



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

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F. No. FC-III/CH-10/2016-NGP / 960

Dated: 18th October, 2016

To

✓ Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan,
New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 99.419 ha of Forest land in favour of Executive Engineer (CSEB) for construction of 132 KV DCSS Barsoor - Bijapur Transmission Line in Dantewada and Bijapur Forest Division District of Chhattisgarh

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. F-5-28/2016/10-2 dated 22.09.2016 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section - 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that scrutiny of the proposal in the Regional Office (WCZ) of the MoEF&CC at Nagpur revealed following:

- i. Division wise density of all 38 forest patches involved in the proposal has not been provided in the proposal.
- ii. KML files for 38 patches of the forest land involved in the proposal have been submitted. However, single KML file for the entire stretch of transmission line may be submitted for the ease of analysis of the forest area using decision support system.
- iii. From the examination of the vegetation map, it is observed that alignment at tower no. AP13 and AP12; AP 26 and AP 27; and AP 68 to AP67 is passing through forest area (open forest in Dantewada Forest Division) and towers no. AP 80 to AP 78 and AP78 to AP83, passing through the moderately dense forests in Bijapur Forest Division which can be avoided by affecting a slight shift in the alignment. The Comments of the State Government on the possibility of shifting the alignment may be submitted along with the forest stock maps showing the alignment conspicuously along with proper legends.
- iv. The State Government in its forwarding letter has mentioned that a total of 6,133 trees will be affected from the project while the underlying documents mentioned total number of trees as 6,267 (5206+927+62+72). Exact details of project affected trees, Division wise may be submitted by the state Government. Further underlying documents pertaining to density of vegetation in Dantewada and Bijapur Districts mentions the density as 0.5 to 0.7 and 0.5 respectively while the State Government mentioned the same as 0.4 to 0.8 and 0.4 to 0.5. Exact vegetation density may be communicated by the State Government.
- v. As per the details indicated in the proposal, the existing line of 33 KV from 220 KV Barsoor - Substation is supplying power to the Bijapur. The rationale for proposing altogether new alignment


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originating from the same Sub-station through the forest area instead of upgrading the existing transmission line may be submitted by the State Government.

- vi. Examination of the kml/shape files, it is revealed that out of total area nearly 87.10 % falls under the category of moderately dense forest while only 13.09% appears to be fit for afforestation. The State Government therefore, needs to re-confirm the suitability of the area proposed for CA and if required alternate CA site suitable for afforestation may be selected. Further, as per the provision of the component of CA scheme, the State Government has incorporated the provision of protection for 10 years. However, the provisions further needs to be elaborated to confirm if the provisions of protection incorporates watchman and fencing also as the same appears to have been provided only for 2 months.
- vii. Part-II of the proposal submitted online mention that Pas are located at a distance of 1 km from the boundary of the area proposed for diversion while the State Government in its forwarding letter has mentioned no PAs in 10 Km distance from the boundary of the area proposed for diversion. Exact distance of the PAs may be communicated and accordingly, if needed necessary amendments in Part-II may be affected.
- viii. Revised suitability certificate in respect of CA land may be obtained from the DCF clearly certifying the status of encroachment and encumbrances on the degraded forest land proposed for CA.
- ix. A map on appropriate scale depicting the alignment passing through the eco-sensitive zone of the Bharamgarh WLS may be submitted along with the status of wildlife in the eco-sensitive zone.
- x. Details of employment potential in terms of maydays for skilled, semiskilled and unskilled persons to be generated both on permanent basis (direct and indirect) as well as temporary (direct and indirect), also needs to be provided by the State Government.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit the information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to this office for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,


Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist 'C'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur
2. The Nodal Officer FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
3. DCFs, Forest Divisions Dantewada/Bijapur.
4. User Agency.
5. Guard File.

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Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist 'C'