

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ

(ಅರಣ್ಯಪಡೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು)ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ

Office of
Principal Chief Conservator of
Forests
(Head of Forest Force)



ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನ, 18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡರಸ್ತೆ

ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು- 560003

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Old File No.A5(6)/GFL/CR-07/2017-18

E-Office File No. KFD/HOFF/A5-6(GFL)/7/2018-FC

E-63227

Date 03-09-2020

bp

To,

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Forest, Environment and Ecology Department
M.S. Building, Bengaluru-560 001

Sir,

Sub: Diversion of 2.124 hectare of forest land in Cheelandavadi State Forest (Village) Sy No. 1, Uyyamballi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagar District (Ramnagar Forest Division) for laying of 66 KV SC line on DC towers from existing 66/11 KV Doddalahalli Sub-station to Proposed 66/11 KV Hegganuru Sub-station (12.238 km distance) in favour of the Executive Engineer (Electrical), Major Works Division, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), Old BM Road, Ramanagar
Proposal No. FP/KA/TRANS/27085/2017

- Ref:**
1. This office letter of even number dated 19-12-2019 [online Stage-I proposal dated 24-12-2019] and 28-02-2020 [communication of offline query dated 07-02-2020 of GOI]
 2. Government of Karnataka letter No. FEE 04 FLL 2019 (e) dated 22-01-2020 [Stage-I proposal in offline mode] and 22-04-2020 [offline communication of offline query dated 07-02-2020 of GOI]
 3. Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Regional Office (Southern Zone), Bengaluru letter No. F.No. 4-KRB 1225/2020-BAN/1594 dated 07-02-2020 [seeking additional information in offline mode]
 4. Executive Engineer (Electrical), Major Works Division, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), Old BM Road, Ramanagar letter No. EEE/MWD(R)/AEE(O)/19-20/ dated 09-03-2020 [online reply dated 11-03-2020] and 05-05-2020 [online reply to offline query dated 07-02-2020 of GOI]
 5. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Cauvery Wildlife Division, Kollegal letter No. A4/Land/FC/CR-08/2017-18 dated 21-05-2020 [online reply to offline query dated 07-02-2020 of GOI]
 6. Chief Conservator of Forests, Chamarajanagar Circle letter No. C1/LAND/Road formation/Hegganur sub-station/GL-1905/2018-19 dated 26-05-2020 [online reply to offline query dated 07-02-2020 of GOI]

With reference to the above proposal seeking Stage-I approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 submitted by this office vide Ref (1) letter dated 19-12-

2019 to the Government of Karnataka and by the State Government vide Ref (2) letter dated 22-01-2020 (in offline mode), the Government of India vide Ref (3) has raised the an offline query seeking certain additional information. The same was communicated by the Government of Karnataka vide Ref (2) letter dated 22-04-2020 to this office. Meanwhile, this office vide Ref (1) letter dated 28-02-2020 had communicated the Government of India query to the User Agency and field officers for reply.

In response, the User Agency vide Ref (4) has submitted the required information to the field officers, who vide Ref (5) & (6) have submitted the same to this office.

Based on the information furnished by the User Agency and the field officers, the following reply is submitted to the information sought by Government of India.

Information sought by Government of India vide letter dated 07-02-2020	Reply
(i) Details of alternative alignment examined and reasons for their rejection.	<p>The User Agency vide letter dated 09-03-2020 (ANNEXURE-1) has identified the identified the following three alternatives and has provided the reasons for their rejection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Route No. 1: In this route, the proposed line passes through forest area for a length of 1.18 km. The EHV line corridor in forest is 18 m. But in this route, the 66 KV line proposed to construct all along the existing tar road using special design tower, i.e., all power conductor lies on roadside so that the number of trees coming under EHV line corridor is going to be minimum as trees on only one side of the towers are proposed to be cut. ➤ Route No. 2: In this route, the proposed line passes through forest area for a length of 1.138 km and it is sparsely dense forest. The number of trees coming under EHV line corridor is going to be more compare to Route-1. Hence this route is rejected. ➤ Route No. 3: In this route, the proposed line passes through forest area for a length of 1.07 km. In this route, the line passes through dense forest area. The number of trees coming under EHV line corridor is going to be more compared to Route-1 and Route-2. Hence this Route is rejected. <p>The User Agency has enclosed the map showing the above three alternatives (ANNEXURE-2).</p> <p>The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Cauvery Wildlife Division vide letter dated 21-05-2020 has also agreed with the same.</p>

(ii)	Comments of User Agency on the suggestion of DCF, Cauvery Wildlife Division to lay underground cable through forest area instead of over head transmission line.	<p>The User Agency vide above referred letter has stated that the cost involved in providing underground cable through forest area instead of overhead line is 4 to 5 times of that overhead line. Partly overhead line and partly UG cable is also technically and financially not feasible.</p> <p>The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Cauvery Wildlife Division vide letter dated 21-05-2020 has recommended the Route 1 with suitable maximum height for free movement of elephants.</p>
(iii)	Clearance from Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife	<p>Even though the User Agency has applied for seeking Wildlife clearance from the National Board for Wildlife, it has not yet obtained the formal clearance.</p> <p>The same will be submitted in due course as and when the User Agency obtains the Wildlife Clearance for the proposal.</p>

In view of above, it is requested to submit the above information to the Government of India for further necessary action.

The User Agency is being informed again to obtain the Wildlife Clearance for the project and submit a copy of the same at the earliest.

Above information is also being uploaded online. The Timeline of the proposal taken from FC web portal is enclosed herewith.

Yours Faithfully



(Rajiv Ranjan IFS)

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Forest Conservation) And Nodal Officer (F.C.A)



Copy to:

1. The Chief Conservators of Forests, Chamarajanagar Circle for information.
2. The Deputy Conservators of Forests, Cauvery Wildlife Division, Kollegal for information.
3. The Executive Engineer (Electrical), Major Works Division, Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), Old B.M. Road, Ramanagar for information and with a request to obtain the Wildlife Clearance for the project from the National Board for Wildlife and submit a copy of the same to the Government of India, Government of Karnataka and this office at the earliest.



2020-05-20

2020-05-20