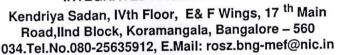
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भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE

समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE





BY SPEED POST F.No.4-KRB 1443/2023-BAN/ 99 Dated the 29th March, 2023

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 0.9416 ha. of forest land in Sy No.9 in Sabalahunasi Village, Bagalkot District for construction of new 110 KV LILO line on DC towers from 110 KV Guledgudda - Ilkal line to 110/11 KV Nagaral SP S/S for a distance of 10.235 Kms in favour of Executive Engineer (Elec), Major Works Division, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (KPTCL), Sector No-45, Navanagar, Bagalkot District - reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government's letter No. FEE 28 FLL 2023 (e) dated 17/03/2023 seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section'2' of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above project.

The proposal was examined as per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Rules, 2022 and after careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, in-principle approval /Stage-I clearance of the Central Government is hereby granted for diversion of **0.9416 ha.** of forest land in Sy No.9 in Sabalahunasi Village, Bagalkot District for construction of new 110 KV LILO line on DC towers from 110 KV Guledgudda

- Ilkal line to 110/11 KV Nagaral SP S/S for a distance of 10.235 Kms in favour of Executive Engineer (Elec), Major Works Division, KPTCL Sector No-45 Navanagar, Bagalkot District, 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 under this proposal, as per the guideline issued by Ministry vide letter No.5-3/2011-FC (Vol-I) dated 06/01/2022. The requisite funds shall be transferred through online portal into CAMPA account of the State Concerned.
- 2. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to the effect that they shall provide alternate non-forest land for Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and CA cost in case the Ministry decides that compensatory afforestation over non-forest land is mandatory for the proposals involving upto 1 ha., which have been accepted after 28/06/2022. The User Agency shall provide the requisite undertaking before issuing any order/working permission by the State Government.
- 3. Cost of raising ten times number of trees to be felled (including maintenance) shall be realized from user agency towards compensatory afforestation.
- 4. Location of the area (map with DGPS coordinates) identified for raising the plantation shall be furnished along with compliance report.
- 5. 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.
- 6. The KML file of the forest area diverted and forest area selected towards CA plantation (ten times no. of trees to be felled) shall be uploaded on the e-green watch portal with all requisite details and same shall be submitted along with compliance report including GPS ids.
- 7. The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost as per the directions of concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- 8. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (https://parivesh.nic.in/).
- 9. 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. User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department.
- 4. State Government shall ensure the settlement of Rights under Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.
- 5. The user agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on

upper conductor of transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits.

6. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission lines through forest area sissued by Ministry vide letter No.7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014.

7. The user agency in consultation with the State Forest Department prepare a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in right of way under transmission line for execution of the said scheme to the State Forest Department.

8. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the sam e from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of

alternate fuel.

- 9. 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.
- 10. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land by the State Government.
- 11. No additional or new paths will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- 12. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.

13. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.9416 ha.

- 14. 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.
- 15. No damage to the flora and fauna of the adjoining area shall be caused.
- 16. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- 17. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forest in the surrounding area.
- 18. 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.

19. The user agency shall comply with 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.

20. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of Forest and Wildlife.

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. Working permission, if any issued, shall be intimated to IRO, Bengaluru. Transfer of forest land shall not be effected till final approval is granted by the Central Government in this regard.

Further, it may also be noted that this in-principle approval shall be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this letter. In the event of non-compliance of the above conditions within 2 years, the in-principle approval shall be deemed to be null and void.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N.Anjan Kumar)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Inspector General of Forests (ROHQ), 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 (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.

 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.

4. The Executive Engineer (Elec), Major Works Division, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Ltd (KPTCL), Sector No-45, Navanagar, Bagalkot District -587 103.

5. Guard file.

(B.N.Anjan Kumar)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

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