

I/169321/2023

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT**  
**DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6**  
**Email: [environmentforestassam@gmail.com](mailto:environmentforestassam@gmail.com)**

ECF No. 172213/129

Dated Dispur, the 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023

From : Indreswar Kalita, ACS  
 Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
 Environment and Forest Department

To : The Regional Officer,  
 Government of India,  
 Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,  
 Integrated Regional Office, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Housefed Building,  
 G.S Road, Rukminigaon, Guwahati-781022.

Sub : Forest diversion proposal of 1.9413 Ha. forest land for construction of 132KV S/C Transmission line from Salakati Grid S/S to APM (Jogighopa) in Nadangiri Hill Reserved Forest under Haltugaon Division by AEGCL, Salakati.

Ref : 1. Letter F. No 3-AS B 044/2021-GHY/3182-3183 dated 10.11.2022  
 2. Letter FG.27/Nodal/Proposal/Trans Line/Haltugaon dated 26.04.2023 (**Copy enclosed**).

Sir,

In inviting a reference to your letter on the subject cited above, I am directed to inform you that the proposed transmission line is falling within the notified ESZ of Chakracila Wildlife Sanctuary (**Map enclosed**). However, the content of the letter File No.7-7/2017-ROHQ dated 31.07.2017 (copy enclosed) is reproduced below for your ready reference:

*“....as per the extant rules, outside the Protected Areas, within 10 km radius or eco-sensitive zone, wildlife clearance exists as part of environment clearance for those projects which are covered under the EIA notification 2006. So far the Transmission Line projects are not covered under the said notification and do not require environmental clearance, thus would also not require prior approval of the Standing committee of National Board for Wildlife...”*

In view of the above, and as per the letter under reference No.2, the transmission line projects that are not under the ambit of EIA Notification 2006 and do not require environmental clearance would thus not need prior approval of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: As stated above.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
 Environment and Forest Department

Memo ECF No.172213/129-A

Dated Dispur, the 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam Panjabari Ghy-37.

By order etc.  
**(E-SIGNED)**

Secretary to the Govt. of Assam  
 Environment and Forest Department

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND  
HEAD OF FOREST FORCE, ASSAM  
ARANYA BHAWAN, PANJABARI, GUWAHATI-37

Email: [adtlpccf.nodal@gmail.com](mailto:adtlpccf.nodal@gmail.com)

Date: 26.04.2023

No. FG.27/Nodal/Proposal/Trans Line/Haltugaon

To

✓ The Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam  
Environment and Forest Department  
Dispur, Guwahati-06

**Sub:** **Proposal for diversion of 1.9413 hectare of forest land for construction of 132 KV S/C transmission line from Salakati Grid S/S to APM (Jogighopa) Nandagiri Hill RF under Haltugaon Division by AEGCL, Salakati.**

**Ref:** Government of India's letter F No. 3 AS B 044/2021-GHY/3182-3183 dated 10.11.2022.

Sir,

With reference to the above mentioned subject and letter, I am enclosing herewith a letter No. A/HFD/16/2/AEGCL/2333-34 dated 21.02.2023 along with its enclosures received from the Divisional Forest Officer, Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar regarding NBWL consent for diversion of 1.9413 hectares for forest land for construction of 132 KV S/C transmission line from Salakati Grid S/S to APM (Jogighopa) Nandagiri Hill RF under Haltugaon Division by AEGCL, Salakati.

The proposed transmission line is falling within the notified Eco Sensitive Zone of Chakracila Wildlife Sanctuary (Map enclosed). However, the user agency has informed that as per Government of India, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change letter File No. 7-7/2017-ROHQ dated 31.07.2017 (copy enclosed) outside the Protected Areas, within 10 km radius or eco-sensitive zone, wildlife clearance exists as per of environment clearance for those project which are covered under the EIA notification 2006. So far the transmission line projects are not covered under the said notification and do not required environmental clearance, thus would not required prior approval of the Standing Committee of NBWL.

You are, therefore, requested to kindly forward the information to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Guwahati for further processing of the proposal.

**Encl:** As stated above.



Yours faithfully,

**(Dr. C Muthukumaravel, IFS)**  
Chief Conservator of Forest &  
Nodal Officer, (F.C. Act), Assam

Copy to:

1. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forest cum CHD, Forest, BTC, Kokrajhar for kind information.
2. The Divisional Forest Officer, Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar for information.
3. The AGM, 220 KV Grid GSS, AEGCL, Salakati for information. He is requested to obtain for consent of NBWL.

Chief Conservator of Forest &  
Nodal Officer, (F.C. Act), Assam

SPEED POST

File No. 7-7/2017-ROHQ  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change  
(Regional Offices Headquarters Division)

Jal Wing, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,  
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,  
New Delhi- 110003  
Dated: 31 July, 2017

To

The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central)  
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change  
Regional Office (SEZ), I and II Floor,  
Handloom Export Promotion Council,  
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 34.

Subject: Clarification on application of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission line projects passing through the forest area falling within 10 km radius or eco sensitive Zone of the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. F.No.4-TSC075/2017-CHN/0813 dated 31.05.2017 on the above mentioned subject and to say that Ministry's letter No. 11-596/2012-FC dated 27.12.2012 is self-explanatory and holds good till any further clarification is issued by the Ministry.

Further, as per the extant rules, outside the Protected Areas, within 10 km radius or eco-sensitive zone, wildlife clearance exists as part of environment clearance for those projects which are covered under the EIA notification 2006. So far the Transmission Line projects are not covered under the said notification and do not require environmental clearance, thus would also not require prior approval of the Standing committee of National Board for Wildlife. You may like to peruse the Environmental Clearance Notifications for this purpose which are available on the website of ministry ([www.moef.nic.in](http://www.moef.nic.in)).

Yours faithfully,



(Bharati)

Director

Tel: 011-24695361



F. No. 11-596/2012-FC  
Government of India  
Ministry of Environment & Forests  
(F.C. Division)  
\*\*\*

Paryavaran Bhawan,  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi - 110510.  
Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) &  
Chief Wildlife Warden,  
Government of Jharkhand,  
Ranchi.

**Sub: Clarification on applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission line projects passing through the forest area falling in with 10 km radius of the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary -regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your office letter no. 1182 dated 05.11.2012 on above subject seeking clarification on applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission Line Projects passing through the forest area falling in with 10 km radius of the National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries and to say that this Ministry vide its OM No. Z-11012/5/2012-IA.II(T) dated 02.07.2012 has clarified that projects falling in eco-sensitive zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, which are not covered under the EIA Notification, 2006 and which do not require environmental clearance, would also not require prior approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife. You may like to peruse the EC Notification for this purpose. The same is available in the public domain.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiv Pal Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
- ✓ 4. User Agency (M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon 122 001).
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Section
6. Guard File.

(Shiv Pal Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM

BODOLAND TERRITORIAL COUNCIL

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER :: HALTUGAON DIVISION KOKRAJHAR

No.A/HFD/16/2/AEGCL/ 2333-34

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2023

To

The Chief Conservator of Forest

cum

Nodal Officer, (F.C. Act)

O/o the PCCF &amp; HoFF, Ghy-37

Sub: Regarding NBWL Consent for **1.9413 ha** diversion proposal of Forest land in Nadangiri Hill RF under Haltugaon Division for "**132 KV S/C Transmission line from Salakati Grid S/S to APM (Jogighopa)**" by AEGCL, Salakati.

Ref: The AGM, AEGCL's Ltr. No. AEGCL/AGM/SLKT/Grid/TL-01(FCA)/2022-23/

Dated: 20/02/2023

Sir,

Wirth reference to the subject and in continuation to the above letter No. under reference, I have the honour to enclose herewith the clarification made against the observation raised vide Ltr. No.F.No.3 AS B 044/2021-GHY/31182-3183 Dtd. 10-11-2022 which is self explanatory for favour of your ready reference.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action.

Enclo: As Stated Above

Yours faithfully,

*ge*  
Divisional Forest Officer,  
Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar

Copy to the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests cum CHD, Forests, BTC, Kokrajhar for favour of kind information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar

No.B/HFD/16/2/AEGCL/ 3252

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2023

Copy to the AGM, 220 KV Grid GSS, AEGCL, Salakati for favour of information and necessary action.

Divisional Forest Officer,  
Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar





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OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

Regd. Office: (FIRST FLOOR), BIJULEE BHAWAN, PALTANBAZAR, GUWAHATI - 781001

CIN: U40101AS2003SGC007238 GSTIN: 18AAFCA4973J9Z3

PHONE: 0361-2739520 Web: [www.aegcl.co.in](http://www.aegcl.co.in)

No. AEGCL/AGM/SLKT/Grid/ TL-01(FCA)/2022-23/

Date:20.02.2023

To,

✓ The Divisional Forest Officer,  
Haltugaon Division, Kokrajhar

Sub: Regarding NBWL consent for Diversion of 1.9413 ha of forest land in Nadangiri Hill RF under Haltugaon Division for "132kV S/C Transmission Line from Salakati Grid S/s to APM (Jogighopa)" by AEGCL, Salakati.

Ref: (i) Letter No : A/HFD/16/2/AEGCL/2000-01; Dated 10/01/2023  
(ii) Letter No: 3ASB044/2021-GHY/3182-3183; Dated 10/11/2022  
(iii) Letter No: F No. 11-596/2012-FC; Dated: 27/12/2012  
(iv) 2022 Live Law (SC) 540 ;Dated 03.06.2022

Sir,

With reference to the above subject, I would like to bring to your attention the letter under ref (iii) regarding clarification on applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission Line projects passing through the forest area falling in eco sensitive zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries. The letter clearly states that "projects falling in eco-sensitive zones around national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, which are not covered under the EIA notification, 2006 and which do not require environmental clearance, would also not require prior approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife."

Also as per the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India reported in the order under ref (iv), the point 44 (e) states that "In the event any activity is already being undertaken within the one kilometre or extended buffer zone (ESZ), as the case may be, of any wildlife sanctuary or national park which does not come within the ambit of prohibited activities as per the 9th February 2011 Guidelines, such activities may continue with permission of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of each State or Union Territory..."

In this regard, I would like to inform you that project work of the said transmission line which does come within the ambit of prohibited activities and also not covered under the EIA notification, 2006, commenced well before the declaration of the extended eco sensitive zone of Chakrasila Wildlife Sanctuary. Approximately 22km of the proposed transmission line comes under Salakati division out of which 6 km of line falls within the newly declared eco sensitive zone. Under this section, most of the work has already been started barring forest land before the declaration of the extended ESZ. The forest land of 1.9413 ha under which 3 Nos of towers is to be constructed is pending awaiting forest clearance.

Therefore, I would kindly like you to consider above two points which clearly states that there is no need of consent from NBWL standing committee and allow us to proceed with the forest clearance proposal for the early completion of transmission line.

This is for favour of your kind information and necessary action

Yours' sincerely,

Asstt. General Manager,  
220 kV Grid GSS, AEGCL, Salakati.  
Date:20.02.2023

Memo No. AEGCL/AGM/SLKT/Grid/ TL-01(FCA)/2022-23/  
Copy to :

1. The CGM (PP&D), AEGCL, Bijulee Bhawan, Ghy-01 for favour of his kind information.
2. The Chief conservation of Forest and Nodal officer (FC Act), Assam, O/o the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest and Head of Forest Force, Assam, for favour of kind information.
3. The DGM, Bongaigaon T&T circle, AGECL, Dhaligaon for favour of his kind information
4. Relevant file.

Asstt. General Manager,  
220 kV Grid GSS, AEGCL, Salakati



**F. No. 11-596/2012-FC**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Environment & Forests**  
**(F.C. Division)**  
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Paryavaran Bhawan,  
 CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,  
 New Delhi - 110510.  
 Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> December, 2012

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) &  
 Chief Wildlife Warden,  
 Government of Jharkhand,  
 Ranchi.

**Sub: Clarification on applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission line projects passing through the forest area falling in with 10 km radius of the National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary -regarding.**

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your office letter no. 1182 dated 05.11.2012 on above subject seeking clarification on applicability of clearance from the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife for Transmission Line Projects passing through the forest area falling in with 10 km radius of the National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries and to say that this Ministry vide its OM No. Z-11012/5/2012-IA.II(T) dated 02.07.2012 has clarified that projects falling in eco-sensitive zones around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, which are not covered under the EIA Notification, 2006 and which do not require environmental clearance, would also not require prior approval of the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife. You may like to peruse the EC Notification for this purpose. The same is available in the public domain.

Yours faithfully,

(Shiv Pal Singh)  
 Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Secretary (Forests), Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
2. The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhubaneswar.
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Jharkhand, Ranchi.
- ✓ 4. User Agency (M/s Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Saudamini, Plot No. 2, Sector-29, Gurgaon 122 001).
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Section
6. Guard File.

(Shiv Pal Singh)  
 Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests



shall be entitled to take assistance of any governmental agency for satellite imaging or photography using drones.

(d) Mining within the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries shall not be permitted.

(e) In the event any activity is already being undertaken within the one kilometre or extended buffer zone (ESZ), as the case may be, of any wildlife sanctuary or national park which does not come within the ambit of prohibited activities as per the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 Guidelines, such activities may continue with permission of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of each State or Union Territory and the person responsible for such activities in such a situation shall obtain necessary permission within a period of six months. Such permission shall be given once the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is satisfied that the activities concerned do not come within the prohibited list and were continuing prior to passing of this order in a legitimate manner. No new permanent structure shall be permitted to come up for whatsoever purpose within the ESZ.

(f) The minimum width of the ESZ may be diluted in overwhelming public interest but for that purpose the State or Union Territory concerned shall approach the CEC and MoEF&CC and both these bodies shall give their respective opinions/recommendations before this Court. On that basis, this Court shall pass appropriate order.

(g) In the event the CEC, MoEF&CC, the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife or any other body of persons or individual having special interest in environmental issues consider it necessary for maintaining a wider or larger ESZ in respect of any national park or wildlife sanctuary, such body or individual shall approach the CEC. In such a situation the CEC shall be at liberty to examine the need of a wider ESZ in respect of any national park or wildlife sanctuary in consultation with all the stakeholders including the State or Union Territory concerned, MoEF&CC as also the Standing Committee of National Board of Wildlife and then approach this Court with its recommendations.

(h) In respect of sanctuaries or national parks for which the proposal of a State or Union Territory has not been given, the 10 kilometres buffer zone as ESZ, as indicated in the order passed by this Court on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2006 in the case of **Goa Foundation** (supra) and also contained in the Guidelines of 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011 shall be implemented. Within that area, the entire set of restrictions concerning an ESZ shall operate till a final decision in that regard is arrived at.

(i) I.A. No. 1412 of 2005 and I.A.No.117831 of 2019 do not relate to the issues involved in I.A. No.1000 of 2003. These applications may be placed before the appropriate Bench to be heard independently.

(j) For the same reason, I.A. No.1992 of 2007 shall also be dealt with independently by the appropriate Bench and no order is being passed concerning this application at this stage.

(k) The application of the State of Rajasthan registered as I.A. No.3880 of 2015 relates to clarification of an order passed in the case of **Goa Foundation** (W.P.(C) No.460 of 2004) . Let this application be placed before the Bench taking up the case of **Goa Foundation**.



Google Map showing Location of 132 KV S/C TL Under Hailuoguo Division and distance from Chakrasila WLS

**ESZ of Ckarasila WLS**

**Chakrasila WLS**

**Proposed Diversion Area**

7.27 KM

**Area Remarks:**

The Proposed TL is falling within the notified ESZ of Chakrasila WLS and is 7.27Km away from Chakrasila WLS