



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

Government of India

पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, शिलांग/Regional Office, Shillong

उप कार्यालय, गुवाहाटी/Sub - office, Guwahati

चौथी मंजिल, हौसेफेड इमारत, जी एस रोड, रुक्मिणी गाँव, गुवाहाटी- ७८१०२२
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F.No.3 AS C 030/2021-GHY/317-18

29th July, 2024

सेवा मे,

अतिरिक्त प्रमुख सचिव/ Addl. Chief Secretary,
असम सरकार/ Govt of Assam,
पर्यावरण और वन विभाग/Environment and Forests Department,
दिसपुर/Dispur, गुवाहाटी/Guwahati-781006.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 32.78 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C HVAC transmission line (Line-I) from NHPC's 2000 MW Lower Subanshiri Hydro Electric Project at Gerukamukh to Biswanath Chariali in Subansiri Reserve Forest under Dhemaji Division by Power Grid Corporation of India.

Sir,

This has got reference to the State Government's letter No. FRS.16/2021/82 dated 21.06.2021, No. FRS.168117/230 dated 20.07.2023, eCF No. 168117/346 dated 31.05.2024 and No. FG 27/Nodal/Proposal/Power Grid/Dhemaji Divn dated 8.07.2024 on the subject seeking prior approval for the Central Government under Section 2 of the FCA, 1980 and to say that the proposal has been examined by the Regional Empowered Committee constituted by Central Government under Section 3 of aforesaid Act. After careful consideration of the proposal and the recommendation of REC in the meeting held on 02.11.2021, In-Principle Approval (IPA) was granted vide this office letter of even number dated 22.02.2022 subject to fulfillment of certain conditions.

2. In this connection and on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter No. FG 27/Nodal/Proposal/Power Grid/Dhemaji Divn dated 8.07.2024 and confirmation of amount deposited for Human Elephant conflict Mitigation and Conservation Plan vide Ad-hoc CAMPA letter dated 22.07.2024 and complete uploading of compliance on Ministry's portal, **Final Approval** of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 32.78 ha of forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C HVAC transmission line (Line-I) from NHPC's 2000 MW Lower Subanshiri Hydro Electric Project at Gerukamukh to Biswanath Chariali in Subansiri Reserve Forest under Dhemaji Division by Power Grid Corporation of India, subject to the following conditions:

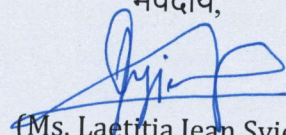
- (1) Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
- (2) Forest land will be handed over only after required non-forest land for the project is handed over by the user agency.
- (3) The compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained over double the degraded forest land of 66 ha in compartment No 4, Jonai Range under Poba

Reserved Forest in Dhemaji Forest Division of Assam as per the funds deposited by the User Agency. As far as possible, a mixture of local indigenous species shall be planted and monoculture of any species may be avoided.

- (4) The State Govt shall ensure that the revised rates of Net Present Value amount of the forest land being diverted under this proposal is transferred through online portal by the user agency into CAMPA account of the State concerned as per the Ministry letter File No.5-3/2011-FC(Vol-I) dated 21.03.2022 before issuing of the Final Approval.
- (5) The boundary of the diverted forest land shall be suitably demarcated on ground at the project cost, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- (6) The recommendation of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Govt of Assam as mentioned in the State Govt letter No.FRS.15/2021/160 dated 04.02.2022 shall be strictly implemented.
- (7) An annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions of the submitted Human -Elephant- Conflict mitigation and Wildlife Conservation plan shall be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife warden to the concerned Regional Office of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change.
- (8) The State Govt shall ensure that under no circumstances, implementation of mitigating measures envisaged in Human-Elephant- Conflict mitigation and Wildlife Conservation plan should be delayed beyond a period of 2 years to ensure commencement of rejuvenation of ecosystem services lost from the forest area allowed for non-forestry use of forest land at the earliest possible time.
- (9) All other clearance/NOCs under different rules/ regulations/local laws and under Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as required vide MoEF, New Delhi guideline No. 11-9/98-FC(Pt) dated 05.02.2013 shall be complied with.
- (10) The State Forest Department shall carryout creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) under the transmission line from the amount which is already realized from the user agency;
- (11) The complete compliance of the FRA, 2006 shall be ensured by way of prescribed certificate from the concerned District Collector.
- (12) 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.
- (13) In case the portion of transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly area, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
- (14) The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines for laying transmission line through forest areas issued by Ministry vide letter no. 7-25/2012-FC dated 05/05/2014 & 19/11/2014.
- (15) The User Agency shall obtain the Environmental Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, if applicable.
- (16) The lay out of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government.
- (17) No labour camps shall be established on the forest land.

- (18) Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternative fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternative fuel.
- (19) No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work.
- (20) 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.
- (21) The user agency will have to obtain the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 clearance for removal, if any, of stone, river sand, river boulders in forest land.
- (22) The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal.
- (23) The proposal will be implemented under the overall supervision of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer.
- (24) 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.
- (25) The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project.
- (26) The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India.
- (27) Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as per as per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 & Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023, guideline & clarification, 2023.
- (28) Any other conditions that the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife.

भवदीय,



(Ms. Laetitia Jean Syiemiong)

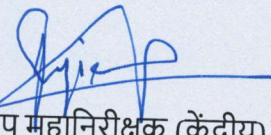
वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)

Copy to:

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Govt of Assam, Environment and Forest Department, Aranya Bhawan, Rop Konwar Jyoti Prasad Agarwal Path, Near Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra, Panjabari, Guwahati-781037.

9/c



वन उप महानिरीक्षक (केंद्रीय)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests(C)