

By (E.Mail (Scanned copy)/Courier)

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From Tmt.R.Padmawathe., I.F.S.,
Conservator of Forests and
Field Director(FAC),
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger
Reserve, Madurai-02

To The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden,
Panagal Building,
Chennai-15

Ref.No.10490/2021/D1, Dated:22.09.2022

Sir,

Sub: Forest - Madurai Circle, Theni Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.193 Ha of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Cumbum - Kumuli NH road from lower camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF- online proposal submission by the User Agency ie. - Proposal for getting SBWL/NBWL - Submitted -Regarding

- Ref: 1. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai, Ref.No. TS4/48485/2020, Dated.25.05.2022
2. District Forest Officer, Theni. Ref.No. D/7782/2018, Dt.02.09.2022
3. User Agency (JIO Digital Fibre private Ltd Chennai) Online Proposal Ref: FP/TN/OFC/116522/2020

I submit that, in the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests letter 1st cited, is was instructed that a part of proposal ie, 1.30 km falls within the **Tiger Corridor** of Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar National Park, Kerala and hence the user agency has been informed to proceed for obtaining permission from SBWL/NBWL in this regard.

Based on that the District Forest Officer, Theni has submitted necessary proposal for obtaining clearance from Standing Committee on SBWL/NBWL in the prescribed format. The above said area was inspected by District Forest Officer, Theni on 13.07.2022. The area proposed for diversion of 0.193 Ha falls in Suranganar RF of Kumuli Beat, Cumbum West Range in Theni division. It is also informed that the no tree felling is required for laying the underground OFC cable. Please find enclosed the site inspection report of

Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve for kind perusal.

Accordingly, I submit herewith the proposal for obtaining necessary clearances from the Standing Committee on SBWL/NBWL along with the supportive documents for kind perusal.

This is for kind information & necessary action.


Encl: As stated above


Yours sincerely,
Sd/-R.Padmawathe,
Conservator of Forests and Field Director,
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,
Madurai.

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Chennai-15

Copy to District Forest Officer, Theni.

/T.C.B.O/


R/Senior Draughting Officer


22-09-22

C-26142444
12/09/2022

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TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

From
Tmt. J.R. Samartha, I.F.S.,
District Forest officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.

To
**The Conservator of Forests &
Field Director.**
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger
Reserve,
Madurai Circle, Madurai - 2

C.No.7782/2018/D dated 02/09/2022

Sir,

Sub:- Forests - Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 - Madurai Circle / Theni Forest Division - Proposal for diversion of 0.193 Ha. of forest land (0.039 Ha. of Reserved Forest lands for laying of underground OFC along Cumbum-Kumuli NH Road from Lower Camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF - Submission of Field Inspection and Recommendation Report - Reg.



- Ref:- 1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, (HoD), Chennai, C.No. TS4/48485/2020 dated 25.05.2022
2) District Forest Officer, Theni Forest Division, Theni C.No. 7782/2018/D dated 31.05.2022
3) User Agency Online Proposal Ref. FP/TN/OFC/116522/2020

With reference to the above subject, I submit that, a part of the proposed area (i.e) 1.30 km is falls within the Tiger Corridor of Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar National Park of Kerala State as per the information available in the website www.ntca.gov.in (National Tiger Conservation Authority). Hence, as per the the instructions received from the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chennai the User Agency was instructed to take action to obtain permission from the State Board of Wildlife / National Board of Wildlife in this regard through online.

Accordingly, the user agency has submitted the online proposal for getting clearance from the State Board of Wildlife / National Board of Wildlife vide 3rd refernce cited.

After scrutinizing, the following are the area proposed by the User Agency,

S.No.	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area (m ²)	Area (Ha.)
01	Area in Suranganar RF (not falls in Tiger Corridor)	5,140	0.30	1,542	0.154
02	Area in Suranganar RF (falls in Tiger Corridor)	1,300	0.30	390	0.039
Total		6,440	0.30	1,932	0.193

Moreover, the following documents (4 sets) listed below are enclosed herewith for obtaining State Board of Wildlife Clearance / National Board of Wildlife Clearance,

- 1) Site Inspection Report
- 2) Impact Report
- 3) Recommendation Report
- 4) Location marked in SI Sheet
- 5) Part - III of the proposal
- 6) Hard Copy of Proposal received from the User Agency

I also submit that all the above reports have been uploaded in the Forest clearance Website.

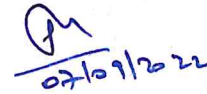
This is for the favour of kind information.

Encl :- As above

/t.c.b.o./

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-J.R.. Samartha,
District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division, Theni.


Superintendent.


07/09/2022

SITE INSPECTION REPORT OF DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, THENI.

A proposal for laying of underground Optic Fibre Cable has been received for diversion of 0.193Ha for non-forestry purpose in Theni District.


- I have inspected the proposed area on 13.07.2022; The area requested by the User agency for diversion is 0.193 Ha. The requirement of forest land proposed is bare minimum and there is no alternate land.
- The proposed area falls in Theni Division, Cumbum west range, Suranganar beat and Kumili beat, Suranganar Reserved Forest.
- The proposed area is along the right side of the Kollam-Dindigul National highway (NH 183), running between Cumbum-Kumili.
- The proposed area is requested for laying of underground Optic Fiber Cable as follows:
 - Length - 6.44 kms
 - Width - 0.30 m
 - Depth - 2.00 m
- The proposed area is devoid of any vegetation and no tree felling is required for carrying out the proposal.
- The area does not have protected, archaeological/heritage site/defense establishment or any other important monuments.
- On inspection of the site, it is found that the proposed area for the project runs along the existing National highways road. The proposed area does not involve rare species of flora and fauna.
- There is no report of violation of Forest Conservation Act against the User Agency for the proposed project.

PTO

- (2) -

- Part of the proposed area i.e., 1.30km falls within the Tiger Corridor as per the file available in the website of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, www.ntca.gov.in. The corridor connects the Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar National Park, in the state of Kerala.
- As Ministry of Environment and Forests Wildlife Division, New Delhi. F.No: 6-10/2011 WL dated 19.12.2012, it is mandatory to obtain approval of Standing Committee of NBWL for any activities falling in Tiger Corridor.

Hence, the project may be considered for clearance under National Board of Wild Life Clearance.

 11.08.22
District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.

IMPACT REPORT OF DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, THENI.

The Project aims at improvement of communication facilities under the Hon'ble Prime Ministers vision of Digital India. Hence the proposed area involving a diversion of 0.193 H a of forest area for non-forestry purpose may be permitted.

The project will not have major impact on flora and fauna of the region.

 11-08-22

**District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.**

RECOMMENDATION REPORT OF DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, THENI.

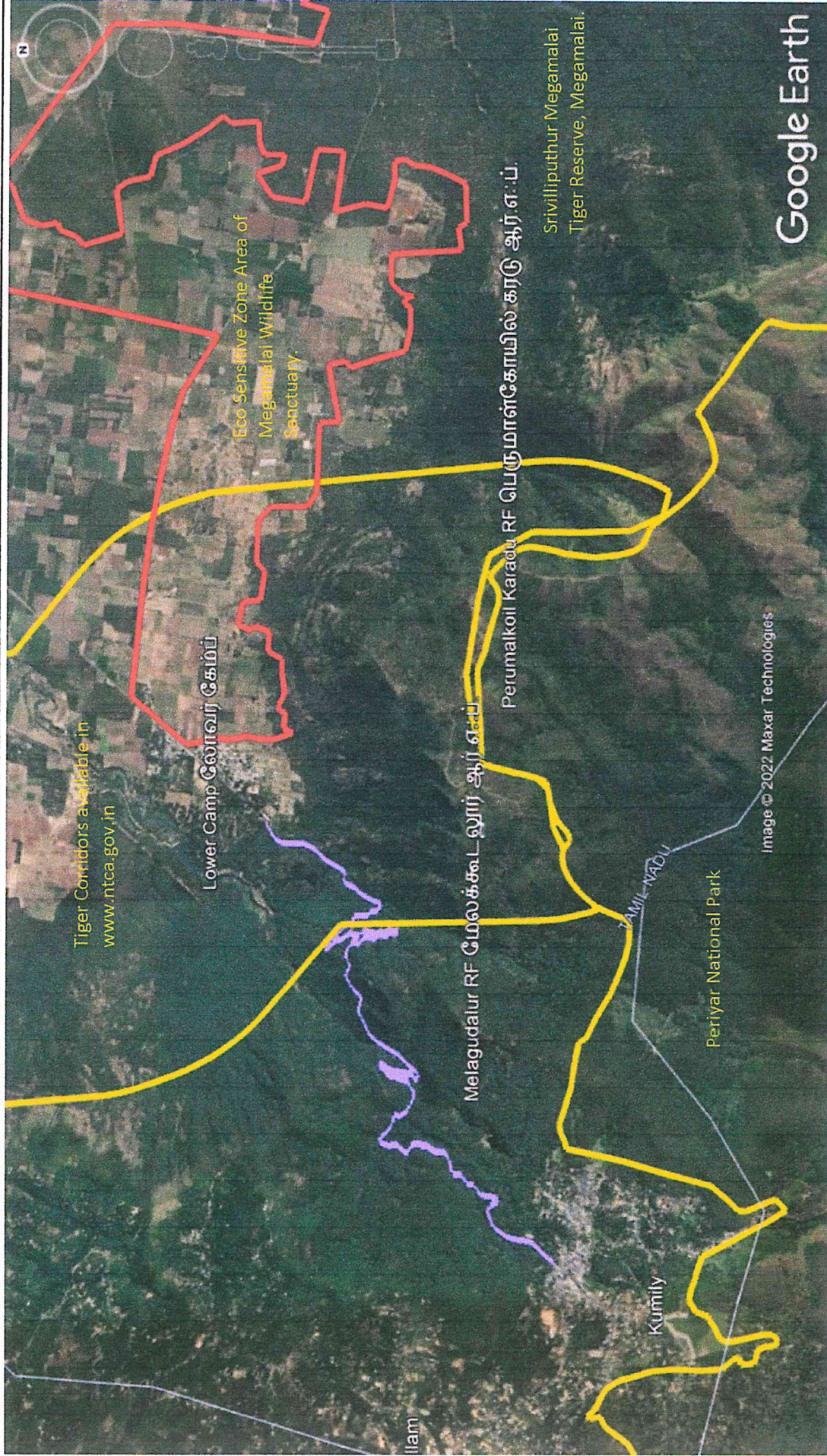
- The proposal for laying of underground Optic Fiber Cable for an area of 0.193 Ha in Cumbum west range, Suranganar beat and Kumili beat, Suranganar Reserved Forest is bare minimum and unavoidable.
- The proposed area does not fall in eco-sensitive zone of Megamalai and Kodaikanal Wildlife Sanctuaries.
- The proposed area does not fall in Eco-sensitive Area (ESA).
- Part of the proposed area i.e., 1.30km falls within the Tiger Corridor as per the file available in the website of the National Tiger Conservation Authority, www.ntca.gov.in. The corridor connects the Mathikettan Shola National Park and Periyar National Park, in the state of Kerala.
- The project aims at providing improvement of communication facilities under the Hon'ble Prime Ministers vision of Digital India. Hence the proposed area involving a diversion of 0.193 H a of forest area for non-forestry purpose may be permitted.

 11.08.22

**District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.**

Forests – Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Madurai Circle / Theni Forest Division – Proposal for diversion of 0.193 Ha. of forest land for laying of underground OFC along Cumbum-Kumuli NH Road from Lower Camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF – Undertakings for Forest Conservation works - Reg.

Top Sketch duly marked the proposed location of OFC



- Legends**
- DSS mapping of Tiger corridors available in www.ntca.gov.in
 - Boundary of Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuary Eco Sensitive Zone.
 - Proposed Location of OFC along the Cumbum to Kumuli National Highways.


 DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER
 THENI DIVISION, THENI


Report Part-III

Form for seeking recommendation of Standing Committee of NBWL/SBWL to be filled by Wildlife Warden (Part-III)

A. General Details

A-1. Project Details

- (i). **Forest Clearance Required?:** Yes
- (ii). **Proposal No. :** FP/TN/OFC/116522/2020
- (iii). **Name of Project:** Laying of underground OFC along Cumbam-Cumuli NH road from Lower camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF
- (iv). **Short narrative of the Project :** Laying of underground OFC along Cumbam-Cumuli NH road from Lower camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF in Theni District
- (v). **State :** Tamil Nadu
- (vi). **Category of the Proposal :** Optical Fibre Cable
- (vii). **Shape of project land :** Linear
- (viii). **Estimated cost of the Project(Rupees in lacs) :** 20
- (ix). **Total period for which clearance is required (in years):** 99
- (x). **Category of Protected Area:** NIL
- (xi). **Total Project Area(in ha.):** 0.193
- (xii). **Area under Protected Area (in ha.):** 0.193
- (xiii). **Area under Non-Protected Area (in ha.):** NIL

A-2. Alternative details uploaded by User Agency

Alternative details uploaded by User Agency	
No	There is no alternate non forest land available an

A-3. Bio diversity Impact Assessment Report uploaded by User Agency

(i). **Bio diversity Impact Assessment Report** :NA
uploaded by User Agency:

A-4. Details of division

Division I. : Theni
<p>(i). Total Area of the Protected Area (in ha.): 0.039</p> <p>(ii). Upload copy of Conservation value of the Protected area: Annexure Survey of India Toposheet</p> <p>(iii). Comments on the proposal with reference to the alternatives considered: Since the proposed area for the project runs along the existing National highways road and it does not involve rare species of flora and fauna, no alternatives has been considered.</p> <p>(iv). Comments on the Bio diversity Impact Assessment Report: The project will not have major impact on flora and fauna of the region.</p>

Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification:

Area(ha.)diverted/identified from the NP/WLS/ESZ so far for development and other purpose since it's notification				
S.no	Name of project	User Agency	Year	Area Diverted/ Permitted for use(ha.)
1.	Laying of underground OFC along Cumbam-Cumuli NH road from Lower camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF	JIO DIGITAL FIBRE PRIVATE LIMITED	2020	0.039

Impact(s)due to the diversion of area for the use of land for the projects referred above:

Impact(s)due to the diversion of area for the use of land for the projects referred above			
S.no	Name of project	Upload impact report	Area Diverted / Permitted for use
1.	Laying of underground OFC along Cumbam-Cumuli NH road from Lower camp to Kumuli through Suranganar RF	Annexure Upload impact report	0.039

Whether the project proponents have ever committed violation of the Wildlife(Protection)Act, 1972 or Forest Conservation Act,1980:

Whether the project proponents have ever committed violation of the Wildlife(Protection)Act, 1972 or Forest Conservation Act,1980								
S.no	Under Act	Name of Project	Details of violation	Period of work done	Area of forest land involved in violation	Name of person(s) responsible for violation	Designation & Address of person(s) responsible for violation	Action taken against the person(s) responsible for violation


Any other information that you would like to place on record for decision making:

Documents		
S.No.	Uploaded Additional Info.	Remarks
1.	Additional Info.	The project aims at providing improvement of communication facilities under the Hon'ble Prime Ministers vision of Digital India. Hence the proposed area involving a diversion of 0.193 H a of forest area for non-forestry purpose may be permitted.

(v). Provide comprehensive details of the likely impact of the current proposal in terms of sections 29 and/or section 35(6) of the Wildlife(Protection)Act, 1972 : [Annexure Comprehensive letter](#)


(vi).Has any work related to the project proposed been commenced at the proposed location : No

A-5 Site inspection report of the Wildlife Warden/Chief Wildlife Warden highlighting important facts pertaining to the forest land

Division Name	Circle	Site inspected By	Whether site inspected	No. of times site visited	Site inspection report	Date of visit
Theni	Madurai	DFO		One		13/07/2022

(Specific recommendation of the Wildlife Warden/Chief Wildlife Warden with(Part II & III)).


A-6 Specific recommendation of the Wildlife Warden/Chief Wildlife Warden for acceptance or otherwise of the proposal with reason

Division	Circle	Recommendation By	Recommendation	Reason	Letter	Whether CF agreed
Theni	Madurai	DFO	Recommended	The project aims at providing improvement of communication facilities under the Hon'ble Prime Ministers vision of Digital India. Hence the proposed area involving a diversion of 0.193 Ha of forest area for non-forestry purpose may be permitted.		

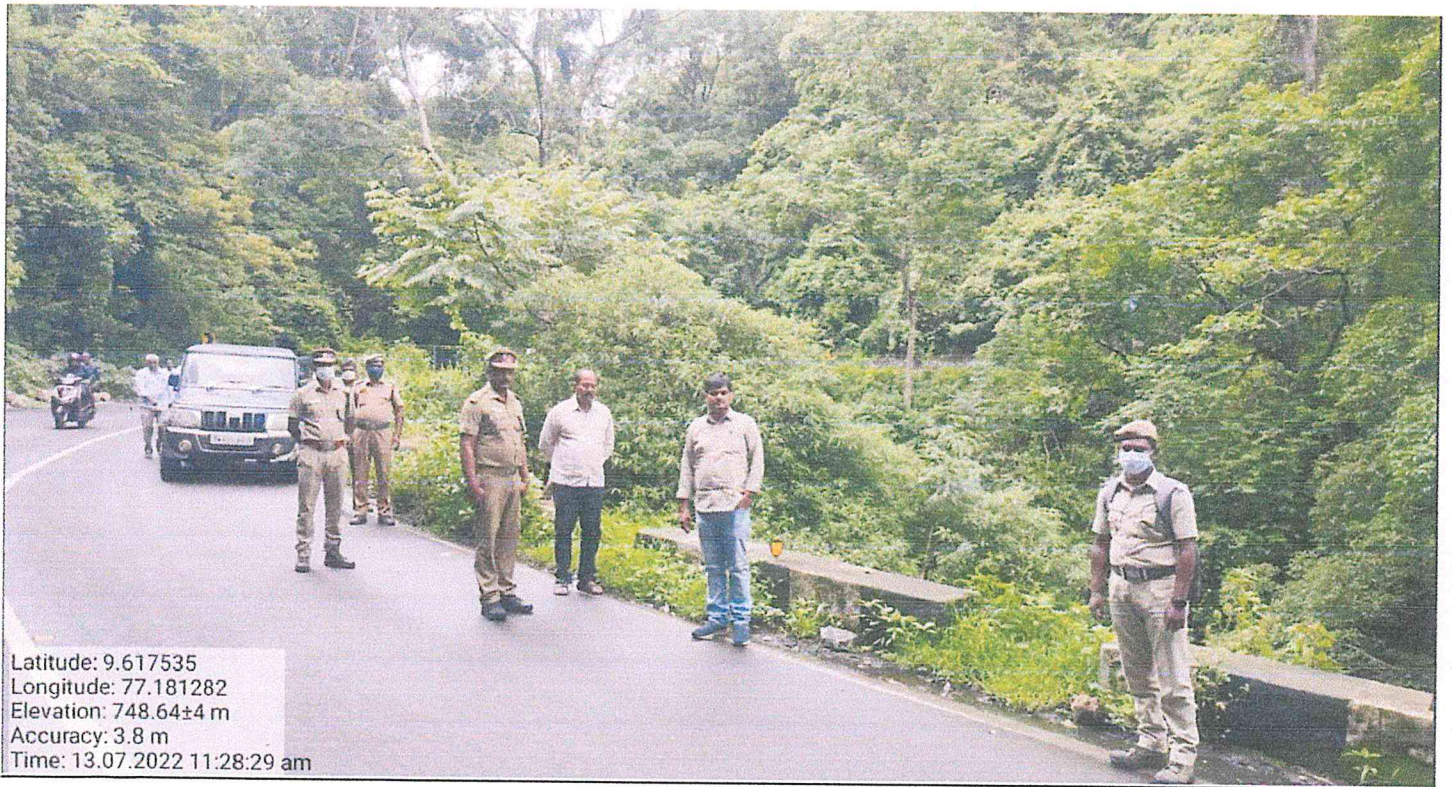
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NOT APPLICABLE.

Section 29 and Section 35(6) is not relevant as the diversion is not part of a Sanctuary or National Park.

 11.08.22
District Forest Officer,
Theni Forest Division,
Theni.

District Forest Officer, Theni Field Visit – National Board of Wildlife Clearance Proposal for diversion of 0.193 Ha. of forest land for laying of Optical Fibre Cable – Along Cumbum – Kumuli NH road from Lower Camp – by M/s. Reliance Jio – Online Application Reference FP/TN/OFC/116522/2020



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