Sub.: Guidelines for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for establishment of Wind Power Projects, maximum allowable base area for installing individual Wind Met-mast – modification, regarding.

Sir/Madam,
The Ministry of Environment and Forests issues detailed guidelines for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for establishment of Wind Power Projects to promote investment in environment friendly energy sector vide letter of even number dated 14.05.2004. Clause 4 of these guidelines provides for installing Wind Met-masts in forest areas for Wind mapping / reconnaissance survey, etc. for which maximum base area of 50 met. per Wind Met-mast for every 500 ha. was allowed.

2. The Ministry has received representation from Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association (IWTMA) seeking increase in the base area allowed for installing individual Wind Met-mast, as taller wild Met-masts are required to be installed in order to obtain wind characteristics at greater heights. The issue was discussed by the Forest Advisory Committee, and on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, approval of the Competent Authority is hereby conveyed to the effect that base area of the individual Wind Met-mast shall be allowed upto the area of a circle of 100m. diameter.

3. The guidelines for establishment of Wind Power Projects issued vide this Ministry’s letter number 8-84/2002-FC dated 14.05.2004 stand modified to the above extent.

Sub.: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980- General approval under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 thereof.

Sir,
In continuation of this Ministry’s letter of even number dated 03.01.2005 where by general approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 was granted initially for a period of two years ending 31.12.2006, has been further extended upto 31.12.2008 or until the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 is brought into force, whichever is earlier.

Yours faithfully,
Signature/
(C.D. Singh)
Assistant Inspector General of Forests