



Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
North Eastern Regional Office
Law-U-Sib, Lumbatnngen
Near MTC Workshop, Shillong-793021
Tel(0364)-253-7609,7340/7395/7278.
Fax No(0364)2536041/2536983.
Email:- ro.nez.shil@gmail.com & moefro.shillong@gov.in

भारत सरकार
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, शिलांग
लॉउ सीब लुम्बतंगेन
एम् टी सी के पास, शिलांग -७९३०२१
टेली(0364) 253-7609,7340/7395/7278
फैक्स (0364)-2536041/2536983
ईमेल: ro.nez.shil@gmail.com/moefro.shillong@gov.in

No. 3-AS B 038/2018-SHI 3305-06

3rd January, 2019

सेवा मे,

अतिरिक्त प्रमुख सचिव/ Addl. Chief Secretary,
पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/ Environment & Forest Department,
असम सरकार/ Government of Assam,
दिसपुर, गुवाहाटी-781006. / Dispur, Guwahati-781006.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 2.24 ha of forest land for **drilling location KHDD** under Golaghat Division in favour of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Jorhat.

Sir,

This has reference to the State Govt letter Letter No. FRS 119//2018/111 dated 04.05.2018 and No. FRS 119/2018/116 dated 21.11.2018 on the subject mentioned above, seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section 2 of the FCA, 1980.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government and approval by Ministry, New Delhi as received vide letter No.14-10/2018-ROHQ dated 21.12.2018, I am directed to inform that the Central Government hereby conveys its **"In Principle Approval"** for diversion of 2.24 ha of forest land for **drilling location KHDD** under Golaghat Division in favour of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Jorhat subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The User agency shall transfer the cost of compensatory afforestation over 4.48 ha of degraded forest land has been identified for C.A. in compartment No 11, Upper Dehing RF Block, Digboi Division in Tinsukia Division of Tinsukia district of Assam to Adhoc CAMPA through State Forest Department.
- (ii) The State Govt shall charge the Net Present Value of the forest land diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 28.03.2008 & 09.05.2008 in IA No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and as per the guideline issued by this Ministry vide letter No. 5-3/2001-FC dated 05.02.2009 in this regard.
- (iii) All the above funds received from the User Agency under the project shall be transferred preferably through RTGS in the newly opened State-specific saving Bank Account of the Ad-hoc CAMPA Fund (CAF) in New SB Account No. 520101263743434 of Corporation Bank, CGO Complex, Phase-I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003.
- (iv) The User Agency shall bear and deposit the amount of the cost of demarcation of the land proposed for diversion directly to the concerned Divisional Forest Officer. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer shall demarcate the land proposed for diversion on the ground by

erecting at least 4' high cement-concrete pillars duly numbered, forward and backward bearing and distance from pillar to pillar written on the pillars and DGPS co-ordinates to be inscribed on the pillars. The competent authority shall verify and issue a certificate to this effect. Photographs showing permanent boundary pillars with GPS co-ordinates to be submitted.

- (v) The certificates for the payment in respect to Sl. No. (iv) shall be furnished to this office by the user agency.
- (vi) The user agency shall submit an undertaking not to start any commercial production if exploration is successful, without prior mandatory clearance / approval from MoEF&CC.
- (vii) The user agency shall obtain the mandatory Environment Clearance as per the provision of Environment (Protection) Act 1986, if required.
- (viii) The user agency will have to obtain the Forest Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for removal, if any, of the stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land, if necessary.
- (ix) The permission for exploratory drilling or prospection would not ipso facto imply any commitment on the part of Central Govt for diversion of forest land even if minerals/oil/hydrocarbons are struck for mining.
- (x) The time for exploratory drilling will be for a period of 3 (three) years. In case the User Agency requires more time then extension is to be sought from this Regional office.
- (xi) 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.
- (xii) 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 receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final approval will be issued in this regard. Formal transfer of forest land shall not be effected by the State Govt till final approval orders approving the diversion of forest land are issued by the Central Government.

भवदीय,

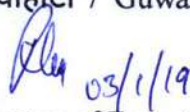


(आर. एल. सांगा)/R.L. Sanga

वन संरक्षक (केंद्रीय)/ Conservator of Forests(C)

Copy to:

प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक & HoFF/ Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, असम सरकार/ Govt of Assam, पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/ Environment and Forest Department, अन्या भवन / Aranya Bhawan, रोप कोवर ज्योति प्रसाद अग्रवाल पथ/ Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwal Path, श्रीमंत शंकरदेव कालखेत्र के पास/ Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra, पंजाबारी/ Panjabari, गुवाहाटी / Guwahati-781037.



वन संरक्षक (केंद्रीय)/ Conservator of Forests(C)

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