

No.F.6-1100/FC/For-2016/ 69 .  
Government of Tripura  
Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF  
Aranya Bhavan, Pt. Nehru Complex, Kunjaban,  
Agartala-799006, Tel: 0381-2323779  
E-mail: [pccftripura@gmail.com](mailto:pccftripura@gmail.com)

Dated, 23 April, 2024.

To  
The Deputy Director General of Forests (C),  
Integrated Regional Office, MoEF & CC,  
Law-U-Sib, Lumbatngen, Near M.T.C. Workshop,  
Shillong-793021

Sub: - Proposal for diversion of 1.368 ha of forest land for construction of drill site waste pit, drill site accommodation, TSR Camp and its approach road for location called Dev-2A at Mouja-Birendranagar under South Tripura District -regarding.

Ref: - Letter F.No.3-TR B 009/2023-SHI/3004-05 dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.

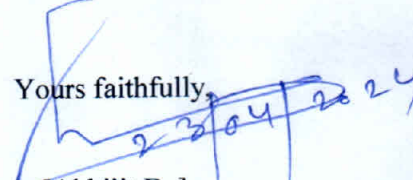
Madam,

With reference to the above, I am directed to furnish herewith the following information as sought by the Ministry under above reference for your consideration:

Sl. No.	Information sought by the Ministry	Reply
1	Tentative timeline for payment of the 2% of NPV of the forest land in the PML	The user agency (M/S JOGPL Pvt. Ltd) vide letter dated 26.03.2024 has stated the payment of the 2% of NPV of the forest land in the PML to be paid after approximately 7 months from the grant of Forest clearance and receipt of other approvals (Environment Clearance and Extension to PSC timeline). The details time line is enclosed as <b>Annexure-A</b> .
2	Proposed area for CA site be inspected by an officer not below the rank of CF with specific comments on the density along with GPS coordinate and photographs	The CF (M&E) of this office has physically inspected the proposed CA site on 03.01.2024. The proposed CA area is 2.736 ha situated at Mouja-Baramura Debtamura RF under South Tripura District. After inspection the CF (M&E) has recommended the land for CA. copy enclosed as <b>Annexure-B</b> . GPS coordinate:23°18'50"N 91°24'50"E

2. In this connection, I am further directed to stated that, the 2% of NPV of the forest land in the Kathalcheri Field Development PML have not been deposited by the user agency. This amount need to be deposited first for carrying out any exploration work. They will get permission only once they deposit the 2% of NPV.

Encl:- As stated

Yours faithfully,  
  
[Abhijit De]  
Dy. Conservator of Forests,  
FCA

No. F.21(33A)/JOGPL/AGT/DEV-2A/23-24/126

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024

To,

Deputy Conservator of Forests (FCA)  
Government of Tripura  
Aryana Bhavan  
Gurkhabasti  
Agartala, Tripura



**Sub: Proposal for diversion of 1.368 ha of forest land for construction of Drill Site, waste pit, Drill Site Accommodation, TSR camp and its approach road at location Dev 2A under DFO South**

**Ref: DCF (FCA) Letter no F-6-1100/FC/For-2016/31881 dated 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024** → P/2/20<sup>c</sup>

**JOGPL Letter No. F.21(33A)/JOGPL/AGT/DEV-2A/23-24/101 dated: 18 January 2024**

**DCF (FCA) Letter no F-6-1100/FC/For-2016/26056 dated 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023**

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of letter dated 30th January 2024 wherein we have been informed that the reply submitted vide our letter dated 18th January 2024 regarding tentative timeline for payment of the 2% of NPV is not satisfactory. We have been directed to furnish specific comments regarding tentative timeline for payment of the 2% of NPV as sought by the IRO, Shillong vide letter dated 30.11.2023.

We were prepared to discuss and explain the issue in the meeting called by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, FCA, Tripura at FHQ, Agartala on 22 February 2024 which was postponed to 1 March 2024 and later cancelled.

As already mentioned in our letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 (enclosed with letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023), in order to implement the approved Field Development Plan (FDP) for Kathalchari discovery, it is imperative for all the Conditions Precedent ( CP) approvals (PML, Forest Diversion of Development locations- KL-Dev 34A 1, KL-Dev 37A, KL-Dev 37B & Dev 2A, Environment Clearance and PSC Timeline Extension) to be in place, as a single approval will not allow the Operator to take any step. Once all the approvals are received, the Operator would have to carry out a detailed reassessment and rework a realistic forward looking development and production plan which in turn may need to be approved by the respective managements of the Contractor Parties followed by review of the Management Committee.

We estimate the following time lines for the above:

DCF (FCA)  
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1/c FCA

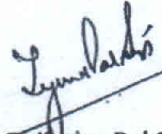
Condition Precedent	Time Line	Remarks
PML	-	Granted by MOPNG & Tripura State
Forest Diversion (KL-Dev 34A 1, KL-Dev 37A, KL-Dev 37B & Dev 2A)	<p>a) 1.5 Months leading to grant of Stage-1 (10 days (IRO)+ 50 days (MOEF))</p> <p>b) 1 Month for Submission of compliance report by UA</p> <p>c) 1.5 months (50 days) for grant of Final Approval.</p> <p>Total time for present proposals is estimated 4 months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These timelines start once IRO accepts UA request to process the approvals.</li> <li>• The time considered has been derived from Schedule -1 ( Timeline for processing of proposals) to Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications issued under Van ( Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhinyam 1980 and Van ( Sanrakshan Evam Samvarthan ) Rules 2023.</li> </ul>
Environment Clearance for drilling of Development Wells	7 months from approval of name change application submitted to MOEF on 11-09-2023	<p>Extant timelines for stages of Environmental Clearance (EC) as given in Standard Operating Procedures for implementation of Para 3 of Policy framework dated 10.11.2014 for PSC regime, Relinquishment cases under and Excusable delay cases under Policy dated 18.04.2006 and Exit cases under Policy dated 11.04.2017 for early monetization of CBM issued by MOPNG dated 28-08-2014</p> <p><b><i>It is to be noted that the approvals relating to Forest Diversion and Environmental Clearance shall be pursued simultaneously and not consecutively. Hence the timeline for both the approvals will run parallelly.</i></b></p>
Extension to PSC Timeline for initiating development		It is expected that DGH/MOPNG will grant the requested time from grant of PML or receipt of Forest Diversion approval as requested in application dated 25-10-2018.
Detailed reassessment and rework a realistic forward looking development and production plan	4 Months including approval by managements of Contractor Parties followed by Management Committee	

ML

Thus as detailed above, it is estimated that PML payment can be made after approximately 7 months from the grant of FD approvals and receipt of other approvals ( EC and Extension to PSC timeline) as assumed above.

Thank you,

Yours Sincerely,



Tejinder Pal Singh

Project Manager

Operator on behalf of Contractor Parties.

Encl:

1. JOGPL Letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023
2. JOGPL Letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Copy to:

1. Shri Rabindra Kumar Samal, Addl Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, FCA, O/o the PCCF, Tripura
2. Mr. Gada Lal Das, HoD Environment, DGH, Noida
3. Mr Saptadeep Sarma, Co-Ordinator, PSC-I, DGH Noida
4. Mr Rajesh Bagaria, GAIL (India) Limited, Noida
5. Base Manager, JOGPL Private Limited, Agartala

**JOGPL Private Limited**  
(formerly known as Jubilant Oil & Gas Pvt. Ltd.)

CIN:U74899UP1992FTC047880

Regd. & Corporate Office:

No. 15, Knowledge Park II, Greater Noida-201 306,

Distt. GautamBudh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, India

Tel: +91 120 7186000

Fax: +91 120 7186240

www.jogpl ls@jogpl.com

**Base Office, Agartala (Tripura)**

**JOGPL Private Limited**

Khyerpur – Amtali By Pass

East Champamura (Das Para)

PS- Old Agartala

Tripura West

Mob- +91 9774034183

Email- admin\_tripura@jubilantenergy.com

# JOGPL

435

No. F.21(33A)/JOGPL/AGT/DEV-2A/23-24/038

Dated: July 04, 2023

To,  
Dy Conservator of Forests (FCA)  
Govt. of Tripura  
Aranya Bhawan  
Gorkhabasti, P. N. Complex  
Agartala, Tripura

**Subject:** Proposal for diversion of 1.368 ha of forest land for construction of drill site, waste pit, accommodation, TSR camp and its approach road at location Dev 2A at mouja- Birendranagar under South Tripura District.

**Reference:** Your Office letter No.F.6-1100/FC/For-2016/6663-64 dated 7th June 2023

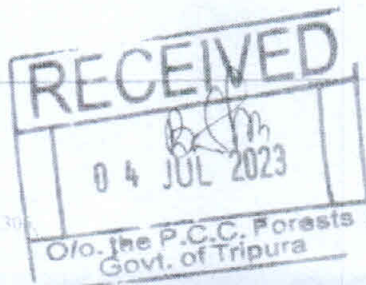
Dear Sir,

This is in reference to your office letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023 enclosing letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 from IRO, Shillong. In their letter IRO has requesting additional information on the proposal as discussed in the REC. JOGPL has been directed to provide additional information as requested at Sr No 2.

**Additional Information Sr No 2:** The status of transferring of 2% of NPV of the forest land in the PML be submitted to IRO.

**Response:** Forest Department, Government of Tripura, vide its letter dated 20 April 2022 has raised a demand of Rs 52.5 Crs towards 2% NPV calculated based on forest area falling inside 249 SqKM development area. In this context, JOGPL as Operator of the Block, has sent a letter to Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (JOGPL/AA-ONN-2002/1/DGH/2023/7 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023) with copy to Addl Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Tripura conveying Contractor Parties ( GAIL and JOGPL) views to keep the PML NPV in abeyance till all other CPs ( FD of Development Locations- KL-Dev-37A, KL-Dev-37B and KL-Dev 34-A1 and Dev 2A, Extension to PSC timeline and EC) are met enabling Contractor Parties to carry out a detailed reassessment and rework a realistic forward looking development and production plan. Copy of the letter is attached for your ready reference.

JOGPL Private Limited  
CIN:U74899UP1992FC047880  
Regd. & Corporate Office:  
No. 15, Knowledge Park II, Greater Noida-201 309,  
Distt. Gautam Buddh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, India  
Tel: +91 (20) 7186000  
Fax: +91 (20) 7136240  
www.jogpl.in/jogpl.com



Base Office, Agartala (Tripura)  
JOGPL Private Limited  
Khyerpur - Amtali By Pass  
East Champaman (Dua Para)  
PS- Old Agartala  
Tripura West  
Mob: +91 9774034162  
Email: admin\_tripura@mbilinterenergy.com

As FD of Dev 2A is also one of the CPs, we kindly request that the approval of the same may please be granted at the earliest to enable Contractor Parties to move forward.

Thanking You,

Kind Regards,

For JOGPL Private Limited

*Anil Kumar Mukherjee*

Enclosed: Letter No JOGPL/AA-ONN-2002/1/DGH/2023/7 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Copy to:

1. Tejindar Pal Singh, JOGPL NOIDA
2. B. Oraon, GAIL ( India), NOIDA

**JOGPL Private Limited**

CIN:U74899UP1992FTC047880

Regd. & Corporate Office:

No. 15, Knowledge Park II, Greater Noida-201 306,

Distt. GautamBuddh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, India

Tel. +91 (20) 7186000

Fax: +91 (20) 7186240

www.jogpl\_bia.jogpl.com

**Base Office, Agartala (Tripura)**

**JOGPL Private Limited**

Khyerpur - Amaldi By Pass

East Champamura (Das Para)

PS- Old Agartala

Tripura West

MOB. +91 9776014183

Email: admin\_tripura@jubilantenergy.com

JOGPL/AA-ONN-2002/1/DGH/2023/7

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

To,  
Director General,  
Directorate General of Hydrocarbons  
OIDB Bhawan, Tower-A,  
Plot No.-2, Sector-73, Noida  
*Kind Attention: Mr. Saptadeep Sarma, Coordinator*

**Sub: Estimate/ proforma bill in respect of PML block of Kathalchari Field Development Petroleum Mining Lease (PLM) in the State of Tripura**

**Ref: Forest Department, Government of Tripura letter-No.F.6-1331/FC/For-2021/1709-719 dated 20th April 2023**

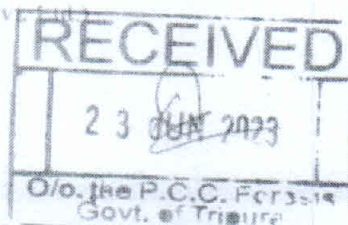
Dear Sir,

The PML application for 249 Sq KM Kathalchari Development area was made on 30th August 2015 along with requisite fees immediately after MC approval of the FDP. Tripura State Government sent in their recommendation to MOPNG on 26th September 2015. DGH informed Contractor on 25th November 2016 that processing of PML has been put on hold pending payment of LD, which issue was then referred to arbitration by the Operator. It was only on 23 Dec 2019 that MOPNG approval for grant of PML for Kathalchari development area was received. This was followed by grant of Petroleum Mining Lease by Directorate of Industries & Commerce, Government of Tripura vide their letter dated Sep 24, 2020. However, the PML so issued was not in compliance with MOEF guidelines wherein Central Government approval under FCA Section 2(iii) is required for the forest area falling under PML before PML can become valid. In accordance with MOEF guidelines, Operator initiated process to obtain approval under FCA 2(iii) and uploaded the proposal with all required documentation on MoEF &CC portal on Dec 2, 2021. As the Tripura State Forest Department did not accept the maps prepared using available information and directed to prepare maps basis site survey. The maps were duly prepared and verified by Tripura Forest Department GIS Lab in Nov 2022. Meanwhile, MoEF notified FC Rules 2022. Sub Rule 5 (a) of Rule 9 of the Forest (Conservation) 2022 provides that, no approval is required for assignment of Petroleum Mining Lease where neither physical possession nor breaking of forest land is involved. Operator thereafter wrote to Nodal Officer (FCA), Tripura to kindly advised us the procedure for further course of action.

Forest Department, Government of Tripura, vide its letter dated 20 April 2022 has raised a demand of Rs 52.5 Crs towards 2% NPV calculated based on forest area falling inside 249 SqKM development area. The copy of the letter is attached.

Contractor in various meetings and communications, has informed DGH that the commencement of KL development activities could not be undertaken due to various statutory and regulatory issues including lack of government approvals required to commence and progress development activities. All these reasons are

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Email- admin\_tripura@jubilantenergy.com

outside the control of the Operator. The following condition precedents (CPs) are essential before any forward investments can be planned and committed towards undertaking physical work program in KL-Development:

- 1) PML
- 2) Forest clearance /diversion (FC/FD)
- 3) Force Majeure (FM)/Excusable Delay (ED) on account of delays outside the control of Contractor including grant of FD & PML
- 4) Environment Clearance (EC)

Current Status of these CPs are as follows:

CP	Status
Petroleum Mining License (PML)	<b>DONE:</b> PML grant approved by MOPNG and State Government in Dec'19 and Sept '20 respectively. State Forest now has raised NPV demand of 52.5 Cr
Forest Diversion (FD) for Development locations.	<b>PENDING:</b> Previous applications made in 2015 withdrawn as directed by DGH and Forest department. Fresh applications for 3 locations (KL-Dev-37A, KL-Dev-37B and KL-Dev 34-A1)_made in October 2022 and under review by DFO.  KL-Dev 2A: Discussed in REC held on 20.05.2023
Extension to PSC time for initiating development.  PSC timeline to commence development within 10 yrs of discovery i.e 29 Dec 2019 which could not be done due to lack of PML and FD	<b>PENDING:</b> Application made to DGH in October 2018 requesting 50 months from PML grant or 40 months from the date of receipt of FC approval to commence development operations.
Environment Clearance ( EC)	<b>PENDING:</b> Fresh application made in Aug 2022 after the earlier 2016 application for EC complete after EIA and Public hearings was delisted by MOEF due to delay in response on ESR commitment, post DGH confirmation on cost recovery of such expenditure.  ToR received and EIA report being prepared by the Consultant.

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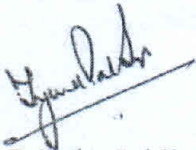


Due to the inordinate delay in grant of CPs, Operator had no other option but to disband in a phased manner its operations team and other resources at site, in order to minimize its costs. Further the FDP approved by Government in August 2015, will need to be re-evaluated keeping in view material changes in costs and time of various activities that may have taken place during this intervening period.

In order to implement the development plan, it is imperative for all the approvals to be in place as a single approval will not allow Operator to take any step. Once all approvals are achieved, Operator would have to carry out a detailed reassessment and rework a realistic forward looking development and production plan which in turn may need to be approved by the respective managements of the Contractor Parties followed by review of the Management Committee. The Contractor Parties are *ad idem* with respect to this way forward. In the recent OC meeting held on 26 May 2023, the Contract Parties agreed that the PML NPV payment could only be made after all the CPs have been met and that the NPV payment should be kept in abeyance till then.

Thank you,

Yours Sincerely,



Tejindar Pal Singh

Operator on behalf of Contractor Parties.

**Copy to:**

1. Shri, Sanjib Das, 1FS, Additional Secretary to the Government of Tripura
2. Dr. V.G. Jenner IFS, Addl Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, FCA, O/o the PCCF, Tripura
3. Mr Rajesh Bagaria, GAIL (India) Limited, Noida

Site Inspection Report of Dr. Wangdup Bhutia, IFS, Conservator of Forest based on the field visit dated, 03/01/2024 under South Forest District in connection with proposal for diversion of 1.368 ha of forest land for construction of Drill site, Waste pit, Drill site Accommodation, TSR Camp and its approach road for location called DEV-2A.

This is in connection with the alternate Compensatory Afforestation site in lieu of 1.368 ha of forest land for construction of Drill site, Waste pit, Drill site Accommodation, TSR Camp and its approach road for location called DEV-2A.

I had visited the site along with the Shri Babul Mog, TFS (SDFO Bagafa) and Shri Sekhar Lodh, FR (RO Kakula) on dated 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024. The details of the site were verified as follows,

District	Mouja	Khatian No.	CS Plot No.	Area (in ha)	Status of land
South	Baramura Debtamura RF	4/132, 4/135, 4/149	1514, 1661, 1666	2.736	RF

The selected CA site of 1.368 ha is located under Baramura Debtamura RF under Kakulia Forest Range of Bagafa Forest Subdivision under South Forest District. This CA site is mostly covered with *Cylindrica imperata* locally know as "Chhan ghas" and weed like *Chromolaena odorata*. These two weed are commonly found weeds in the jhum abandoned forest land in Tripura and posing great problem for restoring the ecosystem naturally.

Few trees species like *Albizia*, *Anogeissus acuminta*, *Schima wallichii* are in the identified plot. In addition, few coppices of *Tectona grandis* are also found inside the plot. But the canopy cover of all these standing trees inside the identified CA land is below 10% and the density is under the category of open degraded forest.

Thus, based on the observations made during the visit, it is to certify that the proposed site with is recommended for Compensatory Afforestation.



Submitted by

W. Bhutia  
11/01/2024

(Name: Dr. Wangdup Bhutia, IFS)  
Conservator of Forests