



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE
NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE
LAW-U-SIB, LUMBATNGEN
NEAR M.T.C. WORKSHOP, SHILLONG-793021
PHONE NO: 0364-2537609
FAX NO: 0364-2536041
Email: moefshill_09@rediffmail.com

F.No. 3-AS B 061/2016-SHI 4551-52

17th January, 2017

To

The Secretary,
Environment & Forest Department,
Government of Assam, Dispur
Rehabari, Guwahati - 6

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 4.8444 ha. of Forest land in Digboi Reserve Forest & Upper Dehing Reserve Forest for laying of underground gas pipe line from Dirak Field Development under Digboi Division.

Sir,

This has reference to the State Govt letter No.FRS.149/2016/132 dated 30.11.2016 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, I am directed to inform that the Central Government hereby conveys its **"In Principle Approval"** for diversion of 4.8444 ha. of Forest land in Digboi Reserve Forest & Upper Dehing Reserve Forest for laying of underground gas pipe line from Dirak Field Development under Digboi Division subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The User agency shall transfer the cost of compensatory afforestation as estimated by State Forest Department over 10.0 ha of degraded forest land identified at 1st Addition to Dirak Reserve Forest and by the South West side of the Namdang in the Margherita West Range of Digboi Forest Division 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) The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization/revision of the same by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- (iv) 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 CA SB01025200 of Corporation Bank, CGO Complex, Phase-I, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003 or Union Bank of India, Sunder Nagar Branch, New Delhi, 110003 (New SB A/c No. 344902010105 409).
- (v) 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.

- (vi) The charges for felling, logging and transportation of project affected trees should be collected from the User Agency at the rates approved by the State Govt and deposited with the DFO concerned for utilization immediately following the diversion of forest land.
- (vii) The certificates for the payment in respect to Sl. No. (v) and (vi) shall be furnished to this office by the user agency.
- (viii) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person.
- (ix) The felling of numbers of trees on the forest land being diverted is to be reduced to the bare minimum if feasible, and the trees should be felled under strict supervision of State Forest Department.
- (x) 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.

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.

Yours faithfully,

 17/11/17

(R.L. Sanga)

Conservator of Forests(C)

Copy to:

- (i) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Government of Assam, Environment & Forests Department, Aranya Bhawan, Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwal Path, Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakheta, Panjabari, Guwahati -781037.



(R.L. Sanga)

Conservator of Forests(C)