GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

No.FRS.15/2021/182

Dated Dispur, the 18th February, 2022

From

Sri I. Kalita, ACS

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, **Environment and Forest Department**

To

The Inspector General of Forest (Central),

Government of India,

Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, 4th Floor, Housefed Building,

G.S Road, Rukminigaon, Guwahati-781022

Sub

(i) Forest diversion proposal of 32.78 Ha. forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C HVAC transmission line (Line-I) from NHPC's 2000 MW Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric project at Gerukamukh to BiswanthChariali in Subansiri Reserved Forest under Dhemaji Division by Power Grid Corporation of India.

(ii) Forest diversion proposal of 34.32 Ha. forest land for construction of 400 KV D/C HVAC transmission line (Line-II) from NHPC's 2000 MW Lower Subansiri Hydro Electric project at Gerukamukh to Biswanth Chariali in Subansiri Reserved Forest under Dhemaji Division by Power

Grid Corporation of India.

(iii)Proposal for diversion of 88.77Ha Reserved Forest land for

of India Ltd.

Ref

Letter No. 3-AS C 030/2021/GHY/1970-1971 dated 8.2.2022

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the letter on the subject cited above, I am directed to inform you that the earlier forest diversion proposal (88.77Ha) was submitted by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. in the year 2011 and subsequently the same was discussed in the FAC meeting held on 12.10.2011 (Copy enclosed).

However, the FAC had made some apprehension about presence of endemic flora in that proposed diversion area and also raised concern about safeguard of elephants. Accordingly, after carrying out careful re-route survey, site visits with all concerned stakeholders and as per advice of the then CCF & Nodal Officer (F.C Act), O/o the PCCF & HoFF, Assam (Copy enclosed) Power Gird Corporation of India Ltd. has changed the route alignment in order to reduce tree felling as well as forest area involvement.

The copy of letter No. NEGW/NERTS/KPTL/FOREST/1431 dated 10.2.2022 received from Power Gird Corporation of India Ltd. and Ground verification reports submitted by the DFO Lakhimpur Division & DFO Dhemaji Division vide their letter Nos. FLKT/A/Forest Diversion/2022/314-16 dated 11.2.2022 and FDMT/A/Power Grid/2022/231-32 dated 14.2.2022 are enclosed herewith for your ready reference.

In view of the above, I am directed to convey the recommendation of State Government for withdrawal and closing of forest diversion proposal of 88.77 Ha. Reserved Forest land for construction of 2 Nos. 400KV double Circuit Lower Subansiri-BiswanathChariali Transmission line I & II under Lakhimpur Division and Dhemaji Division submitted by Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.

Yours faithfully,

Enclo: As stated above.

Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam **Environment and Forest Department**

Memo No.FRS.15/2021/182-A

Dated Dispur, the 18th February, 2022

Copy to:

12.D2. 202V 1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, Assam, Panjabari, Guwahati-3

> Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam **Environment and Forest Department**