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Place: Kundapura - 576201

Karnataka Forest Department

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kundapura Division, Kundapura- 576201

No.B1/LND(DMN)/CR.64/FLD/2012-13/E-6315

Dated: 22-04-2025

FC Proposal No: FP/KA/TRANS/36286/2018 To,

> Executive Engineer (Ele), Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), 400kV Transmission Line works Division, Prasarana Bhavana, Door No. 108, Santhepete, Hassan - 573201.

Sir,

Sub: Ex post facto approval for diversion of 2.5766hectare of forest land in Bola village, Karkala Kasaba Hobli, Karkala Taluk Udupi District (Kundapura Forest Division) for Construction of 400KVDC line with Quad moose ACSR for a route length of 179.85km from UPCL – Nandikur generating station to 400/220KV receiving station Shantigrama village in Hassan District in favour of the Executive Engineer (Ele), Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL), 400kV Transmission Line works Division, Prasarana Bhavana, Door No. 108, Santhepete, Hassan

Ref:

- Letter No.Old File No.A5(2)/GFL/CR-14/2012-13 E-office File No.KFD/HOFF/ A5-2(GFL)/182/2019-FC E-153998 dated: 13-07-2022 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA), Bangalore (Seeking Stage-1 approval)
- 2) letter F.No.4-KRB1375/ 2022-BAN-807 dated: 13-10-2022 of the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Bengalore.
- 3) Letter No.Old File No.A5(2)/GFL/CR-14/2012-13 E-office File No.KFD/HOFF/A5-2(GFL)/182/2019-FC E-153998 dated: 19-11-2022 of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA), Bangalore.
- 4) This Office letter No. No.B1/LND(DMN)/CR.64/FLD/2012-13/E-6315 Dt: 09-12-2022 & 09-02-2023
- 5) Your Letter No.EE/AEE/AE/400KV/UDP/2022-23/245 dated: 15-02-2023

With reference to the above subject, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA), Bangalore office vide Ref(1) has submitted the compliance report to Government of Karnataka for seeking Stage-I approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Government of Karnataka vide letter Dt: 10-11-2022 has forwarded the proposal to Government of India for seeking stage-I approval.

In response, Government of India vide Ref (2) and Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Conservation) and Nodal Officer (FCA), Bangalore office vide Ref(3) has sought following clarification (copy enclosed)

- a) There is contradiction with respect to justification submitted by the User agency for obtaining ex post facto approval and the observations of the PCCF (HoFF) in his forwarding letter dated: 13-07-2022. The User Agency states that the original alignment was finalized in consultation with officials of Forest Department and accordingly approval for diversion of 172.53 was sought. The forest area sought for ex-post facto approval was not included earlier in the original proposal as it was mistaken as Government land by Forest Department officials. However, PCCF (HoFF) observes that the user agency has altered the alignment from previously proposed FC diversion and violated the F©Act, 1980. Therefore, clarification/factual report on the violation may be furnished
- b) The map showing original alignment of transmission proposed at the time of granting approval for diversion of 172.53ha. forest land and changed/altered alignment may be furnished.
- c) As per the original approval granted under F© Act, 1980, 95.74ha. of forest land was approved for diversion in Kundapura Forest Division. It may be clarified whether any extent of approved area is kept unutilized due to change in alignment as reported by PCCF (HoFF).
- d) Whether any FOC has been booked against user agency for illegal cutting of trees in the proposed forest land.
- e) Details of trees already felled in the forest area proposed for ex-post fact approval.
- f) While according final approval for diversion of 172.53ha forest land for construction of 400 KV DC line from Nandikur (Udupi) generating station to 400/220 KV receiving station at Shantigrama (Hassan), it was stipulated that monitoring committee under Chairmanship of PCCF (HoFF) will be constituted for monitoring the compliance of conditions. It is therefore requested to furnish the reports of the monitoring committee in compliance to the said condition.

Therefore, you are requested to submit clarification/information sought by Government of India, along with the map showing original alignment of transmission line and changed/altered alignment, details of any extent of approved area is kept unutilized due to change in alignment etc. It is requested to submit detailed report along with relevant map, documents etc.,

Your Faithfully,

Deputy Conservator of Forests, Kundapura Division, Kundapura.

Copy submitted to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (FC) and Nodal Officer (FCA), Bengaluru for information.

Copy submitted to the Conservator of Forests, Mangalore Circle, Mangalore for information.

Copy to the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Moodabidre Sub division, Moodabidre and Range Forest Officer, Karkala, Moodabidre & Venoor to inspect the above location and submit a detailed violation report along with relevant documents with respect to the clarification sought in the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Integrated Regional Office, Bangalore letter of reference (2).