



भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS &
CLIMATE CHANGE

Regional Office (WCZ)
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FC-II/CH-63/2017-NGP/1841

Dated: 30th May, 2017

To

✓ Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Chhattisgarh,
Forest Department,
Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhavan,
New Raipur (CG).

Sub: Diversion of 37.874 ha of Forest land in favour of Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited for construction of 132 KV DCSS Kondagaon Narayanpur Transmission line in Narayanpur District in the State of Chhattisgarh – regarding.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the State Government of Chhattisgarh's letter no. F-5-16/2017/10-2 dated 29.04.2017 on the above subject seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section – 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and to say that scrutiny of the proposal in the Regional Office (WCZ) of the MoEF&CC at Nagpur revealed following:

- i. Name of signing authority has not been mentioned in the Part-III of Form-A.
- ii. Examination of the number of the project affected trees revealed discrepancies as the underlying calculation sheet submitted along with the proposal in respect of South Kondagaon Forest Division mentioned total project affected trees as 924 @ 113 trees per ha falling in the 8 meters corridor. Simultaneously, another calculation sheet pertaining to the same Forest Division mentioned the project affected trees as 495. Further, as per existing Guidelines dated 5.05.2014 of the MoEF&CC the admissible width for 132 KV transmission line for stringing work is 3 meters and not 4 meters as considered by the User Agency/Forest Department. Exact number of trees to be felled in both the Division in accordance with the said guidelines dated 5.05.2014 needs to be submitted by the State Government.
- iii. Similarly, examination of the details submitted along with the alternative alignment examined by the User Agency revealed that project affected trees as 5127 instead of 5157 as reported by the State Government.
- iv. Examination of the Google Satellite imagery of the area proposed for CA and its DSS analysis, carried out using shape files, revealed that approximately 10 ha of degraded forest land proposed for CA falls under the MDF category which may not be fit for afforestation, therefore, additional area falling in the category of open forest may be identified by the State Government.
- v. Examination of the CA scheme revealed that State Government in its forwarding letter has mentioned that CA scheme @ Rs. 5,45,657/- for 76.0 ha for a period of 10 years has been submitted while underlying detail of CA scheme corresponds to 7 years with financial estimates of Rs. 95,76,000/-. Correct CA scheme needs to be submitted by the State Government. Further online proposal contains same CA schemes uploaded in respect of both Divisions. As per the existing Guidelines, the Divisional Forest Officer of the Forest Division having the maximum forest area should consolidate the entire detail of project falling in various Divisions. Necessary rectification to this extent may be effected in the online proposal.

P.T.O

- vi. Examination of the justification for locating the project in the forest area revealed that justification speaks only about the importance of project for improving the power regimes in the Narayanpur District. A valid and cogent justification for locating the project in the forest area needs to be provided by the State Government.
- vii. Original copy of the District Collector certificate has not been submitted. Similarly, proceedings of the Sub-Divisional Level Committee (s) in respect of Kondagaon District have not been submitted along with the compliance.
- viii. Details of employment potential in terms of man days of skilled, semiskilled and unskilled persons on permanent (direct and indirect) and temporary (direct and indirect) basis have not been provided.

In view of the above, I am directed to request the State Government to submit the information on the shortcomings, as indicated above, to this office for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist 'C'

Copy to:

1. The PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur
2. The Nodal Officer FCA), O/o of the PCCF, Government of Chhattisgarh, Raipur.
3. User Agency.
4. Guard File.

Charan Jeet Singh
Scientist 'C'