



GOVT OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER: AIE VALLEY DIVISION
BONGAIGAON.

Phone No- 03664-295166

E-mail- dfo.taievalley@gmail.com

No. B/AVD/400KV/2022/ 3535

Date: 30/09/2022

To,

Mr. Bhaskar Singh Rawat
Chief Manager
Nangalbibra-Bongaigaon Transmission Limited
DLF Cyber Park, Tower-B, 9th Floor
Udyog Vihar Phase-II
Section-20, Gurugram-122008

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 61.1 Ha (19.187 Ha in Aie Valley Forest Division) forest area for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Bongaigaon-Nangalbibra Transmission Line vide proposal No.FP/AS/TRANS/15968/2022.

Ref: (i) Your office letter No. NBBG-SPTL-Forest-02, dated 20/09/2022.
(ii) This office letter no. A/AVD/400KV/3393-96 dated 19/09/22.

Dear Sir,

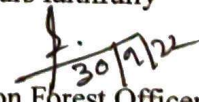
With reference to letter cited above, I would like to inform you that, I have go through the reply submitted by your end against this office letter under reference (copy enclosed) and found that the reply still not clarify the mention below queries. Therefore, you are requested to clarify the mention below queries:

1. Under the reply you are not clearly mentioned the techniques or methods which will reduce the number tree cutting as query raised by the public as well as NGOs. Out of 2330 enumerated individual trees (fall under transmission line corridor) you have mentioned that only 30 to 35% of the trees should be felled which create vague among us.
2. There is no reply have been found against the lying of transmission line underground as suggested by the Ayaranyak: A Society for Biodiversity Conservation. (Copy of letter enclosed).
3. No reply have been found against the habitat and food loss of the Golden langur after felling of the tress underneath of the transmission line.

Further, you are requested to furnish a Golden Langur conservation and wildlife mitigation plan for further processing of the proposal.

Encl: As stated above

Yours faithfully

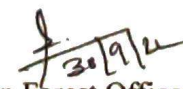

Division Forest Officer
Aie Valley Forest Division
Bongaigaon

Date: 29/09/2022

No. A/AVD/400KV/2022/ 3184-86

Copy to:

1. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Lower Assam Zone for favour of his kind information.
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, Assam for favour of his kind information.
3. The Conservator of Forests, Lower Assam Social Forestry Circle, Bongaigaon for favour of his kind information.


Division Forest Officer
Aie Valley Forest Division
Bongaigaon



GOVT. OF ASSAM

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, AIE VALLEY DIVISION
BONGAIGAON

Phone No- 03664-295166

E-Mail- dfo.t.aievalley@gmail.com

No. A/AVD/400KV/ 3393-96

Date: 19/09/22

To,

Bhaskar Singh Rawat
Chief Manager
Nangalbibra-Bongaigaon Transmission Limited
DLF Cyber Park, Tower-B, 9th Floor
Udyog Vihar Phase-III
Section -20, Gurugram-122008

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 61.1 Ha (19.187 Ha in Aie Valley Forest Division) forest area for construction of 400 KV Double Circuit Bongaigaon-Nangalbibra Transmission Line vide proposal No. FP/AS/TRANS/15968/2022.

Ref: (i) Your office letter No. NBBG-SPGL-Forest-27 dated 30/07/2022
(ii) Aaranyak, a Society for Biodiversity Conservation letter No. ARK/PRCD/13092022 dated 13/09/2022.

Sir,


With reference to the subject cited above, I would like to inform you that you had submitted a letter on dated 30/07/2022 (copy enclosed) where you had mentioned that as per the direction of Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980 the detailed exploration of alternate route alignment towards left side of the proposed alignment had been examined where you could not found required RoW corridor due to scattered habitation and river crossing. Also you had mentioned in the letter that the proposed transmission line would not bifurcate the existing forest landscapes as the project is overhead in nature and tower spotting has also been planned in elevated locations to which minimized the impact on existing flora and fauna. Further you had mentioned that, a special tower having anti-climbing guards will be used to restrict the Golden langurs from climbing on towers and protect from electrocution. But on 13/09/2022 (copy enclosed) this office received a letter from Aaranyak, a Society for Biodiversity Conservation where they intimated us that the proposed transmission line project bifurcate the existing forest into two parts on southern part of the PRF and out of total PRF area, 36.04 sq.km is one of the potential habitat of endangered Golden langur and holds the highest number of individuals (+150) in Bongaigaon

district. Further they also claimed that, the enumerated 2330 trees which will be felt underneath of the proposed transmission line are the food and lodging tree of the Golden langur.

Therefore, you are requested to reexamine an alternate route or submit a proper wildlife mitigation plan to save the habitat of endangered Golden langur and requested to propose a method which will reduce the tree felling.


Encl: As stated above

Yours faithfully


Divisional Forest Officer
Aie Valley Division
Bongaigaon.

Copy to:

1. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Lower Assam Zone, Basistha, Guwahati-29 for favour of his kind information.
2. The Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer (FC Act, 1980), O/O the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-37 for favour of his kind information.
3. The Conservator of Forests, Lower Assam Social Forestry Circle, Bongaigaon for favour of his kind information.


Divisional Forest Officer
Aie Valley Division
Bongaigaon.

REF: NBBG-SPGL-Forest- 27

Date: 30th Jul 2022

To,
The Divisional Forest Officer
Aie Valley Forest Division
Bongaigaon, Assam

Sub: - Proposal for diversion of 61.1 ha (19.187 ha in Aie Valley Forest Division) forest area for construction of 400 kV D/C Bongaigaon-Nangalbibra Transmission line vide proposal No. FP/AS/TRANS/152968/2022.

Ref: Your letter No. B/AVD/Sterlite Power/400KV/BNG to Nangalbibra/2022/2750 dated 22nd Jul 2022.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above, this is to inform you that the proposed route of 400 KV Bongaigaon-Nangalbibra Transmission line was finalized as per guidelines of the Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Govt of India by assessment of all possible alternatives to locate the transmission line with minimum involvement of forest areas and keeping in view safety & hazard concerns associated with 400 kV line along with complying all required technical specifications. Accordingly, the line routing has been done with a goal to avoid the forests areas. However, crossing of some forest stretches was unavoidable due to space constraints and due care has been taken to cross forest area at minimum feasible width.

As directed by the Nodal officer FC Act, the possibility to re-route the alignment towards left side (South-western direction) of proposed alignment have been explored by doing detailed on-site assessment but we could not find the required ROW corridor due to scattered habitation and river crossing. The proposed line is passing through edge of the Bhairab PRF having minimum impact on flora & fauna. Also, the proposed transmission line will not bifurcate forest landscapes as it is overhead in nature and has long span of cable stringing (around 400 meters) connecting the towers. Tower spotting has also been planned in elevated locations to minimize impact on the flora & fauna.

In addition to the above, special towers having anti-climbing guards shall be installed in Bhairab PRF area which will restrict Golden langurs from climbing on towers and protect from electrocution. In view of the above, this is to inform you that the proposed transmission route is best possible route covering forest area which is barest minimum required for the project. We are submitting herewith a presentation for clarification on above points as asked.

Thanking You,

For Nangalbibra-Bongaigaon Transmission Ltd

(Authorized Signatory)

Encl: As above

Registered Office: F-1, The Mira Corporate Suites, 1 & 2, Ishwar Nagar, Mathura Road, New Delhi - 110048
CIN: U40106DL2021GLS798031 www.sterlitepower.com



13/9/22
Aaranyak

A Society for Biodiversity Conservation

13, Tayab Ali Byelane
Bishnu Rabha Path,
Beltola Tinali-Bhetapara link Road,
P.O. Beltola, Guwahati, Assam, India - 781028
info@aaranyak.org
Telefax: 0361-2230250

From
Dilip Chetry Ph.D
Primate Research and Conservation Division
Aaranyak.
Email: dilip.aaranyak@gmail.com

Ref: ARK/PRCD/13092022

Date: 13th September, 2022

To
The Divisional Forest Officer
Aie Valley Forest Division,
Govt. of Assam.

Sub: Diversion of 400 KV Double Circuit Transmission lines of Sterlite Power Company.

Sir,
Greeting from Aaranyak. We came to know from the local daily news paper, Asomiya Pratidin (<https://ionews.com/home/reader/newspaper/Asomiya-Pratidin/Guwahati/Mon-Jul-04-2022/736608>) dated 4th July 2022, that the Sterlite Power Company is planning to set up the tower lines of two 400 KV double Circuit Transmission lines under the project Nangalbibra-Bongaigaon ISTS power transmission of Sterlite Company in Bahirab Proposed Reserved Forest. We had visited the Bahirab Proposed Reserved Forest on 22nd and 23rd of August 2022, we observed and found that power line will bifurcate the forest into two parts on southern part of the PRF. The Forest Department had already enumerated 2330 trees mainly of Gamari, Sal, Segun, Koroi, Demaru to be cut for the clearing of space for the proposed power line measuring a width of 46m and 4171km in length.

Sir, Bahirab Proposed Reserve Forest under Aie Valley Forest Division with an area of 36.04 Sq km is one the potential habitat of endangered Golden langur (*Trachypithecus geei*) and holds highest number of individuals (+150) of Golden langur in Bongaigaon district. This populations are in increasing trend. The Golden langur is Schedule I species (WPA, 1972) and Endangered species according IUCN, 2020. The enumerated 2330 trees species are the food and lodging tree of the Golden langur.

Therefore, we ardently request you to divert the power line to save the available tree species of the forest and Golden langur in particular. The power line can be diverted through the fringe area of Bairab PRF (map enclosed) or can also lay through underground insulated cable which will save the biodiversity of the area in general and Golden langur in particular.

Sir, please feel free to inform us if you need any assistance in this regard.

Yours sincerely

Dilip Chetry

D. Chetry D/M

