



GOVERNMENT OF GOA
Forest Department
Office of the Dy. Conservator of Forests
WILDLIFE AND ECO-TOURISM (SOUTH)
Aquem, Margao Goa-403 601

Phone No:-0832-2756980

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NO. 04-09-FCA 1980-DCF-WL&ET(S)-2021-22-991

Dated:-15 /09/2021

Bhadra 24 , Saka-1943

To,
The Dy. Conservator of Forests,
Monitoring & Evaluation,
Van Bhavan,
Altinho, Panaji-Goa.

Sub:-Work of conversion of existing 11 KV overhead Netravali feeder to 11 KV U/G cabling network emanating from 33/11 KV Vaddem substation in Sanguem Constituency under the jurisdiction of Electricity Sub Division-II, Sanguem [Forest area 1.01793 Ha].....reg.

Sir,

I am to refer your letter No. 6-927-2021-22-FD-2367 dated 31.08.2021 on the above cited subject and as requested, I am to enclose herewith 4 Nos. of files (hard copies) submitted by the User Agency i.e. Electricity Department pertaining towards the above cited proposal along with the site inspection and recommendation report for taking further necessary action within prescribed limit .

Yours faithfully,

[Prem Kumar R., IFS]
Dy. Conservator of Forests,
Wildlife & Eco-Tourism, (S)
Margao-Goa.

Encl:-1] 4 sets of files containing documents numbered serially from 1/C to 75/C.
2] 4 set of site inspection and recommendation report.

“स्वच्छ भारत नितळ गोंय”

Towards Cleaner and Greener India

Goa Forest Department 24X7 Helpline No: (North Goa) 0832-2228772, (South Goa) 0832-2750246
Please visit: www.forest.goa.gov.in



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No:- 4/09/FCA1980/DCF/WL&ET (S)/ 2021-22/ **973**

Dated **13**/09/2021

To,
The Dy. Conservator of Forests,
Monitoring & Evaluation
Forest Department,
Panaji - Goa.

Sub:- Forest Conservation Act proposal of Netravali UG Cabling project.

Sir,

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of site inspection report and recommendation report for the above said project.

This office has uploaded reports for Forest Conservation Clearance and Wildlife Clearance in 'PARVESH' portal and proposals are now sent to Conservator of Forests, Panaji in Portal.

This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Prem Kumar R., IFS)
Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Wild Life & Eco-Tourism (South)
Margao - Goa.

Encl: As Above.

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SITE INSPECTION REPORT

Netravali Wildlife sanctuary forms part of Protected Area (PA) network of Goa, covering an area of 211.05 sq. kms. The sanctuary is connected with Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary in the South and Bhagvan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary in the North and Anshi National Park (Kali Tiger Reserve) on the East. Hence it forms very important habitat for all wildlife. Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary was declared in the year 1999 to preserve and protect the rich biodiversity of these areas which form part of the Western Ghats. The major forest type in this area is Moist mixed deciduous [3B/C2]. On high elevation areas, there is presence of Semi evergreen forests [2A/C2] and Lateritic semi evergreen forests [2E4]. Major tree species in the area include *Calamus roxburghii*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis* (planted) *Lannea coromandalica*, *Lagerstroemia lanceolata*, *Careya arborea*, *Artocarpus lakoocha*, *Hydnocarpus* spp, *Bombax malabarica*, *Terminalia crenulata*, *Terminalia paniculata*, *Terminalia bellirica* etc.

Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary is rich in wildlife and has reported evidence of carnivores like tiger, leopard, wild dogs, leopard cat and herbivores such as gaur, sambar, barking deer, spotted deer, wild boar etc. There are also reports and sightings of species such as porcupine, hare, civet cat species, mongoose species and slender lories to list a few. Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary is also rich in diverse population of snakes (king cobra, malabar pit wiper, bamboo pit wiper, ornate flying snake, bronze-back snake, forstens cat snake etc), birds (srilankan frog mouth, forest owlet, malabar grey hornbill, great hornbill, malabar trogon, fairy bluebirds, forest wagtail, blue robbin etc. butterflies (southern bird wing, malabar nymph, crimson rose, common rose etc,) moths (atlas moth, moon moth, tussar moth, owl eyed moth), frogs (tree frogs and toads) and other insects such as three species of honey bees, crickets, stick insect, praying mantis etc.

From the records placed before this office and site inspections undertaken by the undersigned along with the RFO, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary, it is seen that the proposed area for the work of conversion of existing 11 KV overhead electricity line to underground cabling project covers forest areas of Verlem, Netravali, and Mangal Beat. The entire length of the cabling is aligned along the existing tar road from Netravali to Salgini village. Similarly small part of the project in Nundem village is also aligned along the existing road. The same can be verified from the documents placed on record during the submission.

Possible impact on the wildlife and wildlife habitat was also perused in the site inspection for wildlife report. If the underground cabling of the existing overhead cable is done, it will be beneficial for the wildlife and will improve the wildlife habitat because at present, the overhead lines pass through thick forest areas and in some of the places the electricity lines are hanging dangerously low which is a constant threat to the mega fauna such as Gaur, Sambar, Spotted deer, leopard etc. and also to the wild animals with arboreal lifestyle such as Monkeys, civet cats, slender loris etc. inhabiting these areas. Underground cabling of the same will help avoid these threats.

Based on site inspection by DCF and by RFO, and on survey of the coordinates provided by UA, the area of the project that falls in NWLS is 0.8563 ha, whereas the UA had applied for 1.01973 ha.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The digging for underground cabling shall be done as per the permissible limits in FCA rules of MoEF&CC. Further, it shall be the responsibility of the User Agency (UA) to ensure that the dug up land is sufficiently covered up (in terms of quantum of filling) and adequately sloped (natural slope existing shall be retained strictly) after the cabling work so as not to impede the movement of wildlife across it. The UA shall work in close coordination with the RFO, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary to ensure the same. The UA shall ensure that no

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camping of labor force is done inside the Sanctuary area. The UA shall also incorporate suitable measures to ensure that the sanctity of the habitat is not disturbed in any possible way. For subsequent digging and repair works after underground cabling, permissions as per rules and regulations shall be taken by the agencies separately and it shall be the duty of the agencies involved to keep this office and the RFO, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary updated of the developments in this regard.

The UA shall follow all the above mentioned directions and all due guidelines for safety of wildlife. Considering the necessity of this project for the electric supply of the State of Goa, and the dangers the overhead cables pose for the wildlife of the sanctuary, the proposal is recommended for wildlife clearance.


(R. Prem Kumar IFS)

DCF (Wildlife & Ecotourism-South Goa)

Place: Madgaon, Goa