File No.4-KRC1366/2022-BAN



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE समन्वित क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय INTEGRATED REGIONAL OFFICE Kendriya Sadan, IVth Floor, E& F Wings, 17th Main Road,IInd Block, Koramangala, Bangalore – 560 034.Tel.No.080-25635912, E.Mail: rosz.bng-mef@nic.in



F.No.4-KRC1366/2022-BAN/ 1003 Dated the 23rd November, 2022

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Forest, Ecology & Environment Department, M.S.Building, Dr.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore – 560 001.

Subject: Diversion of 17.49 ha (revised from 16.246 ha) of forest land in Haladi, Avarshe, Siruru, Billadi, Heggunje and other villages in Udupi and Brahamavara Taluk of Udupi District for construction of Irrigation Main and Branch Canal under Varahi lift irrigation scheme in favour of the Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited No.2 Varahi Reservoir Project Division Udupi -reg.

Sir,

То

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter No. FEE 87 FLL 2022 (e) dated 18/07/2022 on the above cited subject and to inform that the proposal submitted by State Government was examined in consultation with MoEF&CC, New Delhi. In this regard, it is requested that information on the following points may kindly be provided for further examination of the proposal:-

- i. The justification given by User Agency that by avoiding forest area, there will be reduction in the total command area is not supported by quantitative details.
- ii. The cost escalation is cited as a reason for discarding one of the alternative alignment examined in non forest area. However, the exact details of increase in cost for setting up the project in non forest land is not provided. The values of Ecosystem Goods and Services of the forest area selected for the proposed alignment needs to be compared with the implementation cost in non forest area to arrive at a scientific conclusion of discarding or selecting forest /non forest area.

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- iii. In order to assess the gravity of *fait accompli* situation created by the User Agency, quantifiable assessment of feasible alternatives may be examined and reported.
- iv. The status of compliance of conditions stipulated with respect to diversion of 15.40 ha. of forest land accorded under F(C)Act, 1980 vide letter No.F(C)A/16.1/KAR/34/IP dated 03/01/1996 and for diversion of 129.60 ha. of forest land vide letter No.8-107/84-FC dated 12/03/2004 duly authenticated by State Forest Department may be provided.

Yours faithfully,

(B.N.Anjan Kumar) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Copy to:

- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
- The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) / Nodal Officer (FCA), Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Forests Department, Govt. of Karnataka, Aranya Bhavan, 18th Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore – 560 003.
- 3. The Executive Engineer, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited No.2 Varahi Reservoir Project Division, Siddapura, Udupi -576 229.

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(B.N.Anjan Kumar) Assistant Inspector General of Forests (Central)

Olc 25/11/2022