

F. No. 11-09/ 98-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Aliganj, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 7th November, 2014

To
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
All State / Union Territory Governments

Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980-Guidelines related general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines and drinking water supply pipelines- reg.

Sir,

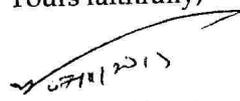
I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letters of even number dated 16th October 2000, 31st October 2001, 23rd December 2002, 19th September 2003, 21st November 2005 and 18th April 2009 wherein this Ministry accorded general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for underground laying of optical fibre cables, telephone lines and drinking water supply pipelines along the roads within existing right of way not falling in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, without felling of trees, where the maximum size of the trench is not more than 2.00 meter depth and 1.00 meter width subject to fulfillment of conditions stipulated in this Ministry's said letter dated 16th October 2000.

This Ministry has received representation to extend the said general approval to underground laying of CNG pipelines also.

I am directed to say that after careful consideration of the matter, this Ministry has decided to extend the said general approval to underground laying of CNG/ PNG pipelines along the roads within existing right of way not falling in National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, without felling of trees, where the maximum size of the trench is not more than 2.00 meter depth and 1.00 meter width subject to fulfillment of conditions stipulated in this Ministry's said letter dated 16th October 2000.

This issues with approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Prime Minister's Office (*Kind attn.:* Shri Santosh D. Vaidya, Director).
2. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, New Delhi.

3. Secretary, Ministry of Defence, Government of India.
4. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
5. Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, New Delhi.
6. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all State/UT Governments.
7. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all State/UT Governments.
8. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoI.
9. Joint Secretary in-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
10. All Assistant Inspector General of Forests/ Director in the Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
11. Director Regional Office Headquarters Division, MoEFCC, GoI.
12. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC with a request to place a copy of the letter on website of this Ministry.
13. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Environment and Forests.
14. Sr. PPS to the Director General of Forests & Special Secretary, MoEFCC, GoI.
15. Sr. PPS to the Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
16. PS to the Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), MoEFCC, GoI.
17. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director