

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, RAMPUR FOREST DIVISION, RAMPUR BUSHAHR, HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT

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No. 1697 H.P. Forest Department.

Dated Rampur, the 4-7-25

From: - DFO Rampur.

To: - CCF (T) Rampur.

Subject: -

Diversion of 12.9880 ha. of forest land in favour of GEE CEE Hydro Power Pvt. Ltd. VPO Sarahan Tehsil Rampur, Distt. Shimla H.P for the construction of Kot Dogri SHEP (10 MW) within the jurisdiction of Rampur Forest Division, Distt. Shimla H.P.

Memo:

Kindly refer to your online observation dated 30-06-2025 on the subject

2.

In this context, it is submitted that reply of online observation raised is

furnished as under:

User agency has submitted that the KOT DOGRI SHEP (10 MW) project involves the diversion of 12.9880 hectares (ha) of forest land. This can be broadly categorized as follows:

- 1. Project Components (2.2520 ha): This portion of the land is strictly required for constructing essential project components, including the weir site, desilting tank, silt flushing, tunnel, penstock, powerhouse, switchyard, dumping sites, and the approach road to the powerhouse. Every effort has been made to ensure that the area required is the barest minimum, complying with FCA guidelines.
- 2. Transmission Line (10.7360 ha): The major portion of the land diversion is for the construction of a 66 kV transmission line. However, it is important to note that in hilly areas, transmission lines traverse from one hill to another, creating a minimal ground footprint.

Notional Diversion: Most of the transmission line corridor will remain as forest land, as indicated in the tree enumeration report. Only a few trees need to be felled, while the majority are identified as "not to be felled." Hence, the actual impact on the forest is negligible, and the land under the transmission line corridor will continue to function as forest land.

Environmental Benefits of the Project :-

The KOT DOGRI project is a renewable energy initiative that will contribute significantly to environmental sustainability:

Energy Generation: The 10 MW project, operating at an estimated 55% Plant Load Factor (PLF), will generate approximately 48,180 MWh (or 48.18 GWh) of clean energy annually.

Fossil Fuel Replacement: This clean energy will replace fossil fuel-based electricity generation, leading to a reduction in carbon emissions. On average, generating one MWh of electricity from fossil fuels requires burning about 0.5 tonnes of coal, resulting in 1 tonne of CO2 emissions.

By the installation of the 10 MW project, it shall ultimately replace a fossil fuel-based plant of the

Tree Savings: By replacing fossil fuel-based energy, the project will avoid approximately 48,180 tons of CO2 emissions annually. This is equivalent to saving approximately 2,294,286 trees every year, based on the CO2 absorption capacity of one tree (0.021 tons per year).

Conclusion :-

The diversion of forest land for the KOT DOGRI project is minimal and largely notional, especially for the transmission line, which will retain most of its forest cover. The project's benefits far outweigh its environmental impact, as it will contribute to clean energy generation and carbon emission reduction, supporting the country's transition to renewable energy.

It is, therefore, requested that the case may be forwarded to the quarter concerned for necessary approval under Section 2 of FCA, 1980.

Deputy Conservator of Forests, Rampur Forest Division,

Rampur Aushahr.