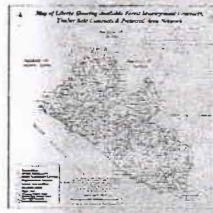




Forestry Development Authority

P.O. Box 10-3010

Whein Town, Mt. Barclay
Montserrado County
Monrovia, Liberia



MEMORANDUM

TO: Moses D. Wogbeh
*Managing Director,
Forestry Development Authority*

FROM: John D. Kantor, Sr. *[Signature]*
Technical Manager, R&D/FDA
&
Torwon T. Yantay *[Signature]*
Acting Manager-GIS & RS/FDA

Subject: Validation Report of Proposed Gbi Community Forest Area
Located in Nimba and River Cess Counties

DATE: March 6, 2011

Background

Predicated on a communication under the signature of Mr. Ricks Y. Toweh, President/CEO-Liberia Tree and Trading Company, INC. (L TTC), requesting the Forestry Development Authority to authenticate, verify and issue necessary Permit for a Community forest area situated and lying in Gbi & Doru and Doedain districts, Nimba & River Cess Counties. A team of technicians from the FDA was mandated to visit Gbi & Doru and Doedain community forest for detail ground truthing, capturing of Tribal Land marks and sight seeing of the area for management's reaction.

In light of the above, two surveyors and three Global Positioning System (GPS) operators, traveled to the land under consideration to conduct a joint ground truthing exercise of the area along with the tribal people and company representative.

Field Patrol

During the period February 13-21, the joint team patrolled a significant portion of the area and gathered detail information relating to on going multiple uses of the area, types of vegetation, topology, and livelihood of communities dwellers within the parameters of the forest.

J. C. F.
A. J. B.



MJM

Findings

Following an intensive tour by the technicians, we observed and authenticated that:

- ❖ Indeed the Community forest area does not overlapped with any of FDA allocated areas;
- ❖ Greater portion of the area is suitable for harvesting (commercial logging);
- ❖ Topographically, the entire land mass of Tribal land area submitted to FDA is relatively flat with few major water ways;
- ❖ The area is truly located in Gbi & Doru and Doedain Districts, Nimba and River Cess Counties;
- ❖ The size of the area requested by the citizens of Gbi & Doru and Doedain districts for harvesting was plotted on the field using Precision gadget.
- ❖ The actual size of the area requested is correct (31,155 hectares/76,984 acres);
- ❖ The commencement or starting point of the Community forest is Northing 0478885 and Eastern 0695269 (Universal Traverse Mercator) on the surface of the earth.

Recommendation

In view of the verification and confirmation of these documents by the Forestry Development Authority, coupled with our ground truthing (February 13-21, 2011), we herein recommend that:

- ✦ The actual area of Doru Chiefdom plotted be given with the Metes and Bounds on behalf of the people of Gbi & Doru and Doedain Districts;
- ✦ As per Community Rights Law (CRL) of 2009 provision in chapter two sections 1-8, we therefore recommend that FDA Management issue a Community Use Permit for Land totaling 76,984 acres /31,155 hectares to the people of Gbi & Doru districts in Nimba and River Cess Counties, compliance with all relevant requirements of this section.

Cc:

AMDA

Law Office

TM Research & Development

TM Commercial Department

File

J.C.B.
A.J.B.



M/D

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