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**Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Maharashtra State**

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**Sub.:-** Diversion of 30.399 ha forest land for 403 MLD Surya Regional Water Supply Scheme planned to provide the bulk water supply to Mira-Bhayander & Vasai-Virar Municipal Corporation & 27 villages out side the VVCMC area by laying underground water supply line in Thane District.

No. : Desk-17/NC/II/ID 12606/(64)/1108/2018-19  
Nagpur - 440 001, Dated: 15/10/2018

To

The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central),  
Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,  
Regional Office (WCZ), Ground Floor, East Wing,  
New Secretariat Building, Civil Lines,  
Nagpur-440001

**Ref. :-** Government of India letter No. FC-III/MH-83/2018-NGP/4411 dated 05/10/2018.

As desired by Government of India vide letter dated 05/10/2018, Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Thane/user agency have submitted the query compliance. The compliance report on the point raised by the Government of India is furnished as under :-

Sr. No.	Queries raised by RO, MoEF	Compliance Done
i	Revised CA scheme including financial outlay for fencing of CA area shall be submitted.	The required information will be submitted separately on receipt from Deputy Conservator of Forests, Alibag.
ii	Consolidated map on survey of India Toposheet depicting both the alignments along with the statement may be submitted by the user agency.	The user agency has submitted the consolidated map on survey of India Toposheet depicting both the alignments along with the statement is enclosed as <b>Annexure 1</b>
iii	Certificate ensuring importance of Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 for the area sought for diversion for this proposal has not been submitted from the concerned Collector. The same shall be submitted.	No new information has not been submitted by user agency. Compliance submitted by the user agency vide letter dated 11/10/2018 is enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b>
iv	Details of number of cases in which Forest area has been diverted since 1980 is not submitted by the Deputy Conservator of	The Revised Part II Deputy Conservator of Forests, Thane and CCF & Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali will be

	<p>Forests, Thane and CCF &amp; Director, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Borivali in their Part-II. The revised Part –II shall be submitted by concerned DCF and CCF &amp; Director, SGNP.</p>	<p>submitted separately. However information as asked is as under :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deputy Conservator of Forests, Thane intimated that total area diverted since 1980 is 1389.211 ha in 96 cases.</li> <li>Chief Conservator of Forests, &amp; Director, SGNP intimated that total area diverted since 1980 is 98.1589 ha in 08 cases.</li> </ol>
v	<p>Though it is mentioned that in the heading of the proposal the area of water supply scheme mentioned is for Mumbai District, actually the forest area being diverted falls in more than one district and desired that the exact details may be submitted.</p>	<p>The user agency has submitted vide letter dated 11/10/2018 enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b> that , it is a linear proposal and intends to supply drinking water brought from the pickup-weir on the Surya river located around 90 km away from the Chene MBR (distribution point) of this drinking water scheme, the forest and the non forest land required to lay this long pipeline has to cross two districts i.e. Palghar and Thane. The details of the villages and the forest and the non forest area required for this purpose has been mentioned in Part-I which has been submitted along with the proposal under the heading “purpose wise breakup of the land”.</p>
vi	<p>As to why the two projects i.e. for diversion protion and re-diversion portion should be not clubbed together.</p>	<p>The user agency has submitted vide letter dated 11/10/2018 enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b> that the issue of clubbing diversion and re-diversion proposals was discussed in REC meeting held on 27/09/2018. Based on the nature of the land proposed for fresh diversion and re-diversion and to avoid confussion between these two proposals. Hence in order to bring in clarity in the complete project the two proposals as diversion (30.399ha.) and Re-diversion (22.230 ha.) were submitted.</p>
vii	<p>An area of 1.680 ha. Kashidkopar village and 1.80 ha in Chena village have been proposed for MBR activity which comes under non – liner category. Hence, the Committee desired that the category in online may be changed to Hybrid category and revised FRA, for non-linear projects, may be submitted accordingly, by the user agency for these respective areas.</p>	<p>The user agency has submitted vide letter dated 11/10/2018 enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b> that :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project involving pipelines and associated components are technically and comprehensively linear in nature.</li> <li>The length of pipeline is about 90 km. It is to be noted that it is technically infeasible to ensure supply or conveyance of water through a pipeline in a linear</li> </ol>



		<p>manner, unless there are reservoirs with pumping system and other allied structures. However the presence of these structures does not change the overall linear nature of the project.</p> <p>c) The MBR proposed at two plots (Kashidkopar and Chene) are an integral part of this linear bulk water supply scheme and accordingly FRA have already been submitted for the same.</p> <p>d) While on the subject and in light of the above facts we are requested to consider the facts as this is public utility project intended to provide much needed drinking water to 40 lac population and approve the proposal under linear category.</p>
viii	If any portion of pipeline falls in the notified Eco-Sensitive Area of Dahanu.	The user agency has submitted vide letter dated 11/10/2018 enclosed as <b>Annexure 2</b> that the part of the portion in Palghar district which falls under the Eco-Sensitive area of Dahanu. The process of getting clearance from the committee is in progress and the sanction will be procured soon and will be submitted at the earliest.

In view of the above facts, it is requested that Government of India may kindly be moved to issue approval order under section – 2(ii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, as early as possible.

Encls : As above

Draft Approved by  
Addl.P.C.C.F & N.O.M. S.Nagpur

  
(A B Nimbalkar)

Assistant Conservator of Forests

**For Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests  
& Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur**

  
15/10/18

Copy submitted to Secretary (Forest) , Revenue & Forest Department, Mantralaya Mumbai for information.

Copy to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) M.S. Nagpur for information

Copy to Chief Conservator of Forests (T) Thane.

Copy to Chief Conservator of Forests & Director SGNP, Borivali

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests Dahanu.

Copy to Deputy Conservator of Forests Thane.

Copy to Superintending Engineer, WSRM Cell, MMRDA, Mumbai, Bandra (East) for information

