

F. No. 8-42/2005-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi -110 510.
Dated: 20th January, 2010

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

Sub: - Diversion of 0.6942 ha of additional forest land for the construction of Explosive magazine and its approach road for 111 MW Sawra Kuddu HEP in favour of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board, within the jurisdiction of Rohru Forest Division, District Shimla, HP.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter no. FFE-B-F(2)-55/2005 dated 29.08.2007 on the subject cited above seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After careful consideration of the proposal by the Forest Advisory Committee constituted under Section-3 of the said Act, in-principle approval was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 27.11.2008 subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. The State Government has furnished compliance report in respect of the conditions stipulated in the in-principle approval and has requested the Central Government to grant final approval.

2. In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the Nodal officer (FCA) of the State Government vide letter dated 15.09.2009, approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 0.6942 ha of additional forest land for the construction of Explosive magazine and its approach road for 111 MW Sawra Kuddu HEP in favour of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board, within the jurisdiction of Rohru Forest Division, of Himachal Pradesh subject to fulfilment of the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Compensatory Afforestation will be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the project cost.
3. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to pay the additional NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
4. The User Agency shall implement all the conditions of the Muck Rehabilitation Plan under supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost.

5. In addition to condition 4 above, following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency under supervision of the State Forest Department at the project cost:
- (i) The User Agency should ensure that muck does not roll down the slopes. All such areas where muck has rolled down the slopes shall be rehabilitated at the cost of User Agency and under the supervision of State Forest Department.
 - (ii) Construction of check dams, retention / toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour.
 - (iii) The dumping area should be stabilized and reclaimed and plantation of suitable species be carried out over dumping areas at the cost of the User Agency under the supervision of State Forest Department. Reclamation of such dumping sites shall be completed before handing over the same to the State Forest Department in a time bound manner as per Plan.
6. The forest land thus diverted shall be non-transferable. Whenever the forest land is not required, it shall be surrendered to the State Forest Department under intimation to this Ministry.
7. The total area diverted, so far, for the project in favour of Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh will become **53.9042 ha** (53.21 ha + 0.6942 ha).
8. All the relevant conditions which have been stipulated in the approval granted by this Ministry vide letter of even no dated 02.06.2006 for diversion of 53.21 ha of forest land for the above project for construction of 111 MW Sawra Kuddu HEP on river Pabbar in Tehsil Jubbal in Shimla district shall remain applicable.
9. Any other condition that the Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Chandigarh, may impose from time to time for protection and improvement of flora and fauna in the forest area, shall also be applicable.

Yours faithfully,

(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservation of Forests, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
2. The Nodal Officer, O/o the PCCF, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.
3. The Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Chandigarh.
4. User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Section.
6. Guard file.

(C.D. Singh)

Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests