

H.P. Forest Department.

From: Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr.CCF, H.P, Shimla-1

To: The Deputy Inspector General of Forest,
Sub Office, Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change, CGO Complex,
Shivalik Khand, Longwood, Shimla, H.P. .

Dated Shimla-1, the

Subject: **Diversion of 33.8599 ha. of forest land in favour of the National Highway Authority of India for Rehabilitation and upgrading of existing Road to four lane with Paved Shoulder from Kolka to Nauni Chowk (Kolka to Dareota Village-Pkg IIA, Dareota Village to Daseharan Village-Pkg IIB & Daseharan Village to Nouni Chowk-Pkg-IIC) of NH 205 (Design Chainage- KM 28+800 to KM 58+450, Design length 29.65 KM) in the State of HP (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/road/156128/2022) reg.**

Sir,

Kindly refer to your office letter No. FC/HPC/06/16/2024 dated 25-06-2024 in respect of the subject cited proposal.

2. The point wise reply of the observations as raised vide above referred letter is submitted as under:-

1. The User Agency has reported that the Project Authority has received administrative approval and financial sanction for Package- IIC from Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India vide letter dated 28.02.2024. The same has been uploaded at Sr. No. 26 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-I (a)**. The administrative approvals and financial sanctions for Package-IIA and Package-IIB are yet to be issued by MoRTH and the same shall be submitted upon receipt. An undertaking in this regard has been uploaded at Sr. No. 27 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as Annexure-I(b).
2. (i) The KML file of the project has been revised as per the instructions received to show clear demarcation of Forest and Non-Forest Land. The same has also been uploaded online in Part-I of the PARVISH Portal by UA.
 - (i) As per instructions, necessary changes have been made in the KML file. The revised KML has been uploaded online in Part-I by UA.
 - (ii) UA has reported that total 8 Nos. of forest plots (under patch number P-127 to P-142) proposed for diversion in Bilaspur district have been omitted from the forest diversion proposal as these plots have already been diverted by project authority of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur. Further, forest area equivalent to the omitted plots has been included in the diversion proposal for provision of muck disposal sites. Overall, the forest area requirement in Bilaspur District

remains unchanged as 17.3469 ha. The revised total forest area statement for Bilaspur district has been uploaded at Sr. No. 28 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure 2**.

(iii) Tunnel has been marked as a component in the revised KML file and necessary corrections have been made in online Part-I by UA.

(iv) UA has reported that the information provided under column 'F' of Part I will be changed to "Yes" as per received instructions. It is pertinent to mention that Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Study for the project has been carried out and total 269 structures (Pvt. + Govt. + CPRs) will be affected due to land acquisition of the subject project. Objections to land acquisition received from the interested persons/affected parties within 21 days from publications of 3A notification have been heard and decided upon accordingly by the Competent Authority for Land Acquisition under provisions of clause 3C of the National Highway Act, 1956. Subsequently, 3D notification under the National Highway Act 1956 has been published on 13.03.2023 & 21.05.2024 (Solan District) & 28.02.2023 & 08.05.2024 (Bilaspur District). Upon publication of 3D notification, the land for the project vests absolutely with the Central Government free from all encumbrances.

- 3 As per UA the existing road sections have been constructed and made accessible for vehicular movement prior to the year 1980 before the inception of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and its provisions. These road sections marked on Survey of India Toposheet no. 53A/15 (year 1973) and 53/A16 (year 1974) has been uploaded at Sr. No. 29 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-3**.
4. Existing and proposed RoW has been clearly recorded in the revised KML file as well as in the layout plan as submitted by UA. Justification for the proposed width of RoW in the forest area has been uploaded at Sr. No. 30 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as Annexure-4.
5. The UA has submitted revised justification, including all structures pertaining to the respective forest divisions, has been uploaded at Sr. No. 31 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-5** duly authenticated by the concerned DFOs.
6. As per instructions, UA has made necessary corrections and the revised Cost-benefit analysis has been uploaded at Sr. No. 32 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-6**.
7. UA has submitted undertaking for submission of FRA certificate and application has been uploaded at Sr. No. 33 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-7**.
8. As per UA the tunnel design process has been meticulously developed, guided by comprehensive geological investigations carried out at both the tunnel portals and along the entire tunnel alignment. These investigations included detailed analysis of the geological formations and other relevant geological features present along the proposed tunnel path. The findings from these investigations were compiled into a comprehensive geological matrix and report, which served as the cornerstone for our tunnel design. The initial geological investigation provided crucial insights into the terrain and subsurface conditions, enabling us to anticipate potential challenges and design the tunnel to ensure structural integrity and safety.

However, a more detailed geotechnical investigation will be required to refine and confirm these initial findings. This geotechnical investigation will be conducted by the Concessionaire before start of We will ensure that all relevant documents and construction work at site. The Concessionaire will employ advanced techniques and methodologies to assess the soil and rock properties, groundwater conditions, and other geotechnical parameters with more detail. This thorough investigation will provide critical data necessary for finalizing the tunnel design and construction methods.

9. As per UA updated digital layout plan including legend, dimensions of all necessary components along with forest and non-forest land involved has been uploaded at Sr. No. 34 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-8 (a)**. The component wise area details has been uploaded at Sr. No. 35 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-8 (b)** duly authenticated by the concerned DFOs.
10. As per UA detailed Muck disposal management plan along with a reclamation plan has been has been uploaded at Sr. No. 41 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as Annexure-9.
11. Documentary evidence of the forest land involved (Jamabandi) for both the forest divisions have been obtained from the Revenue Department, Himachal Pradesh. The same has been uploaded at Sr. No. 36 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure-10**.
12. As per UA, the land acquisition and compensation to project affected persons in National Highway projects is carried out under the provisions of “National Highways Act, 1956.” 3D Notification for land acquisition under this act has been published on 13.03.2023 & 21.05.2024 in Solan District and 28.02.2023 & 08.05.2024 in Bilaspur District.
13. Tree enumeration lists along with detail of saplings has been uploaded in online Part-II.
14. As per UA, the proposed alignment has been fixed based on technical as well as environmental considerations. The number of trees required to be felled is the bare minimum requirement for road construction and it is not feasible to avoid them. An undertaking in this regard has been uploaded at Sr. No. 37 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure 11**.
15. The Undertaking regarding the number of trees to be felled and retained by UA has already been included in point number 14 as **Annexure-11**.
16. The revised NPV bill is uploaded online in Part-II against the additional information detail column.
17. The user agency submitted that the undertaking for submission of Soil Moisture Conservation Plan (SMC) along with detailed cost of its implementation as per MoEF&CC Directions dated 07.06.2022 and 16.01.2023 has been uploaded at Sr. No. 38 against the additional information detail column of Part-I as **Annexure 12**.
18. i) Clarification related to CA land pertains to Forest Department as Degraded Forest Land has been identified for Compensatory Afforestation. Necessary corrections in KML file Survey of India Toposheets has been made and revised file & map are uploaded online in Part-II. As per the Google earth image dated 10/2023 the area seems to be under vegetation

cover which including woody elements from Shrubs to trees. However, after the complete inspection of the area, it is mostly the Lantana growth with tree population 0-10% that too of Chir pine which makes it a degraded area as it is on heavy fires during fire season.

ii) The necessary corrections in KML file and the SOI Toposheet has been made and the area which seems under vegetation is scrub forest having the scrub growth of lantana and other shrubs. The DGPS map geo co-ordinates has

been uploaded in Part-II.

iii) Necessary rectification has been done and revised KML file and SOI Toposheet has been uploaded.

iv) CA area is infested with lantana upto 25%. There is prevalence of other bushes as well in the area. The average lantana infestation in whole of the area is about 25% and overall density is below 40% as such this area is suitable/fit for raising of CA as per FCA guideline.

v) CA area is infested with lantana upto 50%. There is prevalence of other bushes as well in the area. The average lantana infestation in whole of the area is about 50% and density is below 40% as such this area is suitable/fit for raising of CA as per FCA guideline.

vi) Demarcation of CA sites on the provided SOI Toposheet is uploaded now.

vii) Complete CA scheme for UPF Gangloh is uploaded in Part-II.

viii) The necessary certificate issued by Director of Land Record, Govt. of HP on behalf of Chief Secretary, GoHP has been uploaded against additional information column in Part-I.

ix) The proposed CA area C-11 Malyawar is notified as Demarcated Protected Forest under IFA, 1927 which is prescribed under Plantation Working Circle in approved Working Plan of Bilaspur Forest Division. Besides this, UPF Gangloh is also Govt. forest which is prescribed under Protection Working Circle as per approved working plan of Bilaspur Forest Division.

Yours faithfully,

Nodal Officer-cum-APCCF (FCA)
O/o Pr.CCF, H.P, Shimla-1.