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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jor Bag Road, New Delhi - 110003. **Dated: 2nd March. 2023**

To,

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

Subject: Proposal for diversion of additional 3.7904 ha of forest land in favour of JSW Energy Limited, Kuther HEP (240 MW) village Machhettar, P.O. Channouta, Tehsil Bharmour, Distt. Chamba, for the construction of LILO from 400 KV double Circuit Transmission Line Lahal to Rejera at Tower No. 8 to Pot Head Yard for evacuation of Power of JSW Energy (Kuther) Ltd. Kuther HEP 3*80 MW village Machhettar, P.O. Channouta within the jurisdiction of Bharmour Forest Division, District Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the online Proposal No. FP/HP/TRANS/130156/2021 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 23.02.2023. The minutes of the meeting are available on PARIVESH portal at www.parivesh.nic.in.

- 2. The FAC, after detailed deliberation and discussion with Regional Officer, IRO, Shimla, deferred the proposal and desired that State government shall submit the following information in the next meeting and State representative if not the Nodal Officer needs to be present for detailed deliberation in the matter:
 - i. State Government shall give reasons and justifications for not using the land transferred to HPPTCL for transmission/evacuation of power in the instant case.
 - ii. Action taken against the failure of the compensatory afforestation plantations raised in lieu of earlier diversion and non-compliance of the condition for carrying out cumulative study by the State Govt. on behest of all the project proponents on Ravi River.
- 3. In view of above, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh is requested to comply the recommendation 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. DDG, NIC, MoEF&CC, New Delhi; with a request to change the status of the proposal from IRO, to Head Office on PARIVESH Portal and ensure that all correspondences made between IRO and State Govt. shall remain on Ministry's Portal.
- 5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi.
- 6. User Agency
- 7. Guard File.