

From: Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1.

To: The Regional Officer,
Integrated Regional Office GoI, MoEF&CC,
CGO Complex, Shivalik Khand, Longwood,
Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Dated Shimla-1, the  7 FEB 2023

Subject: **Diversion of 0.6806 ha. in favour of Sajeev Hydero Projects Private Limited, VPO Sauhora Tehsil & District Kangra for construction of Lower Iku Small Hydro Electric Project (1 MW), within the jurisdiction of Dharamshala Forest Division, Distt. Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/41472/2019)**

Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter No. FC/HPB/01/26/2021/521 dated 07.10.2022 on the subject cited proposal.

2. The pointwise reply to the observations as raised vide your above referred communication is submitted as below:-

1. The user agency has submitted that the Transmission Line in KML file is proposed upto few distances from Power House where no Sub-Station exist. The clarification as given under:

i. The user agency has submitted that the detailed Power Evacuation Plan mentioning the Evacuation of Power from Power House of extant Project upto Sub-Station of HPSEB Ltd. has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I.

ii. The user agency has submitted that the power from the Power House Shall be interfaced through existing 1.6 KM, 11 KV Kandkardiana feeder. Grid Plan showing Power Evacuation of extant project has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I.

iii. The Joint Evacuation Agreement Between Lower Iku and Lower Iku 1 for Joint Evacuation of Power has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I.

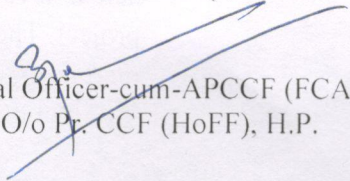
2. The user agency has submitted that the as per NoC of I&PH Department states " The Project weir should be proposed downstream of head weir of FIS Nirjul Kuhl and Machhul Kuhl and its tail race point should be 100 meter above proposed Fatt Dhani Di Kuhl". The actual Head Weir of Machhulkuhl is upstream of the Weir Site of the proposed Hydero Project. The head weirs of these Kuhls are temporary structures, which get washed during the flashfloods every year and new head weirs are constructed after the monsoons. As present the head weir of the Machhulkuhl is constructed downstream of the Weir of the Project as observed in the KML file. The Weir Site of the Project has been proposed after considering the head weirs of the existing Kuhls, so that the future consequences could be avoided. The actual levels of the Kuhl will be restored during the construction of the project. The location of Kuhls below and above from the Weir Site have been marked in KML file and layout Plan has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I. An undertaking, regarding restoration of

the Machhulkuhl at the actual levels and to the effect that "all the conditions stipulated in NoC issued by I&PH Department shall be adhered strictly by the user agency" has been uploaded against additional information details inline Part-I.

3. The reply has been given as under:

- i. The user agency has submitted that detailed list of approved/existing proposed project in the river basin area/landscape with power evacuation/transmission plan of each HEP has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I. Further, it is submitted that being run of river schemes, there is minimum impact on the ecology of the area, Effective implementation of the polices framed by the Govt. i.e., free flow of 15% discharge downstream of Weir Site and free flow of water in the Kuhl etc., has helped to restore the ecological effect in the area. Being small streams having limited catchment area, the quantity of silt is very less. So all measures are taken to mitigate the ill effect on the ecology of the area.
- ii. The user agency has submitted that the KML file and geo-referenced showing boundaries of nearest protected area and their Eco sensitive zone along with the distance of each HEP in the area/landscape from the PA and ESZ has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part.I.
- iii. The user agency has submitted that the discharge data showing volume of water available in the nallah for two lean season along with water to be utilized to run the project and maintence of e-flow. An undertaking to ensure free flow of 15% discharghas been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I.
- iv. The user agency has submitted that the Beas Basin in Himachal Pradesh has 4877.00 MW of power potential (for >5 MW projects), out of which 22 projects having 2820.90 MW capacity have been commissioned, 5 projects having installed capacity of 947 MW are under construction, 20 projects having total capacity of 1028.90 MW are at various stages of investigation and 4 projects having installed capacity of 80.20 MW are yet to be allotted. The projects having installed capacity of 668.54 MW of potential (for <5 MW Projects) have been allotted to the Independent Power Produces (IPP) in the state and projects of 268 MW capacity have been commissioned so far and remaining projects are in different stages of clearance.
- v. The user agency has submitted that the area proposed for Compensatory Afforestation is degraded forest land notified as UPF/DPF under IFA, 1927 and is in possession of State Forest Department.
- vi. The user agency has submitted that the comments and correspondence w.r.t. mitigate measures to ddress the projects upto 25 MW as received in similar case of Suil IV SHEP from the Directorate of Energy GoHP which states that "Hydel Projects upto 25 MW does not fall in purview of EIA notification, 2006 and it subsequent amendments".which has been uploaded against additional information details in online Part-I.

Yours faithfully,


Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr. CCF (HoFF), H.P.