

## Minutes of Environmental Public Hearing

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY HAVING CAPACITY 30 KLPD RECTIFIED SPIRIT/ 30 KLPD ENA/ 30 KLPD ETHANOL PLANT AND 1 MW CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT PROPOSED BY M/S. UTOPIAN SUGARS LTD. AT POST: KACHAREWADI, TAL:MANGALWEDHA, DIST: SOLAPUR.**

The public hearing for proposed establishment of molasses based distillery having capacity 30 KLPD, Rectified Spirit/ 30 KLPD ENA/ 30 KLPD, Ethanol plant and 1 MW Co-generation power plant, proposed by M/s. Utopian Sugars Ltd. At Post: Kacharewadi, Tal:Mangalwedha, Dist: Solapur was conducted on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 at 11.00 am, at the site of the said industry.

Following Public Hearing Panel members were present, as per the Board's Office Order No. E-41 of 2018 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-1965, dated 22.05.2018.

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| 1) Shri Kishor Pawar,<br>Addl. District Magistrate, Solapur<br>(Representative of District Magistrate,<br>Solapur) | - | Chairman, |
| 2) Shri J. S. Salunkhe,<br>I/c Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune<br>(Representative of MPCB, Mumbai)                    | - | Member    |
| 3) Shri N. S. Awatade<br>I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB<br>Solapur.  | - | Convener  |

Shri N. S. Awatade, Convener of the public hearing welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the public hearing, company officials, government officials and public who were present, and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as amended on 1<sup>st</sup> 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, Solapur was in receipt of application of M/s. Utopian Sugars Ltd. At Post: Kacharewadi, Tal:Mangalwedha, Dist: Solapur for Distillery and Co-Generation Power Plant of above quantity in the existing plant located at-Kacharewadi, Tal-Mangalwedha, Dist-Solapur.

The Convener further informed that, as per EIA Notification, 2006 (As Amended), the unit falls under Category for Molasses Based Distillery as A 5 (g) and for Co-generation Plant A 1(d) respectively. Convener of the hearing informed that 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 alongwith pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and MoEFCC, New Delhi considered the project during the 1<sup>st</sup> Expert Appraisal Committee (Industry-2) meeting held during 30<sup>th</sup> November-1<sup>st</sup> December 2015. As per said Notification, one month advance public notice was published in the local newspapers in Daily Sakal & in Dainik Sanchar in Marathi & English language on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

So also a copy of EIA report and executive summery was also made available at various offices of government i.e. District Magistrate Office, Solapur, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Solapur, District Industries Centre, Solapur, Tahasil Office, Mangalwedha, BDO, Panchayat Samiti, Mangalwedha, Grampanchayat offices at Kacharewadi, Patkhal, Andhalgaon, Ganeshwadi, Dongargaon, Hivargaon, Khomnal, Khupsungi, Tal-Magalwedha, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Solapur, Regional Office, MPCB, Pune and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai & uploaded on the website of MPCB and at Western Zone Office of MoEFCC at Nagpur. The public in general were appealed to send any objection / suggestion regarding the above project. He appealed Chairman of the Committee to allow starting the proceedings.

Shri Kishor Pawar, Chairman of Committee welcomed all and informed officials of the project to explain the details of pollution control devices and environment management plan of the project in local language Marathi. He also appealed general public to give objection / suggestion if any about the project after their technical presentation.

The Environment Consultant appointed by the company Dr. Subbarao, has given the presentation of the expansion project and Environment Management Plan in detail.

After completion of the presentation, Chairman of the Committee and Convener of the Committee appealed general public to ask any questions/queries/objections if any to project officials.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that industry has not mentioned/considered the effects & impacts of pollution in the report.

**Ans:** The Managing Director of the industry informed that spent wash or any other pollutants shall not be discharged outside the premises. We propose to spend 30 Crore rupees to achieve Zero Discharge.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that Bhima Canal would not flow for 12 months and thus water from ground water sources may be depleted due to the proposed Distillery unit.

**Ans:** The Managing Director of the industry informed that the proposed Industry does not draw water from Canal. It takes water only in the beginning and subsequently the process water shall be recycled 100 percent, hence there is no possibility of depletion of ground water.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that due to the proposed plant; most of the area may get polluted and may result in wide spread diseases.

**Ans:** The Managing Director of the industry informed that spent wash is not permitted to go outside the premise. It shall be treated to achieve Zero Liquid Discharge and the entire effluent shall be recycled back into the process. There is no requirement of additional water for Distillery operations. Hence there is no possibility of spreading of diseases to human being & animals.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that due to air emissions, disposable chemical waste the air may get polluted in the area.

**Ans:** The Managing Director of the industry informed that, the industry has installed ESP as APC equipment; therefore the emissions are well within the Government limits & which can be seen from the Online Monitoring System which is installed in the industry.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** blamed that the health of college & school students nearby the factory may get affected due to the pollution.

**Ans:** The Managing Director of the industry informed that, all precautions have been taken to control Air Pollution by installing ESP. The factory has also running a School in its premises, and every year, health checkup of the students are done at free of cost, till today there is no health effects observed on the health of students.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** suggested that the pollution study/survey of the village should be undertaken and the pollution problems from the public are to be incorporated in the report.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, survey was conducted as per the guidelines of notification. Vulnerability index was also calculated and presented in the report.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that due to emissions of SO<sub>2</sub> and other gases may pollute the air & creates diseases.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, in the process Bagasse is mainly used as fuel which does not contain high Sulphur content. Thus percentage of Sulphur Dioxide or any other hazardous gases present in the air will be negligible.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that due to disposal of oil, grease etc, and water may get Polluted.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, we have provided Oil separators. The oil which is removed is mixed with Bagasse and burnt in Boiler there will not be any disposal outside the premises.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that due to proposed activities noise pollution would be very high.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, silencers and acoustic measures are provided to noise generating units and thus noise pollution shall not be there.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that as per rule 33% Greenbelt is required.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, we have already planted 20000 in an area of 12 hectares within four years, which are adequate as per the norms of Greenbelt of 1500 trees per hectare of 12 Hectares of the area. The Industry is planning to increase the Greenbelt beyond 33% by planting 1000 to 1500 trees every year.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** informed that as the industry is private, there will not be development of local peoples & whether local peoples will get employment?

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, even today the industry has given employment to Local peoples depending on Village Population in the existing sugar unit & the same practice will remain continued in future in the proposed plant.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** blamed that due to Co-generation project there will be rise in temperature?

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, 10 TPH Boiler shall be installed which is having temperature around 160<sup>0</sup> C and 50 meter height of stack will be provided therefore temperature shall be dropped to ambient level due to dispersion.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** suggested that, the MPCB should examine & carryout the tests of the project.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, the MPCB authority has regularly taken the water & air samples & examined the reports.

**Shri. Abasaheb Lande, Deputy Sarpanch – Ganeshwadi,** asked that whether the today's "Public Hearing" is as per the rules or otherwise it may be decided. & it should have been conducted in a Public Place.

**Ans:** Shri. Awatade, conveyor (Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB) told that as per the MoEF Notification 2006, the "Public Hearing" is to be conducted at the site of proposed unit.

**Shri. Abasaheb Lande, Deputy Sarpanch – Ganeshwadi,** asked that "Public Hearing" notice was not available to our Grampanchayat.

**Ans:** Shri. Awatade, convener, informed that as per the Notification of MoEF, 2006, the "Public Hearing Notice" was published 30 Days before in the Daily Newspapers "Sanchar" and "Sakal" & simultaneously the copies of EIA Reports, Executive Summary, were placed at the different office as mentioned in the

notice by obtaining there acknowledgment receipts. The acknowledgment receipt of Kacharewadi Grampanchayat is also on record.

**Advocate Shri Deshmukh & Shri. Balasaheb Kavale, resident of Dongargaon,** blamed that near Dongargaon, since two three months fly ash & blackish suspended particles were spreading in the area, which may results into harmful & severe effects. You are requested to visit the Dongargaon village.

**Ans:** The Managing Director informed that, for the existing Sugar Unit, ESP was installed which is having 99.9% ash particle removal efficiency and as such there cannot be any such fear. We have also installed Online Monitoring System which

records PM levels continuously and if the level exceeds, alerts from the CPCB and MPCB are received. There were no alerts received with regard to Air Quality during the entire season 2017-18.

**Shri. Abasaheb Lande, Deputy Sarpanch – Ganeshwadi,** asked that, whether it is tru as told by Managing Director regarding the planning for fly ash?

**Ans:** Shri. Awatade, convener, informed that if any complaint regarding the same, public can lodge complaints to MPCB & accordingly the matter has been investigated by MPCB.

**Shri. Salunkhe, member,** informed that as local people desires, the project proponent should give promises/pledges in writing which will be sent alongwith the report to MoEFCC, GoI.

Convener of the public hearing committee informed that total 2 written objections/letters have been received during the hearing, which will be sent along with the minutes of the hearing.

Chairman of the committee while concluding the meeting appealed project proponent to carry the socio economic development work under CSR Fund and priority be given to Jalyukta Shivar programme, removing the debris from nearby reservoirs, lakes and from water dams.

He thanked local people who came, raised objections and gave suggestions. Chairman of the committee informed that the suggestions, comments made in this meeting will be incorporated in the proceedings and the report will be submitted to the Expert Committee of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC) for further consideration.

Chairman of the Committee thanked all government officials, company officials and general public who attended the public hearing/meeting and informed that the said public hearing is concluded.

The meeting ended with extending thanks to the Chair.

The proceeding of the hearing starts at 11.30 am, & finished at 01.30 pm.



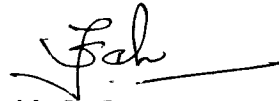
**(Kishor Pawar)**

Chairman of the Committee  
and Addl. District Magistrate, Solapur.



**(N. S. Awatade)**

Convenor  
and I/c Sub Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Solapur



**(J. S. Salunkhe)**

Member  
and I/c Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Pune