



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार/Government of India
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
एकीकृत क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, कोलकाता/ Integrated Regional Office, Kolkata
IB-198, Sector – III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700106
E-mail: iro.kolkata-mefcc@gov.in



No.IRO/KOL/WB/Others/154900/2022/474 Date: 23rd November 2022

To,

The Addl. Chief Secretary,
Department of Forests,
Government of West Bengal,
Aranya Bhawan, Block-LA, 10-A, Sector – III,
Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700106.

Sub: Proposal for diversion of 12.5492 ha of forest land in favour of Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Ltd. for drilling CBM Gas wells, construct approach road & laying pipeline under Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Division of West Bengal -reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of West Bengal letter No. 1591-For/O/L/10T-29/2022 dated 9.11.2022 on the above-mentioned subject, seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The proposal has been examined by this office in accordance with Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, and the following information/documents are still required to upload in Parivesh portal for further processing of the project.

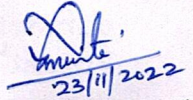
- i. Area of the forest land proposed for diversion is revised from 17.6962 ha to 12.5492 ha. Part-I & Part-II in online portal may be corrected accordingly.
- ii. It is submitted by the concerned CCF that elephants take shelter in the proposed patch of forests at times during their movement and if this patch of greenery is tampered with, Human-Elephant Conflict shall raise beyond control during their occasional visits. Also, the proposal is not a site specific project. The State Forest Department as well as the User Agency may explore the feasibility of shifting the proposal to the nearby non forest/ degraded forest land to avoid the loss of elephant movement corridor.
- iii. Comments of the CWLW in respect to the instant proposal.
- iv. A model CA scheme per ha has been uploaded in portal. The Site specific CA scheme over 6.41 and 6.1392 ha non-forest land (proposed) needs to be uploaded in portal.
- v. Legal status of the proposed CA land needs to be uploaded.
- vi. NOC from the concerned DC/ competent authority regarding the use of the proposed land as CA for the project.
- vii. From Google Earth image, some encroachments have been observed in the proposed CA land. CA land suitability certificate from concerned DFO including comments on the encroachment need to be uploaded.
- viii. The State Forest Department recommended the proposal with condition of Soil Moisture Conservation Plan & Wildlife Conservation Plan to be

formulated by concerned DFO. Upload such Plans duly approved by the Competent Authority/ CWLW.

- ix. The proposal No.FP/WB/Others/7248/2014 (Raniganj Coal Bed Methane Project) of the same User Agency had been accorded "in-principle" approval on 2.02.2016. After passage of more than 6 years, compliance report of the conditions stipulated in "in-principle" approval are still awaited. Status of the compliance report needs to be submitted.
- x. The validity of the Environmental Clearance of the project is expiring on 26.02.2023. However, the forest clearance of the instant proposal had been applied for 25 years. It may be clarified.

Therefore, it is requested that kindly upload the above mentioned information/ documents in the PARIVESH portal for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours Sincerely,

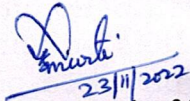


23/11/2022

(Dr. S. Hare Krishna Murti)
Assistant Inspector General of Forest

Copy to:-

1. The PCCF & HoFF, Department of Forests, Government of West Bengal, Aranya Bhawan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata, 700098.
2. The APPCF cum Nodal Officer (FCA), Department of Forest, Government of West Bengal, Aranya Bhawan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata, 700098.
3. The Divisional Forest Officer, Burdwan & Durgapur Forest Division, West Bengal.
4. The Chief Operating Officer, Main Compressor Station (MCS), Village & PO - Malandighi, Kanksa, Paschim Bardhaman - 713212.
5. Guard File.



23/11/2022

Assistant Inspector General of Forest