#### भारत सरकार

### **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



# पर्यावरण ,वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE Regional Office (Southern Zone),

Regional Office (Southern Zone), Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17<sup>th</sup> Main Road, IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034, Tel.No.080-25635906, E.Mail: rosz.bng-mef@nic.in



## BY SPEED POST

F.No.4-KLB 1086/2016-BAN/ 6/ Dated the 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2016

To

The Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala, Forests & Wildlife (C) Department, Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, PIN – 695 001.

Subject:

Diversion of 0.758 ha. of forest land for laying a 12" dia cross country LPG pipeline from Kochi refinery to Palakkad (Kanjikode) connecting Udhayamperoor to IOC Plant in favour of Kochi Salem Pipeline Pvt. Ltd. (KSPPL).

Sir,

Please refer to State Government's letter No.C3/40/2016/F&WLD dated 04/03/2016 seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section'2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above-mentioned project.

As per the details given in the proposal, this is a case of re-diversion of 0.758 ha. (0.620 ha. in Thrissur Forest Division & 0.138 ha. in Nemmara Forest Division) of forest land for laying of pipeline from Cochin to Karur Via Coimbatore for transportation of petrol, diesel and kerosene by M/s Petronet CCK Limited, for which approval was accorded under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 vide Regional Office, Bangalore's letter No.F(C)A/11.2/99/KER/MISC dated 15/02/2001.

Out of 0.758 ha. of forest land proposed for re-diversion, 0.4754 ha. falls in Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary. The clearance of Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of area falling in Peechi Wildlife Sanctuary is yet to be furnished by State Government/User Agency. The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, New Delhi vide letter No.11-327/2015-FC dated 14/08/2015 had issued guidelines for processing of proposals seeking approval for use of forest land in protected areas and ecosensitive zone of protected areas. As per the said guidelines ".... in case a proposal involves use of forest land both within and outside Protected Area(s), processing of such proposals and grant of approval under the FC Act by the Central Government for diversion of forest land falling outside the PAs will not be linked to recommendation of Standing Committee of NBWL and prior leave of the Hon'ble Supreme Court........"

In the light of the above guidelines, the proposal for re-diversion of forest land falling outside the Protected Area has been examined and after careful consideration of the proposal, the Central Government hereby conveys its in-principle (**Stage-I**) approval for re-diversion / use of diverted forest land of 0.2826 ha. (0.1446 ha. in Thrissur Forest Division & 0.138 ha. in

Padura

Nemmara Forest Division) of forest land for laying a 12" dia cross country LPG pipeline from Kochi refinery to Palakkad (Kanjikode) connecting Udhayamperoor to IOC Plant in favour of Kochi Salem Pipeline Pvt. Ltd. (KSPPL), subject to the following conditions:-

- 1. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged.
- 2. Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be maintained with four feet high permanent RCC boundary pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 mts. at the cost of User Agency.
- 3. The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value of the re-diverted forest land measuring 0.2826 ha. from User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 28.03.2008 and 09.05.2008 in IA Nos.826 in 566 with related IA's in Writ Petition (Civil) No.202/1995.
- 4. 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.
- 5. All the funds received from the User Agency under the project, shall be transferred to Ad-hoc CAMPA in the Savings Bank Account pertaining to the State concerned, through e-payment module of Forest Clearance portal- <u>forestclearance.nic.in.</u>
- 6. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.2826 ha. The forest land shall be utilized only for the purpose for which it is diverted.
- 7. Any other condition that the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore may impose from time to time for protection, improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area and public convenience, shall also be applicable.
- 8. Violation of any of the conditions shall invite penal action, as deemed fit by the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore.

After receipt of the compliance report on the above conditions, the proposal will be considered for final approval. This approval shall be valid for a period of 5 years. In the event of noncompliance of the above conditions, this approval shall automatically stand revoked after 5 years.

Yours faithfully,

(R. Padmawathe)

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

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### Copy to:-

- 1. The Director General of Forests & Special Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Agni Wing, Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi 110 003.
- 2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Deptt, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala.
- 3. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Special Afforestation) & Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Government of Kerala, 'Vanalakshmi', 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Forest Headquarters, Vazhuthacaud, Thiruvananthapuram, PIN- 695 014, Kerala.
- 4. M/s Kochi Salem Pipeline Pvt. Ltd. (KSPPL), BPCL Installation, Irimpanam, Ernakulam Kerala).
- 5. M/s Petronet CCK Limited, BPCL Installation, Seaport Airport Road, Irimpanam ( P.O., Cochin 682 309 (Kerala)

6. Guard file.

(R. Padmawathe) Deputy Conservator of Forests (Central)

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