

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bag Road,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 20th February, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Forest and Environment,
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for non-forestry use of 406.79 ha. of forest land in favour of HPPCL for the construction of Thana Plaun Hydro-Electric Project (191 MW), within the jurisdiction of Mandi & Jogindernagar forest Divisions, District Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. (Online proposal No. FP/HP/HYD/8255/2014)- regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the online Proposal NoFP/HP/HYD/8255/2014 on the above subject matter and to convey that this proposal has been considered by the Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) in its meeting held on 27.01.2023. The minutes of the meeting is available on PARIVESH portal at www.parivesh.nic.in.

2. The FAC had detailed discussion and deliberation with Nodal officer (FCA), Himachal Pradesh and Regional Officer, IRO, Shimla. After going through the facts of the proposal the Committee deferred the proposal to obtain the following information from State Govt.:

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- i. A study of the project area, impact of the proposed project and feasibility shall be conducted by the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG), Dehradun at the cost of the user agency.
- ii. The approved mining plans in case of the proposed quarry sites shall be submitted.
- iii. The State Govt. shall explore and make effort to locate the dumping sites on non-forest land.
- iv. Crusher Units are proposed to be established, however as per SIR received from the IRO, their location has not been given in the proposal. The location plan for the crusher units shall be submitted.
- v. The road/bridge from Kotli to Jogindernagar is coming under submergence zone. In this regard, the NOC from the concerned agency shall be submitted.
- vi. Out of 45 patches for CA, 22 CA patches have some discrepancies as reported by the IRO in Site inspection report. The proposed Compensatory Afforestation areas shall be revisited keeping in view the observations of the IRO and areas suitable

for plantation and free from all encumbrances shall be provided for the purpose of Compensatory Afforestation.

3. In view of above, State Government is requested to comply with the recommendations of FAC as indicated in para (2) above for further consideration of the proposal in the Ministry.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests (FC)

Copy to:

1. The Principal Chief Conservation of Forests, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Shimla.
3. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
6. Guard File.