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

The Government of India vide letter No. 11-9/98-FC dated 16.10.2000 has conveyed its general approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for underground laying of optical fiber cables, underground laying of telephone lines & underground laying of drinking water supply pipelines which involve no tree felling, are outside National Parks or wildlife sanctuary, are laid along the roads and within the existing right of way and the maximum size of the trench is 2.00 metre depth & 1.00 metre width. Any deviation from the above category/conditions will require separate submission of proposal/permission under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. This approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is being conveyed initially for a period of two years subject to review thereafter.

In view of the above guidelines it is hereby decided that the concerned Conservator of Forests will issue the permission to the user agency on the submission of application under Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953. This approval will be subject to the following conditions:

1. The user agency agrees to make good the land after use/maintenance.
2. The user agency agrees to make good any loss to forest/environment.
3. The user agency seeks permission from the concerned Dy. Conservator of Forests for carrying out any maintenance.

The Conservator of Forests will submit a quarterly progress report in the prescribed performa on the extent or the forest land diverted for each purpose to this office.

Signature/
Chief Conservator of Forests (Adm.)
Rajasthan