

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

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi: 1100 03,
Dated: 10th March, 2021

To,
The Additional Chief Secretary (Forests),
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
Shimla.

Subject: Proposal for seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 397.8863 ha. of forest land in favour of Luhri Hydro Electric Project, SJVN Ltd. Shimla for the construction of Sunni Dam Project (210 MW) within the jurisdiction of Shimla, Kotgarh, Karsog Forest Divisions in Districts Shimla & Mandi, HP. (Online Proposal No. FP/HP/HYD/31019/2017) - regarding.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Himachal Pradesh online proposal no. FP/HP/HYD/31019/2017 dated 24.02.2021 for the construction of Sunni Dam Project (210MW), seeking prior approval of the Central Government in accordance with Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After preliminary scrutiny of the proposal, the following shortcomings/observations need to be addressed to:

1. As per the DSS analysis report (*copy enclosed*), many kml files of the areas proposed for Compensatory Afforestation are either corrupt/missing or the area depicted by them is overlapping with each other. There is a need to re-look into the CA areas and kml files.
2. The enumeration list of the trees mentions the presence of trees at FRL only and there are no trees mentioned at FRL-2 meter and FRL-4 meter level. The correct Species-wise local/scientific names and girth-wise enumeration of trees at FRL, FRL-2 meter and FRL-4 meter need submission.
3. Many of the documents uploaded on PARIVESH portal are not legible. In absence of legible copies the proposal cannot be examined in totality.
4. The site inspection report of the proposed area by CF/CCF is to be submitted.
5. The copy of the approved Catchment Area Treatment (CAT) Plan along with the cost estimate has not been submitted.
6. The copy of Rehabilitation & Resettlement Plan, approved by the competent authority need submission.
7. The site suitability certificate for all CA areas is required to be submitted.
8. In the Part-II of the proposal, some of the proposed CA areas have been mentioned to

be on Non-forest land, which needs verification.

9. The Certificate for non-availability of non-forest land for CA is required to be signed/issued by the Chief Secretary.
10. In the Species-wise local/scientific names and girth-wise enumeration of trees the scientific names have been mentioned in the column of local names which needs correction.
11. The Cost benefit analysis given is highly skewed and the benefits/costs are required to be revisited on actual basis as per the guidelines. The actual costs and benefits as well as internal rate of return need submission.
12. A note on justification of locating project in forest area which will require minimum forest area need submission.
13. The copy of the approved Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the instant project is required to be submitted.

In view of the above, the State Government is requested to submit the information, as indicated above, for further consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to: -

1. **The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), HP Forest Department, Talland Shimla;**
2. **The Regional Officer (C), Integrated Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Shimla;**
3. **The Nodal Officer (FCA) cum PCCF, HP Forest Department, Talland, Shimla;**
4. **Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF & CC, New Delhi, for uploading on PARIVESH portal.**
5. User Agency.