



सत्यमेव जयते

भारतसरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE CHANGE  
Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada  
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Vijayawada – 520010, Andhra Pradesh  
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F.No. 4-APC135/2021-VIJ/913

Date 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

To

The Special Chief Secretary to the Government of Andhra Pradesh,  
Environment, Forests, Science & Technology Department,  
Government of Andhra Pradesh, Room No.268, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 4<sup>th</sup> Block,  
Andhra Pradesh Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati Guntur District-522503

**Subject: Diversion of 11.38 ha. of forest land in Compartment No 571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying of 400/220 KV Overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220kV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favor of CGM(Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam.-reg.**

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government letter Nos. 1486/Section.II/2021(1480785) dated 14.09.2021 and 1486/Section.II/2021(1480785) dated 01.12.2021 and online proposal No. FP/AP/TRANS/65723/2020 seeking prior approval of the Government of India in accordance with Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the above-mentioned project. The project was accorded in-principle approval (Stage-I) by the Central Government vide letter dated 11.12.2021. The State Government vide letter No. 1486/Section.II/2021(1480785) dated 21.04.2023 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval;

After careful consideration of the compliance report submitted by the State Government, I am to convey the Central Government's **final approval (Stage-II)** under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of **11.38 ha.** of forest land in Compartment No 571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying of 400/220 KV Overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220kV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favor of CGM(Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam, subject to the following conditions

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;

2. Demarcation of the forest area proposed for diversion shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
3. Compensatory afforestation and its maintenance in identified degraded forest area within 32.80 ha (20.55 ha in Nallakonda RF + 12.25 ha in Kambalakonda Extension RF) shall be carried out by the State Forest Department from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
4. The Forest Department shall ensure that the CA scheme as proposed in the diversion proposal shall be implemented in its entirety and the approved compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
5. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
6. In compliance to the condition No 7 (b), it is reported that, Prosecution orders have been issued by DFO Visakhapatnam vide procedure Rc. No 1075/2021-S5 (OR No121/2021-22 and OR No122/2021-22 VSP dated 22.09.2021, Hence, the State Government shall submit status report of the proceedings to this office from time to time with supporting documents;
7. It is reported that as per section 1.21 (ii) (c), the disciplinary action has initiated against the staff concerned and awarded with penalty as per AP Civil Service (CC & A) Rules, 1991, hence supporting documents related to above action claimed to be initiated by the State Government shall be submitted to this office at the earliest;
8. No trees shall be allowed to be felled in the diverted forest area;
9. Prior approval of the Central Government shall be obtained by the user agency following due process as prescribed under the guidelines issued under the FC Act 1980 for transfer of the diverted forest area under subject project to APTRANSCO or to any other agency, department or person;
10. Width of RoW shall be maintained as per the standard specification as per the Ministry's guidelines and additional forest area shall not be utilized beyond 11.38 ha;



11. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
12. The User Agency shall carryout plantation and maintenance of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line at the project cost;
13. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
14. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
15. Future pollarding / pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary for the maintenance of the transmission lines;
16. The User Agency shall provide firewood, preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
17. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
18. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to such project and all other mandatory clearances required for such transmission line projects shall be obtained by the User Agency;
19. Any other condition that the Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;



20. In the event of failure to comply with any of the above conditions the User Agency is liable for penal action as per the provisions made in the Rules / guidelines issued under FCA, 1980;

Yours faithfully



**(N.S.Murali)**

Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department & HoFF, AP Forest Department, Aranya Bhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
2. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Aranya Bhavan, P.V.S. Land Mark, Ground Floor, Opposite to IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522503
3. IGF, ROHQ, MoEF&CC, Jor Bagh Road Aliganj, New Delhi-110003
4. M/s. HPCL Visakh Refinery, Post Box-15, Visakahapatnam, Andhra Pradesh 530011 [harigp@hpcl.in](mailto:harigp@hpcl.in)
5. Guard file



**(N.S.Murali)**

Inspector General of Forests (Central)