

I/368853/2024

No. 48-4008/2019 (FCA)

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 0.4148 ha. of additional forest land in favour of Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Pvt. Ltd. for the construction of Integrated Kashang HEP Stage-II & III(130MW) for some modification in the Project component construction of Silt Flushing Tunnel (SFT) within the jurisdiction H.P of Kinnaur Forest Division, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P.(OnlineNo.FP/HP/HYD/49387/2020).**

Kindly refer to your office letter No. FC/HPB/01/177/2022 dated 09.01.2024 on the subject cited above.

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

1. CCF Rampur has intimated that the project proponent undertake not to seek any change in legal status of the forest land.
2. Project proponent had deposited the entire amount of (CA Rs. 1.19,57,406/- and NPV Rs. 1, 58, 64,073/-) Total Rs. 2,78,21,479/- through DD No.630041 dated 11.03.2011 (**Copy enclosed as Annexure-A**) and further deposited into CAMPA account. As per stipulation of GoI the compensatory afforestation has been raised over 36 hac. of forest land in the areas namely UF Jangi, C-215 Lippa and UPF Asarang under Kinnaur Forest Division and also carried out subsequent maintenance of plantation. The abstract of CA scheme is (**enclosed as Annexure-B**).
3. The undertaking is enclosed as **Annexure –C**.
4. CCF Rampur has intimated that Project proponent is implementing all the conditions of the Muck Rehabilitation Plan under Supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost. The status of rehabilitation of dumping sites is as under :-

S.N	Site diverted for Dumping	Location	Status	Remarks
1	DS-2&3	Power House site	Utilized	/ Reclaimed

		near NH -05	reclaimed	
2	DS-4	Near Kasasng Khad on NH-05	Unutilized,	Handed back to Forest Department
3	DS-5,6&7	On intake road to Kashang	Unutilized	handed back to Forest Department
4	Ds-8	On Old HT Road	Utilized	Reclaimed

Project proponent has rehabilitated the 3 numbers of dumping sites in respect of IKHEP i.e Dumping site No-2,& DS-3 at Power House site near NH-05 and Dumping site No. 8 on Old Hindustan Tibet(HT) Road . Project Proponent have also reclaimed these 3 Dumping sites with Proper, Geo-Jute Matting and plantation with approximately 3155 Numbers of various local species plants like, Chilgoza (1575 no), Chulli(787), Bhemi(158) Akhrot (157) & Rubinia (478) .

Reclamation Works completed



Reclamation Works completed at Power House Site DS-3



Reclamation Works completed at DS-8



5. In addition to condition 4 above, following activities shall be undertaken by the user agency under supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost.
  - i. CCF Rampur has intimated that the project proponent is complying with this condition and also ensuring that no muck is rolled down the slopes. All such areas where muck is supposed to roll down

is being rehabilitated at the project cost under the supervision of Forest Department. To prevent landslides, rolling of muck to adjoining land, all the necessary steps in the form of providing retaining walls, gabions & other structures are being taken. As on date, 12971 nos of crate walls were constructed at various sites of IKHEP.

- ii. CCF Rampur has intimated that prior to start of the dumping activities, check dam/ retention structure to arrest the sliding down of the excavated material in the shape of wire crates are being constructed along the contour of the area. This is a common practice in hilly trains for the dumping of muck which is being implemented by divisional office Kinnaur.
- iii. CCF Rampur has intimated that to stabilize the dumping sites total 12,872 No.s of crate walls have been erected and additional protection walls before TOC, 50 numbers of additional Crate walls near Power House, 27 numbers near Intake and 5 additional crate walls have already been erected at various dumping sites by project proponent . After the completion of muck dumping at various designated dumping sites, reclamation /biological treatment by providing green net blanket has already been done at dumping site near Power House. New plantation around 4,500 No's have also been done at project cost. Prior to implementation biological treatment and to create a buffer-zone and to protect soil erosion approximately 369 No.s of new crates have also been erected. As explained in Stipulation Nos. 4 above, CCF Rampur has reclaimed 3 Nos of dumping sites out of total 7 Nos.

S.N	Site diverted for Dumping	Location	Status	Remarks
1	DS-2&3	Power House site near NH -05	Utilized / reclaimed	Reclaimed
2	DS-4	Near Kasasng Khad on NH-05	Unutilized,	Handed back to Forest Department
3	DS-5,6&7	On intake road to Kashang	Unutilized	handed back to Forest Department
4	Ds-8	On Old HT Road	Utilized	Reclaimed

copy of handing over of 4 Nos dumping sites back to forest department is enclosed as **(Annexure- D)**.

6. CCF Rampur has intimated that for implementation of the recommendation of the standing committee of NBWL project proponent had deposited an amount of Rs. 9,41,92,000/- into CAMPA account and is being implemented (copy of amount deposited as **Annexure –E**).

7. The HPPCL had already established a monitoring committee under the Chairmanship of Divisional Forest Officer Kinnaur, with members from HP State Pollution Control Board and Range Officers of concerned ranges. Project proponent had deposited Rs. 6,00,000/- on prorata basis for monitoring/watch and ward of the Forests area to safeguard of Antiporching/ Fire incident through patrolling and other expenses. (The copy of committee is enclosed as **Annexure-F**).
8. CCF Rampur has intimated that the construction activities of IKHEP Stage-I is completed and this condition was implemented by Divisional Office Kinnaur . To mitigate the biotic pressure over adjoining /nearby forests, project proponents had provided suitable alternate arrangement of fuel wood for all the labourers and staff. There is a provision of subsidized fuel to the laborers engaged in the construction activities and project proponent is providing free of cost LPG Cylinders to the labourers. Besides above a community kitchen/mess is being run by the project proponent . In case of IKHEP Stage II &III , the project proponent is providing the same facilities to the labourers.
9. Since the Integrated Kashang HEP is a run of the river (R-o-R) scheme and no reservoir will be created, only a diversion structure i.e. trench weir will be raised over the river bed. Thus no reservoir will be created neither any fishing activities will be carried out in the Kashang HEP. Even no fish is found in this stretch, as certified by the Directorate of cold water fisheries Bhim Tal.
10. CCF Rampur has intimated that CAT Plan in respect of Integrated Kashang HEP stage-I, II ,III &IV has been approved amounting to Rs. 30.5060 crore. Whereas project proponent had deposited only Rs. 16.00 Crore. The detail as under :-

S.N.	Stage wise outlay of CAT plan (in crore)	Fund deposited (in crore)	Balance fund to be deposited(in crore)
1.	Stage-1 (9.223)	9.223	Nil
2	Stage-II & III (8.716)	6.777	1.939
3	Stage-IV (12.567)	-	12.567 FC case yet to be initiated
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.506</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>14.506</b>

The bifurcation of the amount of CAT plan on the basis of extent of land diverted are as under: -

- (i) Kashang Stage-1(Land Diverted 18.7242 ha.)= cost of CAT Plan Rs. 3.03

(as revised 9.223) crores

(ii) Kashang Stage-II& III( Land diverted 17.6857 ha.)= Cost of CAT Plan

Rs 8.716 Crores

(iii) Kashang Stage-IV (Land to be diverted 25.500ha. )=Cost of CAT Plan  
Rs. 12.567

An amount of Rs. 12,72,73,280/- has been utilized for implementation of CAT Plan as on 31.03.2023 (Copy enclosed as **Annexure-G**). Apart from this the APO of CAT Plan has been approved for Rs. 70,75,000 for the FY 2023-24 out of which funds for Rs. 59,85,227/- stand utilized as on 31.12.2023. The balance funds allotted for the year 2023-24 will be utilized within the financial year.

11. Integrated Kashang HEP is a run of the river (R-o-R) scheme and no reservoir will be created, only a small diversion structure i.e. Drop Down Trench Weir will be constructed for diversion of water. As per the approved EMP (*Chapter IV "Green Belt Development Plan" copy attached as (Annexure-H)* of Integrated Kashang HEP) green belt will be developed around the Trench Weir site, Power House site and around the residential area and office complex to be constructed and around the road side of the project when project is completed.
12. Project proponent has intimated that HPPCL is committing to implement the outcome of the basin level study on the impacts of HEP's on the flora and fauna as per the ToR. The CEIA study of Satluj basin had been conducted by Directorate of Energy (DoE) GoHP, through ICFRI. The ICFRI had submitted the final report to MoEF&CC which is under consideration and final approval is awaited.
13. The project proponent has intimated that HPPCL is sister concern of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd (HPSEBL) which is having sufficient experience in construction of roads and related civil works. HPPCL is also consulting the HPPWD and BRO as per requirement. Likewise in case of restoration work of damaged road of intermediate pressure shaft of IKHEP the same was being executed through PWD, although the expenditure of the same was borne by the Integrated Kashang HEP.
14. The project proponent is agreed with this condition. The 4.2105 ha. of unutilized land ( which was not utilized for dumping of muck) had already been surrendered to this department with intimation to IG forest (FC Division), MoEF, GoI New Delhi. The project proponent is committed that on completion of the project activities all the temporary diverted forestland shall be returned to HP Forest Deptt after reclamation.
15. CCF Rampur has intimated that all the other standard conditions as applicable to the proposal related to Hydro Electric projects are acceptable to project proponent.

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16. CCF Rampur has intimated that if any other condition shall be imposed by the Conservator of Forest (Central), Regional Office, Chandigarh for protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area same shall be complied by the project proponent.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully

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