

UDUPI KASARGODE TRANSMISSION LIMITED

Project Office: ABCO Trade Centre, 4th Floor, N.H 66, Kottara Chowki,
Mangalore city corporation, Karnataka -575006

UKTL/2025-2026/20250923/KA/TL/COM/1037

Date:23-09-2025

To,

1. The Deputy Conservator of Forest
Mangalore Forest Division
Mangalore, Karnataka.
2. The Deputy Conservator of Forest
Kundapur Forest Division
Kundapur, Karnataka.

Sub: - Diversion of 31.079 ha of forest land in Badagamijaru, Tenka Edapadhavu, Tenka Mijaru, Vitlamudnuru, Vitla, Veerakhamba and Ananthady Villages in Dakshina Kannada District (Mangaluru(22.11ha) and Kundapura (8.968 ha) Forest Divisions) for construction of 400 KV Quad D/C Transmission Line in favour of Udupi Kasargode Transmission Limited: **Regarding reduction of felling of trees by using latest technology.**

Ref:

1. Letter of the ACS (F, E&E), Govt. of Karnataka No. FEE89 FLL 2022, dated 17.09.25
2. Letter of the PCCF & Nodal Officer (FCA) No. KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/83/2020-FC, dated 20.09.25.
3. Letter of the DCF, Mangalore No. Land Branch/Viva-07/Udupi-Kasaragod Line/2019-20, dated 21.09.25

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above letters regarding exploring options to reduce tree falling utilizing latest technology please find below our submission.

During processing of the above Forest diversion proposal, 8146 numbers of trees in Mangalore and 830 numbers of trees in Kundapur Forest divisions were enumerated. Tree felling is required for installation of towers and paying out/stringing of conductors during construction and looping/pruning is done to maintain required electrical clearance. As per Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 (Chapter 10, Para-10.1) tree falling is permitted below each conductor/conductor bundle and for this 400 kV D/C quad line strips of 7 meters below each conductor bundles are allowed to clear.

Considering this minimum requirement as per our submission during REC meeting the MoEF&CC regional office, Bangalore is pleased to allow clearing of 40% of the total enumerated trees as per Condition-A, Sl. No.3 of the Stage-I approval vide No. 4-KRC1378/2022-BAN/846, dated 27.10.2022.

Subsequently efforts have been made to further reduce the tree falling in corridor between the towers. We have increased height of the towers wherever possible and introduced modern technology of stringing by using drones.

- Increase of Tower height and decrease in span length shall allow trees to grow below the conductor up to a height of around 10 meters without looping or trimming, even at the lowest sag point maintain full electrical safety.
- The drone stringing technique involves passing a tiny pilot wire between towers and pulling main conductors overhead. This ensures that no trees are felled during the stringing process, unless it is impossible due to height requirements to maintain safe electrical clearance.

We have submitted reply on 21.05.2025 against the earlier EDS query in this regard where we have mentioned the tower height are being increased at location No. 145, 146, 163, 165, 166 & 168/1 in forest area under Mangalore Forest Division and at location No. 251 & 260 under Kundapur Forest division.

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By the above exercise and introduction of modern construction methodology we have estimated to restrict the felling of 2603 Nos. trees in Mangalore Division and 225 Nos. trees in Kundapur Divisions which are bare minimum to construct the line. Now the tree felling required is only around 31 % of the total trees.

Considering the above facts and technical reasons, further tree felling reduction would not be possible in present scenario, but we will put our best efforts to take all precaution while stringing to avoid any unnecessary tree felling.

In view of the above it is requested to kindly recommend the compliance report for issuance of final forest approval from MoEF&CC, Regional office, Bangalore.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your kind immediate action.

Yours Sincerely,



Balveer Mishra
Project Head

Copy to:

- 1) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation of Forest) & Nodal Officer (FCA), Aranya Bhawan, Malleswaram, Bangalore, Karnataka.