

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Forest, Environment & Ecology Department.
Civil Secretariat.

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 4.381 Ha. of Forest land coming under 220 LV S/C – Transmission line from Alustang –Leh for installation of Towers in the unit of Soil conservation Division- Ganderbal by PGCI.

Reference:

- I. Minutes of 111th Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) Meeting held on 04.01.2019 under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary (Chairman FAC).
- II. State Administrative Council Decision No. 25/03/2019 dated 25.01.2019 conveyed by the General Administration Department.
- III. Letter No. PCCF/FCA/1981-II/3933-34 dated 03.03.2022 from Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), J&K.

Government Order No:- 41 -JK(FST) of 2022
Dated:- 30 .03.2022

Sanction is hereby accorded to diversion of 4.381 Ha. of Forest land coming under 220 LV S/C – Transmission line from Alustang –Leh for installation of Towers in the unit of Soil Conservation Division- Ganderbal by PGCI with the following particulars and subject to the fulfillment of the terms and conditions appearing herein after:-

(A) Details of the Current Proposal:

1.	User Agency/Applicant	Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCI)																		
2.	Location:	Comptt. : Baba Dariyadin, Dardiwadaar-I &II, Wassan Unit-I (Kangan) Division : Soil Conservation Division, Ganderbal District : Ganderbal																		
3.	Objective of the Proposal	To provide National Grid connectivity and reliable power supply to the strategically important Ladakh region of J&K state and its people. This will also boost up entire Power Scenario of Jammu & Kashmir State.																		
4.	Salient features of the project:	I. Specifications = 220 KV Single Circuit Transmission Line II. Details of forest land and number of towers to be erected:																		
		<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>S.No</th><th>Name of Comptt</th><th>No. of Towers</th><th>Forest area (Ha.)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Baba Dariyadin (Soil Closure) Ganderbal (Tower No. 2,3,4)</td><td>03</td><td>3.6610</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Wassan Unit-I (Kangan) (Tower No. 44)</td><td>01</td><td>0.7200</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Total area required for Towers</td><td>04</td><td>04.381</td></tr></tbody></table>	S.No	Name of Comptt	No. of Towers	Forest area (Ha.)	1	Baba Dariyadin (Soil Closure) Ganderbal (Tower No. 2,3,4)	03	3.6610	2	Wassan Unit-I (Kangan) (Tower No. 44)	01	0.7200	Total area required for Towers		04	04.381		
S.No	Name of Comptt	No. of Towers	Forest area (Ha.)																	
1	Baba Dariyadin (Soil Closure) Ganderbal (Tower No. 2,3,4)	03	3.6610																	
2	Wassan Unit-I (Kangan) (Tower No. 44)	01	0.7200																	
Total area required for Towers		04	04.381																	

5. Division-wise Number of Trees / Poles/ Saplings involved.						
Species	Trees (30-40cm & above)	Poles (20-30cm & 10-20cm)	Saplings (0-10cm)	Total		
Broad Leaved: Rubinia (<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>)	18	259	148	425		
Total:	18	259	148	425		

6.	a	Whether the forest land proposed to be used for non-forest purpose forms part of a natural reserve, national park, wildlife sanctuary, biosphere reserve or forms part of the habitat of any endangered or threatened species of flora and fauna or any area lying in severely eroded catchment.	No			
	b	Whether the use of any forest land is for agriculture purposes or for the rehabilitation of displaced persons.	No			
	c	Whether the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests had certified that it has, considered all other alternatives and that no other alternative in circumstances are feasible and that the required area is the minimum needed for the purpose, and	Yes			
	d	Whether the department or authority requisitioning forest land for non-forest uses undertakes to provide at its own cost acquisition of an equivalent area and afforestation thereof.	The User Agency requisitioning forest land for non-forest purpose has not undertaken to provide an equivalent area at its own cost of acquisition. It has however agreed to provide cost of afforestation on double the forest area. Further it has also undertaken to pay the NPV as per the Hon'ble Supreme court directions.			

7. NET PRESENT VALUE OF FOREST LAND INVOLVED;						
Forest Division	Comptt.	Forest Area involved	Crop Density	Eco-Class	NPV (Rs. in lacs)	Total Amount (Rs.)
Soil conservation Division Ganderbal	Baba Dariyadin, Soil Closure (Ganderbal), Wassan Unit-I (Kangan)	4.381 ha	Dense	VI	8.97	Rs.39,29,757

8.	Compensatory Afforestation for double the area i.e 8.762 Ha of forest land @ Rs. 1 lac per hectare.	Rs.8,76,200/-
9.	Compensation of Trees/Poles/Saplings	Rs.7,29,253/-

(B) Summary of amounts deposited as reported by the PCCF (HoFF) vide letter mentioned at Ref (iii) above:-

S No	Component	Amount (Rs.)
i	Net Present Value	39,29,757/-
ii	Compensatory Afforestation	8,76,200/-
iii	Compensation of trees	7,29,253/-
Total:-		55,35,210/-

(C) Terms and Conditions:-

1. The proprietary and legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. The User Agency and /or its contractors will not bring any forest area under their use, other than the actual area/activity approved by the Government for the instant proposal. Any laxity or deviation on this account by the User Agency or its contractors will attract penal provisions of the relevant Acts / legal provisions.
3. The forest land shall be utilized only for the purpose for which it has been indentured.
4. The forest land shall not be mortgaged, reassigned, leased or sub-leased by user agency in any manner what so ever to any other agency.
5. The User Agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined as per decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
6. (i) The extraction of the trees /poles/saplings shall be done by the State Forest Corporation/Divisional Forest Officer concerned on the basis of markings administratively approved by the Director Soil Conservation Department, J&K. The marking for tree felling will be done in consultation with the user agency and effort shall be made to save maximum number of trees/poles/saplings. The cost of extraction shall be paid by the User Agency directly to the agency executing the extraction.
(ii) The fundamental rule for marking of trees, enumerated during processing of the proposals, will be to save maximum number of trees without compromising with the construction and maintenance of the approved project structure and no trees / poles / saplings will be felled / cut / pruned/lopped for purposes/ project activities other than those approved/sanctioned.
7. Extraction shall be done as per guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Environment and Forests vide its no. F.No. 7-25/2012-FC dated 5th May 2014, which has been formulated in consultation with the Central Electricity Authority. Extraction will be carried out in following steps:
 - I. Marking list for felling of trees will be prepared by the local forest officer (DFO concerned) for the felling of trees coming in the alignment of foundation of towers and along the strip, as per requirement of the User Agency. Fundamental rule for the marking will be to save maximum number of trees without compromising with the construction and maintenance of the transmission line.
 - II. Forest area required for foundation of the towers and three meter strip below each conductor bundle, which would be marked by the User Agency on the ground, will be cleared first. Trees on this area will be felled, but after stringing work is completed, natural regeneration will be allowed to come up. Felling/ pollarding/ pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the DFO concerned wherever necessary to maintain the electrical clearance. One outer strip will be left clear to permit maintenance of transmission line.
 - III. During construction of transmission line, pollarding/ pruning of trees located outside the width (three mt) of the strips, whose branches/parts infringe with conductor string, shall be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer.
 - IV. Pruning of trees for taking construction/ stringing equipments through existing approach/ access routes in forest areas shall also be permitted to the extent necessary, as may be decided by local forest officer. Construction of new approach/ access route will however, require prior approval under the Act.

- V. In the remaining width of right of way, trees will be felled or lopped to the extent required, for preventing electrical hazards by maintaining 4.6 meter of minimum clearance between conductor and trees.
- VI. To avoid any hazard, felling/cutting/pruning of those trees which because of their height/ location may fall on conductors shall also be permitted, as may be decided by the local forest officer.
- VII. In the case of transmission lines to be constructed in hilly areas, where adequate clearance is already available, trees will not be cut except those minimum required to be cut for stringing of conductors.
8. Plantation of shrubs /bushes and small size tree species will be done all along the Transmission line on forest land. A separate project would be prepared by the Forest Department in consultation with the User Agency for the purpose which would be funded by the User Agency. Plantation will be done after the stringing of conductor has been completed.
9. The User Agency shall construct retaining walls/breast walls on forest land and take all necessary steps to check soil erosion which may result due to proposed construction of the line in consultation with the Soil Conservation Department. The Forest Department shall take due cognizance under law for any laxity on this account on the part of the User Agency which might trigger soil erosion in the area.
10. Any damage done to the forest by the User Agency or its contractors shall be charged from the User Agency @ 10 times as per the revised standard rate of 2018 issued vide the Government Order No: 10-FST of 2018 dated: 09.01.2018.
11. The forest land so allowed for use shall return to the Forest Department free of any encumbrances when it is no longer required by the User Agency.
12. The User Agency shall be responsible for obtaining requisite clearances under any other law in vogue before commissioning of the project.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

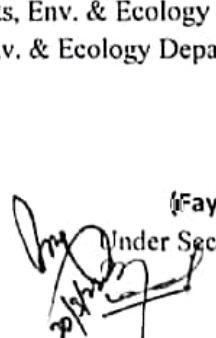
Sd/-
(Sanjeev Verma) IAS
Commissioner/Secretary to Government
Forest, Ecology & Environment Department.

Dated: 30 .03.2022

No:- FST-Land/28/2022-02

Copy to the :-

1. Secretary to Government of India, MoEF&CC, New Delhi.
2. Principal Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department.
3. Joint Secretary, J&K, Ministry of Home Affairs, Gol, New Delhi.
4. Pr. Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), J&K, Srinagar.
5. APCCF/Director, Soil & Water Conservation Department, J&K.
6. APCCF/Chief Conservator of Forests, Kashmir.
7. CCF/Nodal Officer, FCA, Office of PCCF, J&K, Srinagar..
8. Director Archives, Archeology & Museums, J&K, Srinagar.
9. Pvt. Secy. to the Chief Secretary (Chairman FAC).
10. Pvt. Secy. to Commr./Secretary to Government, Forests, Env. & Ecology Department.
11. Pvt. Secy. to Special Secretary (Technical) Forests, Env. & Ecology Department.
12. Government Order file (w.2.s.c)/Stock file.


 (Fayaz Ahmad Qureshi)
 Under Secretary to the Government.