C.No.TS3/43555/2021

Office of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai-15.

Dated: 05.09.2022.

Sub Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Online forest clearance proposal for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Nellithurai RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 kv Substation into 400 kv Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District – Proposal forwarded by the Circle - Regarding.

 Ref 1 Online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Superintending Engineer, GCC, Transmission Line Construction (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore-12 - Proposal No. FP/TN/ Substation/149440/2021, dated 19.11.2021 and resubmission of proposal on 01.04.2022 and 25.05.2022

- 2 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ref. No. TS3/43555/2021, dated 08.12.2021, 21.04.2022 and 24.05.2022
- 3 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ref. No. TS3/43555/2021, dated 01.06.2022
- 4 Part-II of Form-A uploaded by the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Forest Division on 01.07.2022
- 5 Part-III of Form-A uploaded by the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore on 06.07.2022
- 6 Principal Chief Conservator of Forests ref. No. TS3/43555/2021, dated 14.07.2022
- 7 Resubmission of proposal by the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore on 22.08.2022

Attention of the Conservator of Forests and Field Director in invited to the references cited.

1) In the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 3rd cited, online forest clearance proposal uploaded by the Superintending Engineer, GCC, Transmission Line Construction (TANTRANSCO), Coimbatore-12 under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 4.85 ha of forest land in Nellithurai RF of Coimbatore Forest Division for improvement of 230 kv Substation into 400 kv Substation at Parali in Coimbatore District has been forwarded to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Forest Division with instruction to process the forest clearance proposal in complete shape with reference to the guidelines issued under the forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and other Act and Rules in force within the timeline prescribed in the Act and shortcomings pointed out to the user agency.

2) In the reference 5th cited, the Conservator of Forests and Field Director has forwarded the proposal along with his recommendation of the project through online. Hard copy of the proposal is yet to be received from the Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore.

Shortcomings noticed on the proposal has been informed in Principal Chief Conservator of Forests reference 6th cited and the proposal has been resubmitted through on-line vide reference 7th cited.

In the Part-II of Form-A, the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Division has proposed compensatory afforestation scheme to an extent of 10.00 ha of land in Erakkorai Saragam, Odanthurai beat in Sirumugai Range with maintenance of plantation over 10 year period.

In this, following shortcomings noticed.

i) Name of the forest area in which compensatory afforestation proposed has not been specified.

ii) Further, site suitability certificate for the identified degraded forest area for the compensatory afforestation scheme has not been furnished in the project proposal.

iii) For the plantation activity (11000 numbers) as well as first year maintenance work (1000 numbers), procurement of saplings (size of polythene bag container seedlings not specified) from private nursery has been proposed.

Instructions may be issued to revise the nursery estimate for raising seedlings Departmentally instead of purchase from private agency to ensure quality of saplings for establishment in the CA scheme.

iv) An amount of Rs. 43.50 lakhs has been provided for chain link fencing in the nursery estimate over a periphery of 3000m @ Rs. 1450/Rm.

Justification for providing chain link fencing around the nursery has not been reported and quantity to be restricted to actual requirement.

v) In the plantation estimate an amount of Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been proposed for drilling bore well and installation of motor with solar panel including pipe line for irrigation purposed in the planting site. Justification for providing this item has not been furnished and cost estimate arrived for this item not reported and if this item considered, cost towards watering provision by engaging labour has not been provided in the estimate.

vi) An amount of Rs. 17.50 lakhs towards digging Elephant Proof Trench around the plantation area of 2.50 km length and an amount of Rs. 0.50 lakhs towards laying movable wooden platform for entering into the plantation area from outside of the Elephant Proof Trench.

As per the kml file uploaded for CA scheme area, kml uploaded map area measured as 9.9137 ha and the periphery of the plot is 1.456 km only.

Justification for digging Elephant Proof Trench to a length of 2.50 km and cost estimate arrived for this item not reported.

vii) Further, in the CA scheme, both chain link fencing around the plantation and digging Elephant Proof Trench items have been provided. Detailed justification for providing both the items provided in the CA scheme has not been furnished.

Above shortcomings may be rectified and detailed justification of item of works proposed may be reported urgently.

Sd/- V. Karunapriya, For Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)

То

The Conservator of Forests and Field Director, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore.

Copy to the District Forest Officer, Coimbatore Forest Division, Coimbatore for necessary action.

Copy to the Superintending Engineer, GCC, Transmission Line Construction (TANTRANSCO), No. 182, Dr. Subbarayan Road, Tatabad, Coimbatore 641012. (User Agency)

/ True copy / By order /

Servior Draughting Officer.