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KERALA WATER AUTHORITY

Jalabhavan
Thiruvananthapuram – 695033
Kerala - India

No. KWA/JB/PIU2/AEE42/Vasoorichira/2022

Date:07-02-2024

From

The Managing Director

To

The Chief Engineer,
Southern Region,
Kerala Water Authority,
Thiruvananthapuram.

Sir,

Sub: Augmentation of WSS to Kollam corporation - Laying raw water pumping main from intake well at Njankadavu to WTP at Vasoorichira – Elampalloor - Nanthrikkal - 1052 m - direction for proposing micro-tunnelling -Reg:-

- Ref:
1. Letter no. SE-4/5321/2023/KIIFB dated 26-12-2023 of the Executive Director, KIIFB.
 2. Letter no. APR-6/1877/2022/KIIFB dated 12-09-2023 of the Additional Chief Executive Officer, KIIFB.
 3. This office letter of even no dated 3-10-2023 and 12-10-2023 addressed to the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Kollam.
 4. Letter no. KWA/PDK/DB2/721/2017 dated 16-10-2023 of the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Kollam.
 5. Letter no. CEPWD/1496/2021-DB3(W)-NH dated 13-12-2023 from the Chief Engineer, PWD (NH).
 6. Letter no. D3/435/2023-PWD dated 30-12-2023 of the Secretary, PWD.
 7. Letter No. RW /TRI/Utility/ 80/2023-24 dated 22.11.2023 of MoRTH Trivandrum addressing the EE, NH Division, Kollam.
 8. Direction given by the MD KWA during the review on 23.01.2023.

Kind attention is invited to the references cited.

Vide reference cited (2), Additional CEO, KIIFB had forwarded draft application to be submitted to MoRTH for micro-tunnelling option for the subject work along with the required documents. This was already forwarded to the Executive Engineer, Project Division, Kollam, vide reference cited (3).

Vide reference cited (4), EE had reported that as per the meeting conducted by the Hon'ble MP Sri. N.K. Premachandran, a joint inspection was conducted with the Regional Officer MoRTH on 04.10.2023. During the inspection, the RO directed to submit a report comparing advantages of open trenching method with duct construction and he assured to forward the same to MoRTH, New Delhi for getting special sanction. Accordingly, KWA submitted a report to the RO.

But it is understood that the road cutting permission was denied again by RO, MoRTH. It is also understood that the Chief Engineer, PWD (NH) has addressed Secretary, PWD regarding the same vide reference (5) and the Secretary, PWD has addressed the RO, MoRTH vide reference (6).

It may noted that this work is pending for the last 3 years. Now the Executive Director, KIIFB vide the above reference (1) has informed that in the rejection letter of MoRTH (the third time in this project) dated 22.11.2023, it is stated that "Based on the provisions it seems undesirable to allow permission for open cutting and damaging the recently completed strengthening works. Pipe laying department may look for alternatives like utility duct through micro-tunnelling, land acquisition to further shift the RoW edge etc to avoid cutting of carriage way". Since we are not in a position to extend the RoW edge, and the infrastructure investment for the project already made is still remaining unfruitful for want of this permission, you are hereby directed to proceed with micro-tunnelling technology for the stretch as recommended by the funding agency and as suggested in the rejection letter of MoRTH.

Yours faithfully,

Bhandari Swagat Ranveerchand IAS
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Copy to:

1. The Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, KWA, Kollam for urgent necessary action and report to this office.
2. The Executive Engineer, Project Division, KWA, Kollam for urgent necessary action and report to this office.