhulkan	Apocynaceae	Not assessed
4	Wrightia tinctona	Dodni	Аросупаселе	LC
5	Wrightla tomentosa	Atkun	Apocynaceae	Not assessed
5	Oroxylum indicum (L.) Kurz	Toguna	Bignoniaceae	Not assessed
7	Bombax ceiba L	Dumboil	Bombacaceae	Not assessed
8	Cossia fistula	Amatas	Fabaceae	LC .
9	Senna sp.		Fabaceae	Not assessed
10	Trema orientalis (L.) Bl.	Indian Charcoal Tree	Candabaceae	Not assessed
11	Alangium chinonso	Chinese Alangium	Cornacene	Not assessed
12	Croton ablangifatius		Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
13	Euphorbia sp.		Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
14	Mallotus philippensis	Kamala tree	Euphorbiaceae	LC
15	Securinega virosa		Euphorbiaceae	Not assessed
16	Trevia nudifiora	Many fruited trevia	Euphorblaceae	Not assessed
17	Acacia auriculifornis		Fabaceae	LC
18	Parkia sp.		Fabaceae	Not assessed
19	Pongamia pinnata	korosh	Fabaceae	LC
20	Albizia procera	Tantari asing	Fabbase	LC .
21	Erythnna stricta	Dhaul Dhak	Fabacese	Not assessed
22	Gmelina arborea	Gamhar	Lamiaceae	LC .
23	Delonix ragia	Flame tree	Leguminoceae	rc
24	Lugerstroemia speciosa	Ejar	Lytheracoae	Not assessed
25	Garuga pinnata Roxb.	Pama	Burseraceae	Not assessed
26	Melia azadirach	Bakain	Melisoeae	Not assessed
27	Ficus religiosa	Ahot	Moraceae	LC .
28	Artocarpus lakcocha	Bohot	Moracege	Not assessed
29	Figus hispida	Devil fig	Могасеве	LC
30	Streblus asper	Khorua	Moraceae	Not assessed
31	Artocurpus heterophyllus	Jackfruit	Moracaae	Not assessed
32	Morus sp		Morsocae	Not assessed
33	Psidium guajava		Myrtaceae	Not assessed
34	Glochidian sp.		Phyllanthaceae	Not assessed
35	Phyllanthus acidus		Phyllanthaceae	Not assessed
36	Bambusa sp.		Podecae	Not assessed
37	Ziziphus jujuba		Rhamnaceae	LC
38	Neolamarckia cadamba	Kademb	Rubiaccae	Not assessed
39	Murraya koenigii	Bishahari	Rutaceas	Not assessed
10	Murraya sp.		Rutaceae	Not assessed
41	Sterculia villasa	Udel	Sterculiaceae	Not assessed

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Sr. No.	Botanical name	Local Name /Common Name	Family	IJCN Status
42	Grewia mulatiora		Tiliaceae	Not assessed
43	Fectona grandis	Segun	Verbenacese	Not assessed
44	Vitex negundo	Nirgundi	Verbessceae	Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern; DD- Data Deficient.

#### Shrubs

A total of 15 shrub species have been observed during field survey in study area. Species belonging to Lamiaceae family were found to be higher in the study area followed by Rubiaceae and Verbenaceae. Species such as Lentana camara, Solanum torvum, Cassia tora and Clarodendrum viscosum were commonly observed in the study area. I antena Camara is an invasive weed. List of shrub species observed in the study area is given in Table 3.

Table 3 The List of Shrub species observed within the study area

Sr.no	Botanical name	Common Name/Local Name	Family	IUCH Status
1	Licuala peltata	Japi Pat	Arecaceae	Not Assessed
2	Eupatorium odoratum	Motmot:	Asteraceae	Not Assessed
3	Cassia tora	Ben medelus	Caesalpinaceaa	Not Assessed
4	Capparis spinosa	,	Capparoceae	LC
5	Intropha cureas	Bhenda	Euphorbiaceae	rc .
6	Clerodendrum viscosum	Bhetita	Lamiaceae	Not Assessed
7	Clerodendrum sp.		Lamiaceae	Not Assessed
5	Hyptis sp	•	Larriaceae	Not Assessed
9	Molastoma melabathricum	Photoka	Melastornaceae	Not Assessed
10	txam polyantis	Many-Flowered Ixora	Rubiaceae	Not Assessed
11	Coffea benghalensis	Bengal coffee	Rubiaceae	LC .
12	Glycasmis pentaphylla	Gin Berry	Rutaceae	LC
13	Solunum torvum	Bhit tita	Solanaceae	Not Assessed
14	Stachytarpheta indica	Kariyartharani	Verbenaceae	LC
15	Lantana camara	Gubon	Verbenaceme	Not Assessed

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern.

#### Herbs

A total of 31 species of herbs were observed in the study area. Herbs family belonging to Asteraceae was found to be higher, followed by Malvaceae. Species such as *Desmodium trillorum* showed higher diversity followed by *Urena lobate. Evolvulus sp. and Acalypha indica* were commonly observed in the study area. List of herb species observed in the study area is given in Table 4.

Table 4 List of Herbs Species observed in Study area

Sr.no	Potanical name	Family	Common Name/Local Name	IUCN Status*
1	Ruellia tuberosa	Acanthaceae	Chatpati	Not assessed
2	Achyranthes aspera	Amazunthuceae	Chaff flower	Not assessed
3	Typhonium trilobatum	Asteraceue		Not assessed

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Sr.ne	Botanical name	Family	Common Name/Local Name	IUCN Status*
4	Ageratum conyzoides	Asteracene	Gost word	Not assessed
5	Parthenium sp	Asteraceae		Not assessed
6	Parthenium hysterophorus	Asteraceae	Gajor Ghas	Not assessed
7	Parthonium haustonum	Asteraceae		Not assessed
6	Heliatrapium indicum	Boraginaceae	Indian helitrope	Not assessed
9	Cassia occidentalis	Caesulpinacese	Hard-Riengs •	Not assessed
10	Cassia sp	Caesalpinaceae		Not assessed
11	Commulina benghalensis	Commelinaceau	Bengal day flower	Not assessed
12	Evolvulus sp	Convolvutaceae		Not assessed
13	Costus speciesus	Costaceae	Jom takhut	Not assessed
14	Cyperus rotundus	Cyperacese	Keyaton	Not assessed
15	Cypenis sp	Cyperaceae		Not assessed
16	Desmodium triflorum	Fabaceae	Kodalia	Not assessed
17	Pogostemon benghalensis	Lamiacese	Sukloti	Not assessed
18	Acalypha indica	Lamisceae	Muktojhun	Not assessed
19	Lindernia sp.	Lindemiaceae		Not assessed
20	Sidn sp	Malvacese		Not assessed
21	Urena lobata	Malvaceae	Caesarweed	Not assessed
22	Sida acuta	:Malvaceae	Mallow	Not assessed
23	Mimosa pudica	Mimosaceae	niajban	LC
24	Oxalis debilis	Oxalidaceae	Pink wood sorrel	Not assessed
25	Phyllanthus sp	Phyllanthaceae		Not assessed
26	Borreria hispida	Rubiacase	Button wood	Not assessed
27	Scoperia dulcis	Scrophulariuceae	Sweet broom wood	Not assessed
28	Solanum indicum	Solancese	Black berry	Not assessed
29	Chrystella parasitica	Thelypteridaceae		Not assessed
30	Stachytarpheta indicu	Verbenaceae	Common snake weed	Not assessed
31	Alpinia sp	Zingiberaceas		Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where -LC - Least Concern; DD- Data Deficient

#### Climbers

A total of 13 species of climber belonging to 11 families have been recorded from the study area during site visit, Species belonging to Convolvulaceae showed higher diversity followed by Dioscoraceae. List of tree species observed in the study area is given in Table 5.

Table 5 List of Climbers observed in Study Area

Sr.no	Betanical name	Family	Common Name	IUCN Status*
1	Thunbergia grandiflora	Aconthoceas	Kokua fota	Not assessed
2	Calamus sp.	Arecaceae		Not assessed
3	Mikania micrentha	Astoraccae	Chinese creeper	Not assessed
4	(pamoes digitata	Convolvulaceae	Maming glory	Not assessed
5	Cuscuta reflexa	Convolvulaceae	Akashi lata	Not assessed
6	Ipomea sp.	Convolvulaceae		Not assessed

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Divisional Forest Offices Golaghat Division

Sr.no	Botanical name	Family	Common Name	(UCH Status*
7	Momordica sp.	Cucurbitacese		Not assessed
8	Dioscora sp.	Dioscoraceae		Not assessed
9	Croton caudatus	Euphorblaceae	Miracle plant	Not assessed
10	Abrus precatonus	Fabacese	Latumoni	Not assessed
11	Cissampolos pareira	Menispernilaceae	Tobukilota	Not assessed
12	Pyrossia adnescence	Polypodiaceae		Not assessed
13	Cayratia trifolia	Vitaceae	Chepeta lata	Not assessed

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where -LC - Least Concern

#### Fauna of the Study Area

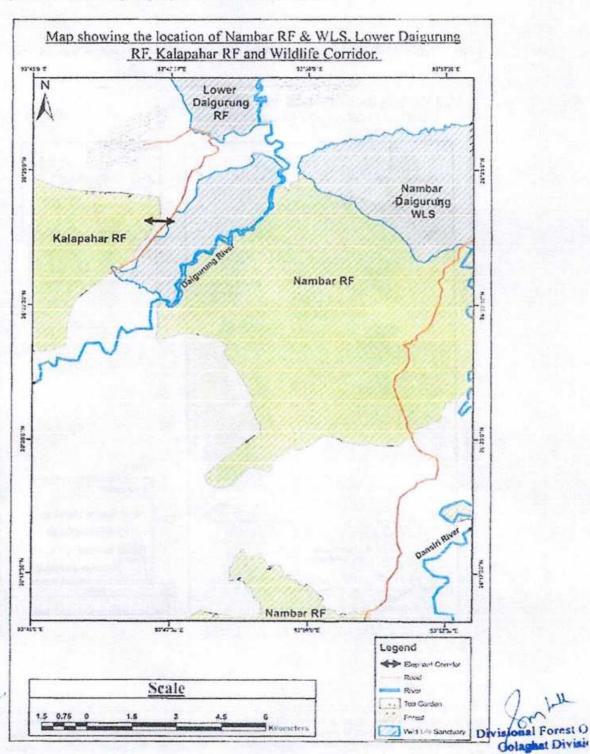
The faunal baseline of the study area is based on the species having recorded ranges that include the study area, supported by the primary faunal data recorded during field visit. The following sub-sections provide details of the faunal species reported from or recorded in the study area.

#### Etephant Corridor:

One Elephant Corridors falls within the Golaghat district. It is called KALAPAHAR – DAIGURUNG1 (26°24° N, 93°47° E) (Figure 3-3). This corridor is 22 km from Sitonijan (Karbi Anglong) on the Sitonijan-Chokikhola road, is a small patch of forest located between Sotiona and Parolijan Village (Parolijan River). It is encircled by two hills, namely Kalapahar and Risak on either side. This corridor has connectivity with the Kaziranga National Park via Kalioni Reserve Forest. The length and width of the corridor is 2 km. Elephants use this corridor regularly throughout the year. The Kalapahar-Doigurung Elephant Corridor is located at a distance of 43 km (Aerial distance) and 42 km Well pad 29 respectively. Though the project area comes under reserve forest, now it is completely degraded and converted into agricultural lands. The location of the Elephant corridor along with reserve forest is given in Figure 1-4 and 1-5 respectively.

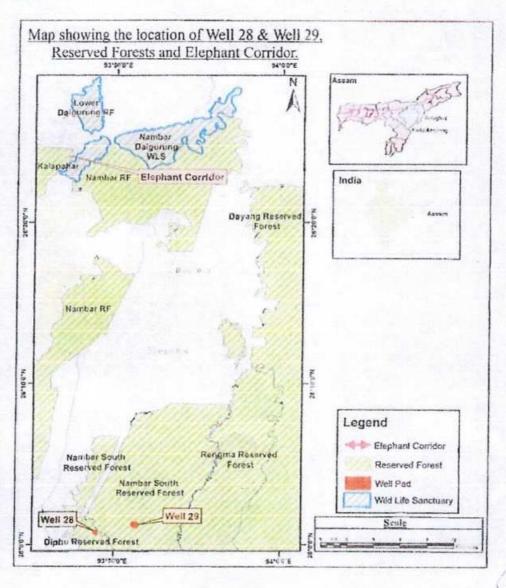
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Figure 3-4 Kalapahar- Daigurung Elephant Corridor in Golaghat District



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Figure 3.5 Kalapahar-dalgurung Elephant Corridor along with Reserve Forest and well pad in Colaghat District



#### Mammals

Among Mammals, only Hoary-bellied squirrel (Callosciurus pygerythrus) was observed in the study area during field visit. The IUCN status of this species is Least concern (LC) and as per Wildfife protection Act, 1972, this species is not enlisted in Schedule. However, 62 mammalian species have been reported from the Karbi-Anglong and Golaghat district from different secondary sources such as forest working Plan, peoples Biodiversity registrar,

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					WARA	Schedule as
Sr. No.	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family	Status*	per WPA, 1972**
21	Black Creasted Bulbul	Pycnonatus flaviventris	Passenformes	Pycnonotidae	rc	IV
22	Red-whiskered Bulbul	Pycnonotus jogosus	Passenformes	Pychonolidae	LC	IV
23	Red Vented Builbul	Pycnonotus cafor	Passeriformes	Pycnonolidae	LC	IV
24	Plain Prinio	Prinia inomata	Passenformes	Cisticolidae	LC	IV
25	Great Myna	Acridotheres grandis	Passeriformos	Sturnidae	LC	IV
26	Jungle Myna	Acridotheres fuscus	Passerformes	Sturnidae	LC	IV
7	Common Myna	Acridotheres tristie	Pusseriformes	Sturnidae	1.0	IV
8	Asian Pied Starling	Gracupien contra	Passeriformes	Sturnidae	LC	IV
29	Oriental Magpie Robin	Copsychus sautans	Passenformes	Muscicapidae	1,0	IV
30	Black backed Forkfall	Enicurus immaculatus	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae	I.C	rv
11	Golden fronted Leafbird	Chinropsis auritrons	Passenformes	Chloropseidae	LC	
2	Purple Sunbird	Cinnyris asiaticus	Passeriformes	Nectanniidae	LC .	IV
3	Crimson Sunbird	Aethopyga siparaja	Passeriformes	Nectarinidae	LC	IV
4	House sparrow	Passer domesticus	Passeriformes	Passendae	LC	
5	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus	Passeriformes	Passeridae	LC	
6	Saya Weaver	Ploceus philippinus	Passeriformes	Ploceidae	LC	IV
7	Chestnut Munia	Lonchura malacca	Passerformes	Estrididae	LC	IV
8	Indian Pond heron	Ardeola grayii	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	LC	IV
9	Cattle Egret	Bubulcus ibis	Pelecaniformes	Ardeidae	LC	IV
0	Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	Pelecariformes	Ardeidae	LC	IV
1	Lineated Barbet	Megalalina lineata	Pichormos	Megalaimidas	LC	IV
2	Sive threated Barbot	Magalaima asiatica	Piciformes	Megala midae	LC	IV
3	Alexandrian parakeet	Psittacula eupatria	Psittaciformea	Psitlacidae	NT	IV
4	Rose ringed parakeel	Pattacula kramen	Psitaolormes	Psittacidae	LC	1V
s	Blossom Headed parakeet	Pultacula roseata	Psittaciformes	Psittacidae	NT	IV
6	Red Breasled parekeet	Psittacula alexandri	Psitaciformes	Psittacidae	NT	IV
7	Asian Barred owlet	Glaucidium cuculoides	Strigiformes	Strigidae	LC	IV
5	Spotted owlet	Athene brama	Strigiformes	Singidae	LC	īV
9	Asian Palm Swift	Cypsiurus balasiensis	Strgformes	Apodidae	LC	IV

<sup>\*</sup>Status assigned by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, where – LC – Least Concern NT – Near Threatened; Vu – Vulnerable; EN – Endangered \*\*Status assigned by the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, where I – V are the schedules.

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scientific filteratures etc. Though there are recorded ranges of Asian Elephant in and around the project area, however during field visit and consultation with the local people have not confirmed any elephant presence record in the area. The list of mammalian species which is observed in the study area is given in Table 6.

Table 6 Mammalian Species observed in the Study Area

Sr. No.	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family	NICN Status	WPA 1972 Schedule	
1	Hoary - belied Squirret	Callosclurus pygerythrus	Sciuridae	LC		

LC: Least Concerned (IUCN), EN: Engandered (IUCN), Sch. I: 1972- Schedule I, Sch. II: - Schedule II (Wildlife protection Act, 1972)

#### Avifauna

Total 49 avian species have been observed in the study area. Among the avian species Alexandrian parakeet (Psittacula eupatria), Biossom Headed parakeet (Psittacula roscate) and Red Breasted parakeet (Psittacula elexandri) are Near Threatened species according to IUCN red data Book. No other globally threatened avian species has been observed in the study area. Detailed checklist of birds observed in the study area is given in Table-7.

Table 7 List of Avifauna observed in the Study Area

Sr. No.	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family	IUCN States*	Schedule as per WPA, 1972**
1	Oriental Honey buzzard	Pemis pläarhynchus	Accipitnformes	Accipitridae	LC	
2	Crested Serpent Eagle	Spilorus cheela	Accipitationnes	Accipitridae	rc	
3	Red-wattled lapwing	Vanellus indicus	Charadriformas	Charadridae	LC	
4	Common Pigeon	Columba livia	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	
5	Spotted Dove	Stigmatopelia Chinensis	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	IV
6	Thick billed Green Pigeon	Treron curvirostra	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	iv
7	Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica	Columbiformes	Columbidae	LC	IV
6	Indian Roller	Coraclas benghulensis	Coraciformes	Coracidae	LC	IV
9	White throated Kingfisher	Haloyon smymensis	Coraciformes	Alcedinidac	i.c	IV
10	Common Hawk Cuckgo	Hierococcyx varius	Cuculiformes	Cuculidas	LC	IV
11	White-breasted waterhers	Amauromis phoenicurus	Gruiformes	Rafiidao	LC	IV
12	Scarlet Minivet	Pericrocolus speciosus	Passerformes	Campephagidae	LC	(V
13	Long tailed Shrike	lanius schach	Passenformes	Lanidae	LC	
4	Spangled Drongo	Dicrirus hottatottus	Passeriformes	Dicruridae	LC	IV
5	Black Orongo	Dicrurus macrocercus	Passenformes	Dichuridae	LC	IV
ti	Black Hooded orlote	Onolus xanthomus	Passenformes	Ortolidae	LC	IV
7	Rufous Treaple	Dendrocitta vagabunda	Passenformes	Corvidae	LC	rv
8	Eastern Jungle Crow	Corvus levillantii	Passenformes	Considue	rc	IV
9	House Crow	Corvus splendens	Pasaeriformas	Corvidae	LC	IV
0	Great Tit	Parus major	Passedformos	Paridae	LC	IV

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## Conservation Plan for Indian Elephant (Elephas maximus indicus)

#### 3.4 General Information

The Indian elephant (*Elephas maximus indicus*) is one of three extant recognized subspecies of the Asian elephant and native to maintain Asia. Historically, Elephas maximus had a geographic range of 9 million square kilometres across a large part of Asia. This range extended as far west as current-day Iraq, as far north as the Yangtze River in China, and across the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, including the islands of Sri Lanka and Sumatra (Indonesia). The current geographic range is 500,000 square kilometres, which is only about 5% of the historical range (Sukumar 2003). This range consists of small discontinuous areas in the Indian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, Indian elephants may spend up to 19 hours a day feeding, and they can produce about 220 pounds of dung per day while wandering over an area that can cover up to 125 square miles. This helps to disperse germinating seeds. They feed mainly on grasses, but large amounts of tree bark, roots, leaves, and small stems are also eaten. Cultivated crops such as bananas, rice, and sugarcane are favoured foots as well. Since they need to drink at least once a day, these elephants are always close to a source of freshwater.

#### Classification

Table 8 Classification of Indian Elephant (Elephas maximus Indicus)

Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Mammalia
Order	Proboscidea
Family	Elephantidae
Genus	Elephas
Species	maximus
Subspecies	E. m. indicus

#### 3.5 Physical Description

Elephas maximus is one of the largest terrestrial organisms. However, Asian elephants are smaller than African elephants and they have the highest body point on the head. Asian elephants have grey skin that is covered with hair. In adults, this hair is sparse, while calves have thicker brown hair. The body length ranges from 550 to 640 cm. The trunk is a distinctive feature of the elephant family (Elephantidae). There is a large degree of sexual dimorphism in elephants. The males are much larger than the females. Males have a height of 240 to 300 cm with a body mass of 3,500 to 6,000 kg. Females are 195 to 240 cm in height with a body mass of 2,000 to 3,500 kg. Males have tusks which are an elongation of the second upper incisors, while females lack tusks. Asian elephants have one finger-like projection at the tip of the trunk and have large flat ears. They have four hooves on the hindfoot (Sukumar 2006; Daniel 1998).

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#### 3.5.1 Habitat

Asian elephants five in a variety of habitats in the tropical region, including grasslands, tropical evergreen forests, moist deciduous forests, and scrub forests. They typically live in elevations from sea level to 3,000 meters, but elephants that live near the Himalaya Mountains sometimes move up higher than this range in hot weather.

#### 3.5.2 Behaviour

An elephant is a nomadic species, that can climb hills easily but are not able to jump and their fastest speed is approximately 32 km/hour. They are diurnal and nocturnal because of the amount of time needed to spend searching for food to sustain their large bodies. They spend 12 to 18 hours searching for and eating food and eat 10% of their body mass daily. Due to their large body size, the dephants are warm up quickly. Thus, during the hottest hours of the day, they are less active, spend time in shady areas, bathe frequently, submerge themselves in water to cool down, and use their trunk to spray water or saliva on themselves. Also, they flap their ear to got rid of excess heat and there is a positive correlation between the frequency of ear flapping and the temperature of the environment.

The females and offspring live together in a group, while the males five in smaller groups or alone. A clan consists of related females and their offspring with strong social bonds and is usually between 5 and 20 individuals in size. Larger groups are formed when clans loosely join. These groups form and break apart depending on the season, habitat, and other conditions. After males reach sexual maturity, they leave the group to five solitary or in small groups with other males with loose social bonds. Males are found with the larger groups when they are trying to mate with a female. There is combat and a dominance hierarchy for males that affects their ability to mate (Kurt & Garai 2007).

#### 3.5.3 Food Habits

Asian elephants are herbivores. Their diet consists of different plants, including bamboo, sugarcane, crops, roots of trees, flowers, fruit, seeds, grains, and the bark of trees. The trunk is important for the diversity of food habits in the elephant because it allows the elephant to grasp many types of food.

#### 3.5.4 Predation

The only predators of Elephas maximus are Bengal tigers (Panthera tigris), which attack calves. Adult elephants are very large and have tusks making it dangerous for predators to attack. To avoid predation, younger elaphants stay towards the centre of a group, which provides protection.

#### 3.5.5 Reproduction

Asian elephants are polygynous, and males are competing for female selection, so not all sexually mature melea will be able to breed. A female in estrus is fertile and receptive to mating with males in musth. Females use auditory, visual, and chemical signals to indicate to males that they are in estrus. Musth is yearly and asynchronous, occurring at varying times of the year for different males. They breed every 4 to 5 years. Normally a female gives birth to one offspring each breeding season. The gestation period is usually 18 to 23 weeks. The average birth mass is 100 kg. The typical age of independence is 5 years. Females usually become sexually mature at 10 to 15 years old, but this can vary greatly depending on the environment. In general, well-nourished individuals become sexually active at an earlier age. Males become sexually active at around the same age as females, 10 to 15 years old.

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#### 3.5.6 Present threats

- Habitat fragmentation and habitat degradation due to encroachment of forest areas for non-forest activities, settlements etc.
- Habitat loss/ alteration of forest area due to increase of agricultural activities.
- Expansion and development of the existing road networks increases number as well as the average speed of the vehicles which ultimately endanger the movement of the elephant.
- Illegal captures for peaching and wildlife trading are also a significant factor in contributing the decline of the species.
- Loss of genetic viability resulting from small, isolated population increases higher risk of becoming wiped out due to disasters, diseases, inbreeding.

The consequences of above-mentioned threats ultimately give rises to human-elephant conflict which is one of the most challenging problems in terms of future survival of elephants, elephant management and conservation.

#### 3.6 Potential Impacts

Potential impact on Ecological environment i.e impacts on existing Floral and faunal diversity is envisaged particularly during Site preparation phase and operation phase. The potential impacts on terrestrial Ecology in Site preparation and operational phase are given below.

#### Source of Impact:

The Potential Impacts on the existing floral and faunal diversity may arise due to following activities

- Vegetation Clearance.
- Generation of Noise and Illimitation from Site.

#### Impact Assessment:

#### Vegetation Clearance

The vegetation observed within the study area is common to these climatological conditions and no endangered floral species are observed. Further the distribution of vegetation is scattered in nature. Although the proposed well add are located within the reserved forest area, the present land use can be classified as agricultural land and homestead plantation. Clearance of vegetation for site preparation would be required during site preparation. However, considering the area of the well pad area and approach road, the impact of the vegetation clearance can be considered as low, and no habitation loss is envisaged for this activity.

#### Generation of Noise and Illumination from site

It is anticipated that noise would be generated particularly during the site preparation period and various operational activities from the drilling site. It is expected to get attenuated to baseline level of noise within 200-300 m from the proposed drilling locations. It is also found during the field visit that there is no ecologically sensitive area such as National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary within the Block area, the potential impacts on existing wildlife due to generation of noise can be considered as low.

It is envisaged that the drill site would be illuminated during both construction and operational phase as drilling will be conducted continuously for 24 hrs and thus may cause significant disturbance to local faunal population.

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#### 3.7 Mitigation Measures

The following mitigation measures will be undertaken:

- Loss of vegetational cover i.e tree cutting activity for preparation of well pad and approach road should be minimized as far as possible.
- The project site shall be properly fenced (chain-linked) to restrict the entry of wild animals within the well pad, particularly during night-time.
- > The borrow areas and quarries shall be located away from forests and ecologically sensitive areas.
- No temporary electric supply connection line from the grid shall be laid for the proposed project activity. All-electric requirements will be supplied from the internal DG sets.
- Appropriate shading of lights would be ensured to prevent unwanted scattering of light from the drilling site particularly during night-time.
- Movement of the heavy vehicles shall be restricted in the night-time, as most of the mammals' movement occurred during the night-time.
- > Drill cutting & other drilling waste would not be deposited near or within the forest area
- Discharge of wastewater from the drilling site shall not be taken place near the forest areas.
- > All the wastes shall be collected and treated as per the standard industrial practice.
- Proper signages and board in the local language would be installed at the established animal comdor, if any, near the drilling location.
- No temporary campsite would be constructed within the forest area and a minimum distance from the edge of the forest would be maintained.
- Clearance of vegetations, present in and around the project site, for cooking, burning, or heating purposes by the labourers should be prohibited and suitable alternatives such as kerosene shall be made available to the labourers for this purpose.
- No procurement of fuelwood and other resources from the forest area for preparation or cooking of food in the campsite.

#### Control of Noise

- Noise Levels at the drill site would be controlled as much as possible by using proper noise attenuating measures.
- Installing acoustic enclosures and muffler on engine exhaust of DG sets to ensure compliance with generator noise limits specified by CPCB. Selection and use of low noise generating equipment equipped with angineering controls viz. mufflers, silencers etc would be encouraged.
- All vehicles utilized in transportation of raw material and personnel would have valid Pollution under Control Certificate (PUC).
- All high noise generating equipment will be identified and subjected to periodic preventive maintonance.
- No night-time operation of vehicles and construction activities will be undertaken.
- Engines of vehicles and construction equipment will be turned off when not in use for long periods.
- Restrict all noise-generating operations, except drilling, to daytime.
- Periodic monitoring of noise levels on-site and nearby receptors to ensure compliance with Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules 2000.

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#### 3.8 Action Plan for the Conservation of Elephant

The following actions plans should be taken as a priority for future survival and conservation of Asian Elephants.

- The plantation activity in the nearby villages will be undertaken under the guidance of the concerned Divisional Forest Department.
- 2. Fencing will be developed around the well pad and campsite to stop any encounter with wild elephants.
- Installation of road signage along the roadside depicting the maximum speed limit of vehicles near the project site.
- 4. Regular vigitance over the movement of elephants by Forest Department and early warnings of elephants moving towards habitation area is much required in conflict prone areas. Kunki elephants are very much effective and can be used in driving away wild elephants from human habitation and crop fields.
- 5. Creation of awareness program among working personnel involved in the project activity.
- Conduction of awareness program for project personnel associated with transportation, to ensure that they follow the rules properly and drive slowly in the Elephant corridor and forest area.
- Arrangement of Van Mahotsav, Wildlife week, World Biodiversity Conservation Day etc. to aware people
  of the importance of elephants in association with the Local Forest Department.
- Conservation message about the Elephant during awareness programs like railles, student competitions, community meetings, training workshops.
- Create awareness among local people, villagers, district administrative staff and forest personnel, NGOs, and educational institutes for the protection and research.
- Use successful proventive measures (eg. trip alarm, chilli fences, and early warning system) to prevent entry of elephants.
- Carryout periodic national elephant population survey to monitor elephant population abundance and distribution across landscapes in study area.
- Assess impact of developmental activities including land use change on elephant population, its migratory routes and corridors.
- Conduct economic valuation in elephant habitats and communicate the ecosystem services coming out from elephant habitats.
- 14. Prevent poaching and illegal trade of elephant parts and products.

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### 3.9 Budget for Conservation Activity

A budgetary estimate has been proposed for Wildlife Conservation Plan for two wells (i.e. Well number 28 and 29) for 5 years under the following heads:

Table 9 Estimated Budget for Wildrife Conservation

s N.	Budgel Head	Yes	ar wise fi	nancial	budget (	Rs. HIL	akh.)
		1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	3rd Year	4 <sup>th</sup> Year	5 <sup>th</sup> Year	Total
	Food Management						
	Forest Habitat enrichment with plantation of fodder and fruit bearing plants	5	5	5	4	4	23
2	Water Management						
	Renovation, maintenance and building of water holes, ponds, solar power borewells within the forest area	6	6	4	3	3	22
3	Habitat Management						-
	Removal of Invasive species, weeds; Protection of the grassland	3	3	2	2	2	12
	Plantation for shelter of Elephant	5	5	5	4	4	23
	Controlled Forest fire and fire protection	3	3	3	3	3	15
4	Conflict Mitigation Management						
	Regular Patrolling and monitoring elephant movement in and around the project area (Anti- depredation squads, vehicles required for patrolling)	10	10	10	10	10	50
	Maintenance/Building of watch tower nearby villages	2	2	2	2	2	10
	Site Specific Mitigation measures (i.e., construction of Fencing, Wall etc)	5	5	5	5	5	25
5	Training and awareness programme			-			
	Awareness programme in school and villages	4	4	4	4	4	20
	Training programme to the local communities for Strengthening people's participation in Human- elephant conflict mitigation	3	3	3	3	3	15
8	Eco Development of Conflict Prone Villages						
	Renovation, maintenance of pond, dam, check point	4	4	4	4	4	20
	Installation of solar streetlamp in elephant affected villages	3	3	3	3	3	15
	Total	53	53	50	47	47	250

Chief Wildlife Warden Assam Guwahati-37

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