



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

Regional Office (WCZ)
Ground Floor, East Wing
New Secretariat Building
Civil Lines, Nagpur - 440001
E-mail: apccfcentral-ngp-mef@gov.in

File No. Misc-64/RON/2017-NGP/1341

Dated: 22.06.2017

To,

1. Shri Rajendra Lakhichand Nannaware
Director, School of Environment
45 Sahoo Nagar
Jalgaon-425001 (Maharashtra)
2. Prof. Suresh Marotrao Chopane
Ganeshnagar, Civil Lines, Tukum
Chandrapur-442401 (Maharashtra)
3. Shri Rajendra Shrinivasrao Dhongde,
"Bhardwaj" A/H-1/67, Thakre Nagar,
N-2, CIDCO, Aurangabad- 431003 (Maharashtra)

Special invitees:

1. APCCF & NO, State Forest Department, Maharashtra.
2. APCCF & NO, State Forest Department, Chhattisgarh.
3. Revenue Secretary, Govt. of Maharashtra.
4. Revenue Secretary, Govt. of Chhattisgarh.

Sub: 24th Regional Empowered Committee Meeting at Nagpur- regarding.

Ref: MoEF & CC, New Delhi notification S.O. 3193 (E) dated 22/03/2017.

Sir,

The undersigned is directed to inform that 24th Regional Empowered Committee, constituted by the Central Governments vide Notification mentioned under reference above, which was scheduled to be held on 28th June, 2017 has now been pre-poned to be held on 27th June, 2017 in the Office of APCCF, Regional Office, Nagpur at 10.30 AM. You are requested to make it convenient to attend the meeting.

Agenda items of the meeting will be intimated separately.

The Nodal Officers are requested to intimate the respective user agency to be present in the meeting to present their case.

(Charan Jeet Singh)
Scientist 'C'

**DETAILED AGENDA FOR THE 24th MEETING OF THE REGIONAL EMPOWERED COMMITTEE
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON 27TH JUNE, 2017 AT REGIONAL OFFICE (WCZ), NAGPUR**

S. No	Name of the proposal	State	User Agency	Area	Category	Page No
1.	Diversion of 50.731 ha of Forest land in favour of Power Grid Warora Transmission Ltd. for construction and laying of 765 KV D/C transmission line from Gadarwara to Warora in Nagpur and Wardha Districts in the State of Maharashtra.	Maharashtra	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.	50.73 1	Trans Line	1-17
2.	Diversion of 153.448 ha forest land in favour of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd Raigarh for construction of 765 KV D/C (Hexa) Jharsuguda-Dharamjaygarh Transmission Line in the District of Raigarh in the State of Chhattisgarh.	Chhattisgarh	Power Grid Corporation of India Limited.	153.4 48	Trans Line	18-36
3.	Diversion of 19.385 ha of forest land in favour of M/s Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited (CSPTCL) for construction of 132 KV S/S Bishrampur-Parşa Transmission Line in Surajpur and Şurguja Districts in the State of Maharashtra	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited	19.38 5	Trans line	37-51
4.	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	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh State Power Transmission Company Limited	37.87 4	Trans Line	52-66

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

F. No. FC-III/MH-20/2017-NGP

Sub: Diversion of 50.731 ha of Forest land in favour of Power Grid Warora Transmission Ltd. for construction and laying of 765 KV D/C transmission line from Gadawara to Warora in Nagpur and Wardha Districts in the State of Maharashtra.

1. The State Government of Maharashtra, vide its letter no. FLD-3417/CR-201/F-10 dated 23.05.2017, placed along with its annexure at page 1-1075/c, submitted the above mentioned seeking prior approval of the Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.
2. The proposal involves construction of 768 D/C transmission line Gadawara to Warora to facilitate import of power from generation hub located at Gadawara STPS of NTPC to cater the requirement of State of Maharashtra. The project is administratively approved by Ministry of Power, Government of India vide letter No. 11/2/2012-PG (RECTPCL, Gadawara Part-A) dated 26.11.2014.
3. The total forest area involved in the proposal is 50.731 ha, comprised of 14.439 ha of Reserved Forests, 7.788 ha of Protected Forests land, and 24.29 ha of Zudupi Jungle land. Diversion of forest land involves two forest Divisions viz. Wardha Forest Division and Nagpur Forest Division involving forest area of 4.075 ha and 46.656 ha, respectively. The proposal also involves 817.514 ha of non-forest land also. Thus total area including forest and non-forest land involved in the proposal is 868.245 ha. The DCF concerned have certified that non-forest land involved in the proposal does not fall under the category of deemed forest land or identified forest land (Pg 129-145/c).
4. The total route length of the transmission line is 122 Kms, out of which 7.571 Km length is passing through Reserve Forest, Protected Forest and Zudpi Jungle of 29 villages under Nagpur Forest Division and 5 villages in Wardha Division. Forest patch wise area calculation statement, indicating the length and breadth, forest density has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted along with detail of patches which are being bifurcated from the transmission line.
5. The entire stretch of the transmission line passing through the Revenue Forests and Protected Forests involves 49 patches as per details given below:

Forest Division	Number of patches	Area (Ha)	Length (km)
Nagpur	52	46.656	
Wardha	11	4.075	
Total	63	37.874	7.571

6. The area in Nagpur Division belongs to Eco-value class-III coming under Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous forests and having density below 0.4 and the area under Wardha Division belongs to Eco-value class-III coming under Southern Tropical Dry Deciduous forests and having density between 0 to 0.2. The area has 3038 project affected trees inclusive of all girth classes. Girth class wise tree enumeration detail has not been submitted. The same needs to be submitted along with detail of actual felling to be undertaken by the User Agency to maintain permissible clearance below each conductor.
7. The area proposed for diversion is mixed forest with major species like *Zizyphus xylopyra*, *Ailanthus excelsa*, *Ficus bengalensis*, *Acacia leucocephala*, *Grewia telifolia*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Dendrocalamus strictus*, *Tectona grandis*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Lagerstromia parviflora*, *Terminalia arjuna*, *Acacia catechu*, etc.

8. The wildlife reported in the area include schedule-I species like *Panthera tigris*, *Panthera pardus*, *Melursus ursinus*, etc. and other endangered species (Pg 55, 63/c). Comments of the PCCF (Wildlife) on special protection measures, if any required to be taken for the conservation and protection of the Wildlife have not been submitted along with the proposal.
9. Compensatory afforestation has been proposed over 101.462 ha of degraded forest land in Nagpur Forest Division. Legal status of the land proposed for CA is Zudupi Jungle land and Protected Forests Land. The DCF, Nagpur has certified that land proposed for CA is suitable from management view point and is contiguous, free from encroachment and encumbrances. CA scheme for a period of 7 years involving financial provisions of Rs. 5,76,65,093/- has been submitted. Protection measures in the form of CCT and watch and ward through watchmans has been included in the CA scheme. A copy of the CA scheme is available at page 205-217/c. Examination of the Google Satellite imagery of the area proposed for CA and its DSS analysis, carried out using shape files, revealed that one of the patch having an area of 18 ha has moderately dense forest of 6 ha which may not be fit for afforestation.
10. With regards to the alternatives examined for the proposal, it is mentioned that Alternative -I has been selected as it involves minimum forest area while Alternative-II and Alternative-III involves, 167.99 ha and 103.65 ha of forest land respectively (Pg 175-181/c). Map showing alternative alignment has been submitted and the same is available at page 1059-1065/c. However, details of corresponding attributes of alternatives examined viz. forest area, involved, no of trees involved, etc. vis-à-vis feasibility of project and soft copies of kml/shape files needs to be submitted by the State Government and with documentary evidences establishing that concerned authorities in the State Forest Department from DFO to PCCF have evaluated critically the alternate alignments explored by the User Agency.
11. Compliance of Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has been submitted in accordance with the MoEF&CC'd advisory dated 5.07.2013. The District Collectors, Wardha and Nagpur have issued certificates dated 6.04.2017 (Pg 403/c) and 16.05.2017 (Pg 487-488/c) for an area of 4.075 ha and 46.66 ha, respectively certifying all the clauses as stipulated in the MoEF&CC advisory dated 5.07.2013. Documentary evidences in support of settlement of rights viz. copies of the records of the resolutions of the Gram Sabha (s) have been submitted (Pg 473-481/c; 639-669, 697-704/c) and Sub-Divisions Level Committee (s) (pg 491-516/c) and District Level Committee (s) (pg 238-445/c) have also been submitted along with the compliance. Original copy of the District Collector certificate has not been submitted. However, proceedings of the Sub-Divisional Level Committee pertaining to the District of Wardha have not been submitted along with the compliance report.
12. Detail of area available for plantation of dwarf species, preferably medicinal in the clearance available under the conductor and scheme of plantation has not been provided in the proposal.
13. Cost Benefit analysis has been provided. A ratio of 1:39.83 has been provided and the same is has been worked out for the project CBA is available at page 219-221/c.
14. Area proposed for diversion does not fall within a distance of 10 km from the boundary of any PAs. A certificate to this effect has been submitted and the same is available at page 169-171 & 173/c.
15. No violation of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been reported by the State Government.
16. The authorities in the State Forest Department and the State Government have recommended the proposal without any specific condition.
17. The facts related to the proposal as contained in the State Government letter dated 23.05.2017 have been compiled in the form of fact sheet by the Research Investigator and the same is given as under: