



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS & CLIMATE
CHANGE



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F.No. 4-TNC044/2019-CHN/617

Date 03rd Aug, 2020

To

The Principal Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment & Forests Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai - 600 009.

Subject: Diversion of 3.85 ha (against the proposed area of 5.06 ha) of forest land in Thirutheri RF of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P.Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai-2-reg

Sir,

Please refer to the State Government's letter No. 8384/FR.10/2019-1 dated 09.07.2019 and 28.11.2019 and online application No. FP/TN/TRANS/23761/2017 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 02.12.2019. The State Government vide letter No. 8384/FR.10/2019-7 dated 26.06.2020 have reported compliance to the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval.

After careful consideration of the proposal of the State Government, I am directed to convey the Central Government's approval (*Stage-II*) under Section '2' of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for **diversion of 3.85 ha of forest area i.e. 1100 mtrs length with 35 meters width** (against the proposed area of 5.06 ha i.e. 1100 mtrs length with 46 meters width) in Thirutheri RF of Kancheepuram Forest Division for erection of 230 KV DC transmission line from Cuddalore to Veerapuram (S.P.Koil) via Neyveli in Kancheepuram District, in favour of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation, Chennai-2, subject to the following conditions, subject to the following conditions:-

1. The legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged;
2. Demarcation of the proposed forest area shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the User Agency in consultation with the DFO concerned at the project cost before execution of the project;

3. The State Forest Department shall carryout Compensatory Afforestation (CA) and its maintenance over 7.7 ha of degraded forest area identified in Appur RF of Kancheepuram Forest Division from the amount realized from the User Agency;
4. The degraded forest land identified for CA and CA scheme shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government;
5. Additional amount of 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;
6. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to the minimum in the diverted width of 35 meters of the forest land and the trees shall be felled under the strict supervision of the State Forest Department and the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the User Agency with the State Forest Department;
7. The User Agency in consultation with the State Forest Department shall prepare and implement a detailed scheme for creation and maintenance of plantation of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line at its cost;
8. 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;
9. The User Agency shall comply with the guidelines issued by the Ministry for laying transmission lines through forest areas;
10. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
11. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the laborers after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel. No labor camp shall be established on the forest land;
12. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
13. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;

14. The forest land proposed for diversion shall under no circumstances be transferred / sublet to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of the Central Government;
15. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labor camps outside the forest area as far as possible and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the laborers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;
16. The trees on strips would have to be felled but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration will be allowed to come up. 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;
17. During construction of transmission line, pollarding / pruning of trees located outside the **35 meters** width of the strips whose branches / parts infringe with conductor stringing, shall be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by the local Forest Officer;
18. In case the portion of the transmission line to be constructed is located in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees shall not be cut;
19. All efforts shall be taken to minimize the felling of trees and the State Forest Department shall carry out translocation of the trees wherever feasible at the cost of the User Agency;
20. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed **3.85 ha** and the forest area diverted shall not be used for any purpose other than those shown in the diversion proposal. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
21. The approval under FCA,1980 is subject to the clearance under all other Acts, Rules, Guidelines, Regulations and Court Orders applicable to such project;
22. The progress of the Compensatory Afforestation under the jurisdiction of Kancheepuram Forest Division shall be monitored by the respective Circle Head and a copy of such monitoring report shall be forwarded to the Regional Office;
23. Any other conditions that the Central Government or DDG(Central) of Regional Office, Chennai 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;
24. 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 under Ministry's guideline.

Yours faithfully,

(L.Chandrasekar)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
2. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests/Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Forest Department, No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
3. The Executive Engineer / Civil, Transmission Projects / GCC-II, A-10, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Gundy, Chennai-32
4. Guard file.

(L.Chandrasekar)

Deputy Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Signature Not Verified

Digitally signed by L.
CHANDRASEKAR
Date: 2020.08.03 13:19:39 IST