

Dated Rampur, the / 15/11/2024

From: - CCF. Rampur.

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

Subject: - Diversion of 7.3722 hac of Forest land as additional forest land requirement in already approved diversion in favour of Shongtong Karchham Hydro Electric Project, HPPCL under the jurisdiction of Kinnaird Forest Division Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (Online No. FP/HP/HYD/4061/2019)

Memo:

Kindly refer to GoI office letter No. Ft. 8-78/2010-FC dated 09.11.2023 on the subject cited above.

2. In this context, reply to the observations as raised vide letter under reference is submitted as under:-

Sr.No	Observations	Reply of the observations
1	Point No. I Copy of approved Muck Management Plan shall be submitted.	DCF Kinnaur has intimated that the user agency has submitted the revised muck Management Plan for additional Land Measuring 7.3722 hac. Project Proponent have proposed 4 number of sites for dumping of muck in the present Proposal with area measuring 5.2248 ha. at four location with 4 patches as also shown in KML with Dumping sites A,B,C&D. The same has been uploaded on additional information Part-I at Sr No. 48 by the user agency.
2.	Point No. II The State Govt. shall submit a detailed report regarding the slow progress in implementation of CAT plan and the failure of Compensatory Afforestation Plantations.	DCF Kinnaur has intimated that in the last FAC dated 20.10.2023 it was discussed that against the CAT Plan amount of Rs. 70.195 Crore only 50 lacs has been utilized. It is submitted that this statement is not correct. <i>DCF Kinnaur has reported that out of Rs 70.195 Crore the Physical and Financial Progress report to the tune of Rs. 35.35 Crore has been uploaded as additional information on online Part-I Sr. No. 39 & 41 by the user agency.</i> It is further submitted that utmost efforts are being taken to speed up the progress in implementation of CAT Plan & CA. So far as failure of the Compensatory Afforestation plantation in one patch is

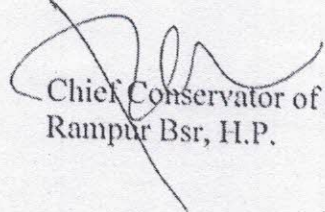
		concerned, it is submitted that the area in question is quite rocky, and near to the habitation. The failure of plantation is due to grazing and draught which will be replanted from the provisions of yearly maintenance cost kept.
3.	<p><u>Point No. III</u></p> <p>There is a violation over an area of 0.5883 ha. as reported by the State. The detailed justification for violation and action taken report against those responsible for violation shall be submitted by the State.</p>	<p>DCF Kinnaur has intimated that after getting the approval for diversion of 63 Ha. area under FCA 1980, HPPCL awarded the construction work to M/s Patel Engineering Ltd. The work was started at different sites i.e. HRT, Power House, Surg Shaft and approach road etc. During the construction phase some boundary pillars got damaged due to which the actual boundary could not be ascertained and inadvertently the construction of approach road to SFT was constructed beyond the proposed area. As the Forest Department raised the objection regarding the construction of said road and re-demarcation conducted on site as per earlier diversion and it was found that some part of the construction has been executed beyond the boundary of the diverted area and construction activities has been stopped by the Contractor. As it is the essential part of the project due to enhancement of the capacity of the project new proposal for diversion of forest area along with violated area i.e. 0.5883 ha. has been prepared. The violation of 0.5883 ha. was not executed deliberately but was a mistake for which HPPCL is agreed for paying penal NPV or any other penalty by GoI. The General Manager of the Contracting agency Sh. P.P. Sharma, General, Manager (M/s PEL) has got retired and HPPCL take the sole responsibility of the violation and is ready to pay the penalty raised against the violation.</p>
4.	<p><u>Point No. IV</u></p> <p>The reservoir to be created due to dam construction and subsequent submergence is required to be declared as Reserve Forest under Indian Forest Act. 1927. A copy of notification for the same shall be submitted.</p>	<p>DCF Kinnaur has intimated that the process for declaring/ notifying the submerged area as Reserve Forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927 has been initiated. The entire Reservoir area has been constituted as Reserve Forest <i>Vide Notification No FFE-B-F014/1/2023</i></p>

		<i>DATED 11.01.2024</i> and the HP State Govt. has appointed Asstt. Settlement officer Shimla as Forest Settlement officer. <i>The same has been uploaded as additional information on online Part-I by the user agency.</i>
5.	<p><u>Point No. V</u></p> <p>The State Government shall examine the writ petition pertaining to the instant project which is pending before the Hon'ble High Court and ensure that the same has no bearing on the instant proposal for diversion of additional forest land.</p>	<i>DCF Kinnaur has intimated that Civil Writ Petition CWP No. 3915 of 2023 titled as Durga Chand & Others Vs Union of India and Others pending for adjudication before the Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh pertaining to the Shongotong Karchham Hydro Electric Project, HPPCL Recong Peo, Distt Kinnaur, H.P. has no bearing on the instant proposal. Certificate in this regard has been uploaded on additional information online Part-I by the user agency.</i>
6.	<p><u>Point No. VI</u></p> <p>The State Govt. has reported that there are six (6) approved dumping sites in earlier diverted area and accordingly submitted the area details of these six dumping sites but the said KML file includes eight (patches) out which six are dumping sites and two (2) job facility sites. Thus, it is not clear whether these two patches of job facility have been mistakenly included in the KML file of approved dumping sites of earlier diverted area or being currently used for dumping sites. The same shall be clarified by the state government.</p>	<i>DCF Kinnaur has intimated that the two job facility sites were inadvertently included in the KML file of dumping sites. The job facility sites are not being used for dumping sites and revised KML of 6 dumping sites in the shape of CD enclosed.</i>

please.

This is for favour of information and further action at your end

Encl :- As above


Chief Conservator of Forests,
Rampur Bsr, H.P.