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23 JUN 2009

F. No. 8-17/2007-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests
(FC Division)

Paryavaran Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi - 110510
Dated: 08th June, 2009

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To
The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Government of Gujarat
Gandhinagar.

Sub: Diversion of 130.00 ha of forest land (Section 4 forest land) for 4000 MW Ultra Mega Power Project at Mundra in Bhuj district of Gujarat in favour of M/s. Costal Gujarat Power Ltd., New Delhi.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to State Government's letter no. FCA-1007/ (10-18)/SF.14K dated 29.03.2007 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 for the said project was granted vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 09.01.2008 subject to fulfillment 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.

In this connection, I am directed to say that on the basis of the compliance report furnished by the State Government vide letter no. FCA - 1007 (10-18) SF - 14 - K dated 20.03.2009, approval of the Central Government is hereby granted under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 130.00 ha of forest land for 4000 MW Ultra Mega Power Project at Mundra in Bhuj district of Gujarat in favour of M/s. Costal Gujarat Power Ltd., New Delhi subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:

1. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. Wherever possible & technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake by involving local community, the afforestation measures in the blanks within the lease area, as well as along the roads outside the lease area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
3. The User Agency shall implement the approved Ash Disposal Plan, which shall be monitored regularly by the Regional Office, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Bhopal. The User Agency shall ensure that ash disposal is carried out as per this detailed plan, and is in accordance with all environmental safeguards.
4. 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.
5. The approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is subject to clearances under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 & other Acts & Rules.

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6. The User Agency shall make arrangements for free supply of fuel-wood preferably alternate energy source to labourers and staff working on the project site so as to avoid any pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
7. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused.
8. It shall be ensured that no labour-camps are set up inside the forest area.
9. The user agency shall take up afforestation and soil moisture conservations works inside the forest area in 100 m radius from the permitted project area in consultation with the forest department.
10. The project area shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, using four feet high RCC pillars, with each pillar inscribed with the serial number, forward and backward bearings and distance between two adjacent pillars.
11. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
12. The user agency shall provide electricity at concessional rates to the villages falling within ten km radius from the project boundary as a part of Corporate's Social Responsibility.
13. Any other condition that the Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhopal may impose from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection or development of forests.

Yours faithfully,

(C.D. Singh)
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
2. The Nodal Officer (FCA), Forest Department, Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Central), Regional Office, Bhopal.
4. The User Agency.
5. Monitoring Cell of FC Division.
6. Guard File.

(C.D. Singh)
Sr. Assistant Inspector General of Forests