



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE
CHANGE
समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय



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BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KRB1296 /2021-BAN/ 268
Dated the 16th July, 2021

To

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka,
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department,
M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore – 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 0.98 ha. of forest land in Sy.No. 79/P1 of Sonnehalli village, Hesaragghatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (Additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantapura) to Yelahanka Transmission Line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division) in favour of Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS) -II Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli Bengaluru -regd.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No.FEE22FLL2021 (e) dated 01/06/2021 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section '2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above project. In this regard, the area proposed for diversion was inspected on 05.07.2021 by the official of this office and it was noticed that stringing operations are already carried out in this area in an approximate length of 200 mtr. in violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, **in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance** of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of 0.98 ha. of forest land in Sy.No. 79/P1 of Sonnehalli village, Hesaragghatta Hobli, Bengaluru North (Additional) Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District for construction of 400 KV D/C Quad Tumkur (Vasantapura) to Yelahanka Transmission Line in Bengaluru Urban District (and Forest Division) in favour of Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS)-II Regional Headquarters, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru 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 online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted (0.391 ha) 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 the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC

dated 05.02. 2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the Karnataka.

2. Cost of raising plantation (including ten years maintenance) of ten times number of trees to be felled shall be realized from user agency towards compensatory afforestation.
 3. Location of the area (map with DGPS coordinates) identified for raising the plantations shall be furnished along with compliance report.
 4. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum number in the diverted forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department.
 5. Since the User Agency has violated the provisions of F(C)Act, 1980, penalty for violation shall be realized from User Agency as specified under para 1.21 (ii) (a) & (b) of the Comprehensive Guidelines issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-2/2017-FC dated 28/03/2019.
 6. State Government will initiate disciplinary action against the official concerned for not being able to prevent use of forest land for non-forestry purpose without prior approval of Government of India.
 7. User agency responsible for violation shall be prosecuted under local Act of the State for unauthorized use of forest land without the permission of State authority
 8. All the funds received from the user agency under the project shall be transferred/deposited in CAMPA account only through e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>). Amount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage-I clearance.
 9. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
 10. The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
 11. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates.
 12. 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. 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.
3. Tree felling shall be restricted to the barest minimum possible and under confirmation from the local forest officials.
4. The period of diversion under this approval shall be co-terminus with the period of lease to be granted in favour of the user agency or the project life, whichever is less.
5. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
6. 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.
7. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
8. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
9. 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.
10. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government and Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore by the end of March every year; and
11. 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.

After receipt of compliance report on fulfilment of the conditions mentioned above, the proposal shall be considered for final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Transfer of forest land shall not be affected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be note that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, this in-principle approval shall be revoked after 5 years.


Yours sincerely,


(R. Padmawathe)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to: -

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) /Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
3. The Chief Manager, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Southern Region Transmission System (SRTS-II), Regional Headquarters, Near RTO Office, Singanayakanahalli, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru-560064
4. Guard file.


(R. Padmawathe)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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