## **Government of West Bengal** Department of Forests, Aranya Bhavan, Block-LA-10A, Sector-III, Salt Lake City Kolkata-700 106

No. 524-For/O/L/10T-29/2022

Kolkata, the 23rd March, 2023

From: Deputy Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

The Assistant Inspector General of Forests To: Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change Integrated Regional Office IB-198, Broadway Road, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700 106

> Sub: Proposal for diversion of 12.5492 ha of forest land in favour of Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Ltd. for laying of pipeline and access road to well site for their CBM Gas Project under Burdwan and Durgapur Forest Division

Sir,

With reference to your letter no. IRO/KOL/WB/Others/154900/2022/474 dt. 23/11/2022 on the subject noted above, I am directed to send herewith reply to the queries raised therein for your information and taking necessary action.

It is pertinent to mention that area of forest land proposed for diversion has been revised to 12.5492 ha in Part-1 in online portal. However, Part-II is still showing incorrect unrevised total forest area of 17.6962 ha

Wildlife Conservation Plan and Soil Moisture Conservation Plan area under preparation by DFO, Burdwan. Specific intervention to treat the water effluent to drinking standards should be included to avoid pollution of forest soil and water sources. Pumping out of underground water along with Methane is expected to affect the ground water level, and will need to be carefully calibrated and monitored.

Processing of Stage-I approval is recommended subject to the above conditions.

Yours faithfully,

Kolkata, the 23rd March, 2023

No. 524/1(2)-For

Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to:-

1) The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, West Bengal

2) The Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, FCA, 1980, West Bengal

