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Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
North Eastern Regional Office,  
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भारत सरकार  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, शिलांग  
लॉड सीब लुम्बतंगेन  
एम् टी सी के पास, शिलांग -७९३०२१  
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F.No. 3- SK C 023/2019-SHI/ 3452-53

23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019

सेवा में,

प्रधान मुख्य वन संरक्षक- सह प्रमुख सचिव/ Principal Secretary-cum PCCF,  
सिक्किम सरकार/ Government of Sikkim,  
वन पर्यावरण विभाग और वन्यजीव प्रबंधन/ Department of Forests, Env. & Wildlife Management,  
डेओराली/ Deorali, गंगटोक/ Gangtok,  
सिक्किम /Sikkim- 737102.

Sub : Proposal for diversion of 40.9299 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line from Teesta Stage III HEP to Kishanganj Loop Out at Rangpo in South District of Sikkim by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government's letter 1565/FCA/FEWMD/872 dated 19.12.2018, even no.985 dated 11.01.2019 submitting the additional information by the State Govt during REC meeting held on 15.01.2019 on the subject mentioned above and seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted by the Central Government.

2. After careful examination of the proposal of the State Government, *In-principle / Stage-I* approval of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of of **40.9299 ha** of forest land for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line from Teesta Stage III HEP to Kishanganj Loop Out at Rangpo in South District of Sikkim by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The User Agency shall transfer the cost of raising and maintaining the compensatory afforestation, at the current wage rate, to the Adhoc CAMPA through State Forest Department.
- (ii) The compensatory afforestation over an area of **81.90 ha** identified at 2 locations i.e. 44.37 ha in Tendong RF & 37.53 ha in Ramaram RF, Namchi (T) Range in South (T) shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency. CA cost shall be deposited in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund of Sikkim State managed by the Ad-hoc CAMPA, through E-portal in the account of the Ad-hoc CAMPA.
- (iii) The User Agency shall also transfer the cost of plantation of dwarf species (Medicinal Plants) as per the scheme prepared and the fund is to be deposited in the Compensatory Afforestation Fund of Sikkim State managed by the Ad-hoc CAMPA, through E-portal in the account of the Ad-hoc CAMPA.
- (iv) The User Agency shall transfer online, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the forest land being diverted under this proposal, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of

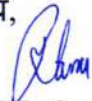
India dated 28.03.2008, 24.04.2008 and 09.05.2008 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 202/1995 and the guidelines issued by this Ministry vide its letter No. 5-3/2007-FC dated 05.02.2009. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal to Ad-hoc CAMPA account of the State concerned.

- (v) 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.
- (vi) **The User Agency should ensure that the compensatory leveies (CA cost, NPV, etc) are deposited through challan generated online on web portal and deposited in appropriate bank online only. Ammount deposited through other mode will not be accepted as compliance of the Stage- I clearance.**
- (vii) 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, forward and back bearing and distance from pillar to pillar.
- (viii) 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.
- (ix) The expenditure like boundary walls, stone pillars, demarcation charges, cost of damage of trees, the funds on these accounts should, be deposited with the DFO concerned.
- (x) The user agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required.
- (xi) The User Agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land, if necessary.
- (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 summarily be revoked considering that the user agency is no longer interested in the project.

3. After the receipt of the compliance report from the State Government on fulfillment of the conditions mentioned above, final/stage-II approval of the Central Government, in accordance with Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, will be considered. Till the receipt of the Final / Stage-II approval of the Central Government for diversion of the said forest land from this Ministry, transfer of the said forest land to the User Agency shall not be affected by the State Government.

This is issued with approval of Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (C).

भवदीय,

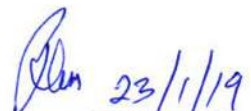


(आर. एल. सांगा)/(R.L. Sanga)

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

Copy to:

सीएफ-सह-नोडल अधिकारी/CF-cum Nodal Officer, सिक्किम सरकार/ Government of Sikkim, वन पर्यावरण विभाग और वन्यजीव प्रबंधन/ Department of Forests, Env. & Wildlife Management, डेओराली/ Deorali, गंगटोक/ Gangtok, सिक्किम /Sikkim- 737102.



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