

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED 30
KLPD MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY OF M/S. AGASTI
SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LTD, AGASTINAGAR,
TAL. AKOLE, DIST. AHMEDNAGAR

=====

Introduction:

The Environmental Public Hearing of M/s. Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar in respect of proposed 30.0 KLPD molasses based distillery at Gat No. 53/2, 54/2, 58/1, at Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra, held on 08th Sept. 2017 at 11-00 am. at the factory site of M/s. Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar.

The Notice regarding the Environmental Public Hearing was published in the local newspaper in Daily Lokmat for Marathi on 6th August, 2017 and in National English newspaper in The Times of India on 07th August, 2017. Annex.- I.

The said public hearing was held under the Chairmanship of Shri. Gopichand Kadam, Addl. District Magistrate, Ahmednagar (representative of District Magistrate, Ahmednagar) & Shri. R.U.Patil, Regional Officer, MPCB Nashik as a Member of the Panel and also worked as Convener of Public Hearing Panel.

The said Public Hearing Panel was constituted by MPC Board Office vide office order No. E-63 of 2017, vide letter No. BO /JD (WPC) / PH / B – 3544, dated 06th September, 2017.

Annex.-II.

The Member of Public Hearing Panel, residents of villages, agriculturists, Sarpanch, representative of project proponent were present in the said public hearing. The attendance of the persons present during the said hearing is attached as **Annex.-III.**

Purpose and procedure:

With the permission of the Chairman of Public Hearing, the Member of the Panel & Convener of the Public Hearing Panel started the proceedings by welcoming the Addl. District

Magistrate and Chairman of the Panel and Local citizens of village and other in the said public hearing. Further, he informed that, as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public Hearing to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar was in receipt of application of M/s Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal-Akole, Dist- Ahmednagar for new establishment of new distillery plant of 30.0 KLPD at the existing site of the industry.

The Convener further informed that, as per EIA Notification, 2006, the category of project falls as per production i.e. Distillery based on molasses is Category - "A," Schedule 5 (g). The aim of conducting public hearing is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and

environment management plan of the unit. The project proponent had submitted prescribed application along with pre-feasibility report to the MoEF & CC for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and MoEF & CC, New Delhi considered the project in the 17th EAC meeting dated 28th December, 2016. As per said Notification, one month advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Lokmat for Marathi on 6th August, 2017 and in National newspaper in The Times of India on 07th August, 2017 for English.

So also a copy of EIA report and executive summery was also made available at various offices of government i.e. District Magistrate Office, Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad, Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre, Ahmednagar; Tahsil Office- Akole, Dist, Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat offices at Nawalewadi, Bhojdarwadi, Dhamangaon Awari, Pimpalgaon Khand, Washere, Manoharpur and Sugaon Budruk, Dist- Ahmednagar;

Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and at MoEF Western Zone office at Nagpur. The public in general were appealed to send any objection / suggestion regarding the above project. The Convener further informed that from local people, not a single written objection is received by the Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar. A written suggestion by email is received by the local MPCB office from Shri S. Reddy, an Environmentalist from Hyderabad, in support of the project. Copy enclosed. Annex. IV.

The Member of public hearing panel and Regional Officer, MPCB Nashik asked the villagers, agriculturists, environmental group and other related people who were present in the hearing to submit to their written and oral objection and further Shri Gopichand Kadam, Chairman of Committee advised to the people present in the public hearing to raise their views / comments related to environmental angle only so as to ensure that objective of the public hearing is fulfilled.

The Member of public hearing panel and Regional Officer, MPCB Nashik asked the project proponent to give the technical presentation on the proposed project.

Presentation of the project proponent:

Accordingly, Representative of the Project Proponent (Mr. Akshay Kulkarni, M/s. Ultra Tech Environment Consultant) gave the presentation regarding project and the Environment the Environmental issues related with it as follows.

- M/s. Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar, has proposed molasses based distillery plant with capacity 30 KLD.
- The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 47.96 Cr.
- The raw material for this project is molasses around 120 TPD, however, 60 to 70% is a by-product of this sugar factory and remaining 30 to 40% procurement of the molasses will be from the nearby sugar factories.
- The water requirement in the said project is 400 CMD for process, domestic and gardening.
- The source of water is from Pravara river.

- M/s. Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar possess total plot area is 52.22 hectors, out of which 6.0 hector will be used for proposed plant. Green belt will be developed on 2 hector area.
- Back ground of project site :
- Land is in possession of M/s. Agasti Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Agastinagar, Tal. Akole, Dist. Ahmednagar and is developed for industrial purpose.
- Site is having following geographical reference.
 - a. Latitude $19.514929^{\circ}\text{N}$
 - b. Longitude $74.005172^{\circ}\text{E}$
 - c. MSL 638m above MSL.
- Availability of basic facilities like fuel, water, power, manpower etc.,
- Nearest village is Akole Nagar panchayat and habitats at 3 kms.

- Nearest State high no. SH-44 (Kolhar – Ghoti) is at 3.0 kms. from the project site.
- Nearest railway station is Shirdi at 70 kms.
- No national park / sanctuary / defense installation / eco sensitive zone / heritage site within 10 kms. radius from the project site.
- Pravara river is more than 4.0 km away from the project site.
- Process description :
 Molasses is by-product of sugar factory is used as a raw material for production of alcohol by fermentation and distillation process.
- Raw material molasses is stored in molasses storage MS tank.
- Screen molasses from molasses tank is fed into molasses receiving tank and molasses is weighed.
- Appropriate amount of yeast has to be added into the fermentation tank.

- Further, fermentation process is carried out in fermented vessel adding molasses, process water, nutrients and additives. During, fermentation sugars are broken down into alcohol and CO_2 , which further treated and carried wash tank, where suspended solid and supernant is separate out.
- The supernant liquid taken into distillation column in which alcohol vapour is separated out from fermented wash passing through the 8 column in series in distillation process which is analyzer, de-gasifying, pre rectifier, extractive distillation, rectifier cum exhaust. Recovery and simmering column. Finally simmering column is operated under high reflux for better separation of methanol and diacitals and final ENA is drawn from the bottom of this column.
- Liquid / solid / hazardous waste generating and mode of disposal.

1. Waste water generation :

- a. Industrial effluent generation: 240 CMD.

The spent wash will be treated in bio-gas digester. The bio-gas generated will be used as a fuel for boiler. The effluent after bio-digester will be treated in four stage multiple effect evaporator followed by composting. The effluent from boiler blow down, cooling tower blow down will be collected and treated into ETP.

b. Domestic effluent 20 CMD will be treated in septic tank & treated domestic effluent will be used for gardening purpose.

c. Zero Liquid Discharge :

1. 75 m³/day spent lees will be generated from the distillation process and will be sent to Condensate Polishing Unit (CPU).

2. 240 M³/D Spent wash will be generated will be treated in MEE It will be sent to bio composting unit.

d. Non-hazardous Waste:

Non-hazardous waste from the canteen will be 20 kg/d (approx.) & garden waste will be around 100 kg/d will

be used in compost & office waste will be collected and sale out to recycler.

e. Hazardous waste :

Spent oil & residue containing oil will be sent to the CHWTSDF Pune.

Chemical containing residues from barrel cleaning will be send to the recycler.

Metrological data:

- The project site area covers 10 km. radius area.
- The study conducted from Jan. 2017 to Mar. 2017.
- Temperature: Dec.-2016 was the coldest month of the year with the mean daily max. temp. 28.5 °C and the mean daily min. temp. 11.7 °C. May-2016 was the hottest month of the year with mean. daily max. temperature at 38.9 °C and mean daily min. temperature at 22.4 °C.
- Rainfall: The average rainfall in Ahmednagar district ranging from 508 to 635 mm. annually.
- Free dominant wind direction was North-West & Wind blow 2.1 mtrs./s. from North-West direction.

Project benefits:

Proposed project will emerging following developments.

1. Director / Indirect employment generation.
2. Socio-economic development.
3. Industrial development.
4. Basic Infrastructure development.
5. Sugarcane rate will be enhanced which will ultimately increase the income of the farmers.

Following attributes broadly consider in EMP:

1. Air: Precautionary measures will be taken to minimize the air pollution as per suggestion / guidelines of MoEF/CPCB/MPCB.
2. Water: ZLD system will be adopted for the treatment of industrial effluent.
3. Solid waste: Solid waste generated during construction / operation will be disposed off scientifically and in time bound manner.
4. Rain water harvesting system: Rain water from terrace / roof area shall be collected through rain water down take

pipes and collected to catch basins or stored in rain water tank. Rain water harvesting pit shall be provided wherever feasible so that max. rain water can be recharged into the ground before it reaches to storm water drains collected rain water used for irrigation purpose within plant premises.

5. Green belt development: The total green belt will be 02 hectores. The green belt developed by planting various botanic species to protection of the surrounding env.

6. Health and Safety: M/s. Agasti SSK Ltd., will follow occupational health programme right from the start of production as per Factory Act, 1948.

7. C.S.R. Plan: C.S.R. activities covering social and env. Performance of the unit. This activity includes Donation of computer & books, Health camps, Help for the cultural activities, water supply facilities, green belt development, Training camps & study trips, Water canals & drip irrigation, Water and soil testing, Quality improvement of the seeds etc.,

8. Environmental management cell :

Env. Management cell will be established which will be supervise and comply all statutory guidelines by MoEF / CPCB / MPCB.

Shri Patil, Member and Convener asked about the procurement of the molasses. The Representative of the Industry informed that, 60 to 70% (approx.) molasses will be made available from their own sugar factory and as per the requirement the molasses from the adjacent sugar factories will be purchased.

The Chairman of the said Panel asked about the adequacy of the molasses storage tank. The Representative of the project proponent informed that, at present industry is having 02 nos. of molasses storage tank of 4000 MT / each capacity and industry has proposed to provide molasses storage tank of 4000 MT/M. capacity, so as to cope up the future requirements.

The Chairman of the Panel would like to know about the provisions to be made by the project proponent to avoid seepage/s of spent wash.

The Representative of the project proponent informed that, impervious and pucca storage tanks for the storage of spent wash as per the MoEF / CPCB / MPCB guidelines will be provided.

The Managing Director of the said industry informed that, the strict guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) will be followed and they will be adopt Zero Liquid Discharge Technology.

After completion of the presentation, Chairman of the Committee appealed general public to give any suggestion or objection regarding the Environment Management Plan only. It will be incorporated in the report which will be submitted to Central Government for consideration.

====00====

Proceedings of Public Hearing :

Sr. No.	Points raised by the persons present	Reply of the Promoter / Representative of the Project.	Response / Suggestions from the Public Hearing Committee
1.	<p>Shri Sandip Senkar, resident of Karkhana Road informed that sugar factory will be started shortly for that, labours working on daily wages and cane harvesting labour will come from outside. As the toilet facilities are not available, hence they go outside for toilet on open spaces, thereby causing health problems in the adjacent area. In view of above, he raised a query regarding steps to be taken for the procurement of the toilets for the temporary labour.</p>	<p>The Managing Director of the project proponent informed that, the decision regarding moving toilets is taken in the Directorate Board Meeting of the Sugar Factory, so that, this question will not arise further.</p>	
2.	<p>Shri. Balasaheb Nathu Pansare, resident of Pansarewadi raised following points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priority of the Employment opportunities to the local residents. 2. The fly ash from the boiler is coming out into 	<p>The Managing Director of the project proponent informed that, as per the guidelines of the CPCB and MPCB Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) technology is adopted by the</p>	<p>Shri. Gopichand Kadam, Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar and Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel informed that, this public hearing is conducted for</p>

	<p>his field that's why field workers are not coming for work.</p> <p>3. Most of the time, the ETP of the sugar factory is not operated regularly, the same can be operated regularly and treated water shall be disposed off.</p> <p>4. 10 to 15 % job opportunities will be given the local people in the proposed factory.</p> <p>5. Due to discharge of waste water in his field, drinking water is contaminated, hence demanded for drinking water supply.</p> <p>6. Hospital facility is made for the factory workers same can be facilitated for adjacent farmers.</p>	<p>industry, hence, no treated / untreated effluent will be discharged outside the factory.</p> <p>2. New wet-scrubbers are provided hence, ash will not be released from the boiler. Online monitoring system is installed as per the guidelines of the CPCB / MPCB and it is connected to the server of the CPCB / MPCB and industry is operating the ETP regularly. The ESP arrangement will be provided to the boiler of the proposed project.</p>	<p>proposed 30 KLPD distillery project and directed to raise the issues related to this proposed project only.</p> <p>The Chairman of the Panel directed to raise the issue related to this project / Environmental Public Hearing inspite of other issues.</p>
3.	<p>Shri Sanjay Shete, resident of Pimpalgaon Khand raised a query regarding benefits to the local farmers due to this project. The issues like water and air pollution are discussed broadly. It is assured that cent percent conditions as discussed above for pollution control will be complied. He advised to inform the benefits</p>	<p>The Managing Director of the unit informed that the sugar cane price will be enhanced. The job opportunities will be increased and local people will be given priority. The best quality compost fertilizer will be produced as an</p>	

	to the farmers from the proposed project.	alternative for the organic fertilizer.	
4.	Shri Gangaram Bhimaji Waghchoure, resident of Bhojdarwadi (Vithegaon) raised a query regarding smell nuisance and steps to be taken to avoid the smell.	The Managing Director of the unit informed that the proposed project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project and he has already informed the steps to be taken / pollution control arrangements provided / to be provided in the earlier reply given to Shri. Balasaheb Nathu Pansare. Bio-gas plant will be installed & generated bio-gas will be burnt in the boiler. Treated spent wash temperature will be reduced up to 35 °C which will help to reduce the smell nuisance.	
5.	Shri. Dattatraya Waghchoure, resident of Bhojdarwadi raised a query regarding chances of well water pollution, mosquitoes and flies nuisance etc., due to proposed project.	The Managing Director of the unit informed that the proposed project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project and he has already informed the	The Chairman of the Panel informed that, the proposed project is based on the Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD), Technology, thereby, the lapses

		steps to be taken / pollution control arrangements provided / to be provided in the earlier reply given to Shri. Balasaheb Nathu Pansare.	if any in the past will also be removed.
6.	Shri Balasaheb Laxman Awari, resident of Awarigaon raised a query regarding handling and disposal of plastic waste.	The Managing Director of the unit informed that neither plastic is required in the process nor bottling project, hence there is no any source of plastic waste generation.	
7.	Shri Anil Shete, resident of Pansarwadi raised a query regarding conversion of agriculture land into barren in the past due to the discharge of spent wash of distillery at Chitali, this should not be happened here & advised to undertake the study. Further, he stated that, the steps for proposed project will be taken only after considering the profits and losses thereof.	The Managing Director of the unit informed that the proposed project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project and he has already informed the steps to be taken / pollution control arrangements provided / to be provided in the earlier reply given to Shri. Balasaheb Nathu Pansare,	Shri. Rajendra Patil, Regional Officer, MPCB Nahik and Member & Convener of the Public Hearing Panel informed that "Zero Liquid Discharge" technology is mandatory for this project and without compliance of the above, no permission is granted by MPCB and CPCB.

8.	<p>Shri. Sudhakar Deshmukh, resident of Sugaon (Bk) raised a query regarding bottling of the alcohol and asked the meaning of the Alcohol.</p>	<p>The Managing Director of the unit informed that, Alcohol is rectified spirit and it will be supplied to the chemical manufacturer. ENA will be supplied to the liquor manufacturers. Ethanol will be supplied to the authorized petroleum companies as a fuel. In this proposed project, no bottling activity will be carried out and the above products will be supplied to the authorized suppliers as per the Rules.</p>	
9.	<p>Mrs. Sangita Hase, Sarpanch of Pimpalgaon Khand expressed the opinion in support of the project, but advised to take necessary precautionary measures to avoid the pollution.</p>		
10.	<p>Shri Sambhaji Shelke local farmer raised following points.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To provide adequate pollution control arrangements to avoid the pollution from the proposed project. To 	<p>The Managing Director of the project informed that, the project will be socio-economic development project. The management is</p>	<p>The Chairman of the Panel redirected to raise the issue related to this project / Environmental Public Hearing</p>

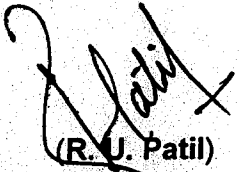
	<p>follow the Rules related to pollution control.</p> <p>2. To provide necessary arrangements including spraying to avoid the nuisance from the mosquito and flies. The well water is contaminated. To take necessary steps for the control of water pollution.</p> <p>3. To take steps for the supply of drinking water.</p> <p>4. To store the boiler ash properly.</p> <p>5. To take necessary steps to avoid nuisance from the proposed project in comparison with the existing sugar factory.</p> <p>6. To repair the Factory Road. To provide separate road for bullock-cart. To limit the vehicle speed.</p> <p>7. To give cent percent assurance for control of pollution from the proposed project and then will start the proposed project.</p>	<p>committed for the protection of the environment. The detailed informed regarding pollution control arrangements is given during the power point presentation.</p>	<p>inspite of other issues.</p>
--	---	--	---------------------------------


11.	Shri Raviraj Bhangare, resident of Manoharpur expressed that, the project proponent should follow the guidelines and promises made in the said hearing and desired for early commissioning of the project.	The Managing Director of the project informed that, the project will be socio-economic development project. The management is committed for the promises made in the hearing.	
-----	--	---	--

The Chairman of the Committee while concluding the hearing thanked the general public attended the said public hearing in large and praised them for their valuable suggestions, comments, queries and objections etc., raised in the said public hearing.

Further, the Chairman of the committee informed that the suggestions, comments made in this hearing will be incorporated in the proceedings and the report will be submitted to the Expert Committee of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC) along with necessary enclosures and CD of EIA & proceeding (English & Marathi) for further consideration.

The Public Hearing concluded with vote of thanks to the Chair.


(R. U. Patil)
Member & Convener
Regional Officer, MPCB
Nashik


(Gopichand Kadam)
Chairman of the Committee and
Addl. District Magistrate,
Ahmednagar