

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF EXISTING SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS (API's & INTERMEDIATES) IN THE EXISTING PREMISES PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S MEGAFINE PHARMA (P) LTD., PLOT No.31 to 35, 48 to 51, 1 to 5, 26 & K / GUT No.201, LAKHMAPUR, TAL-DINDORI, DIST - NASHIK, MAHARASHTRA

The public hearing for proposed expansion of existing Synthetic Organic Chemicals (API's & Intermediates), in the existing premises proposed by Project Proponent M/s Megafine Pharma (P) Ltd., Plot No.31 to 35, 48 to 51, 1 to 5, 26 & K/Gut No.201, Lakhmapur, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik , Maharashtra was conducted on 7th September, , 2019 at 11.00 a.m. at project site.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai has constituted Public Hearing Panel vide Office Order No.E-59 of 2019 issued under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-3175, Dated 27-08-2019 as below :-

- 1) District Magistrate, Nashik - **Chairman**
or his representative not below the
rank of an Additional District Magistrate
- 2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik - **Member**
(Representative of
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board)
- 3) Sub Regional Officer, - **Convener**
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Nashik

Shri Redasani, Representative of Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, Government Officials and public who were present in large number and informed that as per the EIA Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, Gol) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

He informed that the Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik was in receipt of application of Project Proponent

M/s Megafine Pharma (P) Ltd., Plot No.31 to 35, 48 to 51, 1 to 5, 26 & K/Gut No.201, Lakhmapur, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik, Maharashtra for proposed expansion of existing Synthetic Organic Chemicals (API's & Intermediates), in the existing premises only.

The Representative of the Convener further informed that the project as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category 5 (f). Representative of the Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation 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.

Project Proponent had sought online permission from MoEFCC, GoI for sanction of TOR and for preparation of Environment Impact Assessment and MoEFCC, GoI has sanctioned ToR on 23rd September, 2016.

Project Proponent has applied for permission to MPCB Head Office to conduct Environment Public Hearing Committee on 24-05-2019 and MPCB Head Office has given permission on 13-06-2019. The Project Proponent has paid the fees on 14-06-2019 and District Collector, Nashik gave permission on 31-07-2019 for conducting the Public Hearing Meeting.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Sakal for Marathi on 05-08-2019 and in national newspaper in Daily Times of India on 04-08-2019. The public were appealed to send their suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the concerned unit.

Also a copy of EIA report and executive summery were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, West-East Division Office, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001; District Magistrate Office-Nashik; Additional District Magistrate Office- Nashik ; Zilla Parishad Office-Nashik; District Industries Centre-Office, Nashik; Tahsil Office-Dindori, Dist- Nashik; Panchayat Samitee Office, Dindori , Dist- Nashik, Grampanchayat offices at Lakhamapur, Dahegaon/Vaglud,Mheluske, Ozarkhed, Awankhed, Parmori, Ozhe, Kadwa Mhalungi, Karanjavan, Valkhed, Tal – Dindodri, Dist- Nashik; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik; Regional Office, MPCB, Nashik and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai; Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the expansion of above

project. The Convener further informed that a single objection is received by local MPCB Office, Nashik.

Representative of the Convener of the Public Hearing Committee here appealed all the participants to raise their suggestions, objections if any in writing and orally. He informed that the objections, suggestions received will be noted in the minutes of the meeting. The minutes of meeting will be prepared in English and in Marathi, which will be submitted alongwith final EIA report, video shooting to an Expert Committee of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt. of India. Representative of the Convener of the meeting requested Shri Ramdas Khedkar, Additional District Magistrate, Nashik and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Shri Ramdas Khedkar, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that representative of the Project Proponent will give presentation regarding expansion of the project and Environment Management Plan. Afterwards the participants can raise their suggestions, objections regarding the proposed plant. He directed Project representative to give the presentation.

Project Environment Consultant gave the presentation regarding expansion of the project and Environment Impact Assessment Report and Environment Management Plan.

After the presentation of Project Consultant, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise the suggestions or objections considering the project details, production and job opportunities, suggestions regarding CER and CSR funds. While raising the suggestion or objection, name and name of the village should be informed.

Followings have participated during the discussions and the Answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee:-

1) Shri Deven Indate, resident of Nashik :-

After expansion of the project, the local people should be given priority for job opportunities in the plant. The management of the project should sow saplings as much as possible.

2) Shri Gangadhar Nikhade, Sarpanch, Ozarkhed Grampanchayat, Dist-Nashik :-

Whether there are any chances of mishap in the production activities and what preventive steps have been adopted by the Project Proponent: -

Environment Consultant informed that organic chemicals have to be used in the manufacturing activities. There is no production of any toxic gasses. There is one

threat in the plant i.e. Fire. Hence the Project Proponent has adopted most advance system of fire prevention. There are different kind of Detectors such as Smoke Detectors, Hydro Carbon Detectors, sprinkling arrangement, Hydride system for fire, Diesel run Fire Pumps have been made operational. In the plant, where there are chances of fire, the Sprinkling System automatically starts. With this, some Manual Call Points have also been developed. If anybody observes the smoke or fire, he can cut the manual Call point by hammer and alarm will buzz automatically. Thus the fire incident gets notified at gate and necessary action can be started immediately to control the incident.

Shri Nikhade, further suggested that under CSR Fund, if at all money is not spent on any development work of the local villages, it will not matter. But one Fire Brigade with a driver be kept ready for use of local people. If there is any fire incidence, the Fire Brigade has to be called from Nashik, Pimpalgaon. Naturally the crucial time lapses. Hence Fire Brigade with a driver for 24x7 be made available. Project Proponent has promised to consider the proposal positively.

3) Principal K.K.Ahire, Kadwa English School & Jr. College, Lakhmapur, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik

Project Proponent might have definitely adopted the all the security system in the plant. But if Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Fund and under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund are used by the Project Proponent for the various social welfare schemes, it will be an admirable act.

Environment Consultant here informed that as per directives of Govt. of India, the CER fund of Rupees 75/-

lakh (Rupees Seventy Five lakh) will be available. The prior permission from District Collector is mandatory for implementing various social welfare programmes. Hence, the programme with proposed budget will be submitted to the office of District Collector. It is decided to implement the Ground Water Recharge Programme at three locations. It is our experience that there is heavy rain in rainy season and there is scarcity of water in the summer season. Hence, it is essential to increase the underground water levels. Now three wells have been ear-marked in the vicinity of the project for ground water recharge.

The CSR fund will be used to provide and construct separate toilet blocks facilities to boys and girls Kadwa English Medium School at village Lakhmapur.

4) Shri Kanif Jadhav, Resident of Lakhmapur, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik:-

Project Proponent has one Ambulance. Whether it can be made available to local people at the crucial time?

Project Proponent informed that considering any mishap, the Ambulance is made available at the plant. But when the local people desire its services, the Ambulance was made available. The Project Proponent is committed to keep the promises and the Ambulance will be made available to the local people as per demand at the needy hour.

5) Shri Shekhar Dandgavahan, Aim Enviro, Nashik , Resident of Nashik :-

The question is for the e-Waste. There is electric and electronics solid e-Waste in the project. How it is disposed?

The Representative of Project Proponent informed that the sources of e-Waste have been identified in the project. The solid e-Waste is collected and handed over to Authorised Recycler as approved by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. It is recycled from the approved Recycler also. All the record is available with the Project Proponent.

6) Shri Ravindra More, Sarpanch, Karanjvan, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik :-

Whether Project Proponent has implemented any programs as social responsibility and whether it is benefitted to local people?

The Project Proponent informed that under CSR fund, various schemes were undertaken which have been shown in the Presentation. Project Proponent has implemented various schemes under CSR Fund at Lakhamapur and other villages. Our aim is to Educate the people. The needy students of school or necessity of infra-structure facilities at schools or extending training facilities to needy students or making available educational facilities such as books, notebooks, compass etc. at school, these programmes have been implemented. The project management has implemented various social welfare schemes with Yuva Shakti. Recently, awareness for road safety is undertaken, where it is informed the use of helmet while riding two-wheeler. In every year on 15th August and 26th January, we do carry various awareness programme and to keep personal hygienic for the village women.

The school going children are our future generation of India.

Hence, providing computers with training programme is implemented. Now here if the participants desires to recommend any programme, they can. We will definitely try to implement.

7) Shri Kailash Gaikwad, Grampanchayat Member, Madakijam, Tal – Dindori, Dist-Nashik :-

There is one Occupational Health Centre (OHC) is in existence at the factory. It should be beneficial to local people also. Secondly, it is observed that the project proponent do spent CSR fund to the nearby villages of 5 k.m.

It should be used to the people residing in remote areas. Hence there will be holistic development.

Project Proponent informed that there were discussions several times on the subject. The Project Proponent decided to implement the same from 2020. With the help of the hospitals like Apollo, Wokhard, the health camp can be arranged in once in a month or once in a quarter in various adjoining villages. Though the Madakijam village is far away from the project, many workers are working in the project are coming from Madkijam village only. We will implement social welfare schemes in Madkijam village.

Here Project Representative informed that as per the Factory Act, it is mandatory to run the Occupation Health Centre. The aim is that if any mishap occurs in the plant, the immediate medical help to the victim can be given. Hence OHC is needed in the project.

The Project Proponent Representative further informed that as promised, with the help of big hospitals, conducting medical camps for specific period can be implemented.

8) Shri V. Sunanda Reddy, Senior Environmentalist, Chairman, Dharitri Paryavaran Parirakshana Sanstha, Nalgonda, Telangana:-

I am the first Environmentalist who speaks for development of the project. In India, there is a big pollution of Employment. In India there are 18 to 35 years of 40 crores young boys and girls who are looking for the jobs. He read the writing suggestions. He said that for study of EIA, 10 k.m. radius area is to be covered. Now the status report of Health, Crop and status of Ground Water depletion.

Shri Reddy further suggested that to preserve the rain water, the storage tank should be built, then water can be used in the scarcity. The local educated youths be given priority for job opportunities. The local young boys and girls be given skilled development training. The Co-ordination Committee be constituted of Project officers, MPCB officers, Government officers for prioritising the welfare schemes to be implemented under CSR fund. He further recommended Public Hearing Committee to recommend the case of Project Proponent to MoEFCC, New Delhi for Environment Clearance.

The Project Proponent thanks to Shri Reddy for his support and promised to implement various suggestions.

9) **Dr. J.B.Sangewar, Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee:-**

a) Due to expansion, there will be additional generation of effluent. Whether the existing ETP is capable to treat the additional generation of effluent or whether upgradation of ETP will be carried? The Environment Consultant is silent about the same. At present, there is generation 30.4 M3/day industrial effluent. After expansion, there will be additional generation of industrial effluent of 119.6 M3/day. Whether MEE will be used for the same? .

Environment Consultant further informed that they have only once spent the amount for MEE. The Project Consultant further informed that due to space constrains, the additional capacity of MEE was purchased. Project Consultant informed that additional space is reserved for Reverse Osmosis and at the left side of existing Reverse Osmosis will be installed. For the High TDS effluent, MEE will be used.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked how much High TDS effluent will be generated? It is informed by the Project Representative that 4.0 M3/Day Process Effluent + 16.0 M3/day from Reverse Osmosis = 20.0 M3/day High TDS Effluent is generated.

Project officials further informed that after expansion, an additional 30.0 M3/Day Effluent will be generated.

There is MEE Plant having capacity of 60.0 M3/day is in operation.

b) The name of the products are given as Trade Name. It should be by Chemical Name only;

c) The project is old one and though it is in operation since long, there is no green belt development, as specified. There is no Green Fencing. Due to Green Fencing, you will get the protection. The Project Proponent has assured to implement the same.

d) Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked what about VOC monitoring? Environment Consultant further informed that Condensation system is provided for VOC control. Member, Public Hearing Committee suggested that a Sensor may be fixed at Lakhmapur and once in a quarter, it should be monitored. Environment Consultant further informed that while studying for EIA, the samples were collected at eight different places.

It is observed that VOC is at Below Detectable Limit. This may be due to as there is only one running chemical factory in study area. Hence, there is very less concentration of Hydro Carbon. Now the detectors will be installed in work room also.

e) Member, Public Hearing Committee informed that there should be present health status of the vicinity. The two villages should be ear-marked and Health Data should be prepared.

f) There should be present crop status of ½ k.m. area from the project. It can be used as baseline data.

10) Shri Walmik Mogal, Ex Dy. Sarpanch, Lakhmapur, Tal – Dindori, Dist – Nashik :-

While giving best luck for the project, he remarked that Project Proponent should also consider the wishes of neighbour. The conflict, misunderstanding should not come before Panchayat. There should be co-operation in all.

Project Proponent thanked Shri Walmik for his wishes and we always co-operate local people.

11) **Shri Vijay Deshmukh, Lakhmapur, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik:-**

The agriculture field is just 2-3 k.m. away from the project site. It is shown in the presentation that this project is Zero Liquid Discharge. But a nalla flows near the factory. Due to pollution of the factory, the nalla is totally polluted. How can you say that the factory is not polluting the nalla?

The representative of the Project informed that there is no leakage in the project. The waste water generated from the sources are collected through HDPE pipelines and it is stored near the ETP inlet. The scientific method is adopted for treatment of effluent. The Effluent Treatment Plant is capable of treating the additional effluent generation after the expansion. In the primary treatment, the suspended solids is being removed. Then biological treatment is given to the effluent. There is Reverse Osmosis and MEE treatment in the project. These are best available treatment methodology. All the treated effluent is recycled and reused. The treated effluent is used for boiler and cooling tower. There is environment laboratory in the project and every day vigilance is carried. At each stage. Degradation of pollutants is being checked. After degradation, the treated effluent is monitored. There is not at all any disposal or leakages outside the factory.

Shri Deshmukh informed that as of now it is rainy season, there is more water flowing in the nalla. But after rainy season, there is smell nuisance due to pollution of nalla. We are not against the expansion. But due to

expansion, there will generation of additional effluent quantity. Hence the nalla will be polluted.

Member, Environment Public Hearing here informed that after rainy season, i.e. after 4-6 months, if there is any trouble due to nalla, you may approach to local MPCB office at Nashik, i.e. Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Nashik and can lodge the written complaint. The inspection will be carried in front of you at various spots. If anybody founds guilty, the action will be taken as per the provisions in the Law.

Shri Deshmukh here requested to give more time for submission in writing. Member, Environment Public Hearing here informed that if anybody desires to give any complaint or suggestion regarding public hearing, it can be given in this meeting only. Time limit cannot be extended. But if anybody desires to give complaint, it can be given at any time.

12) Shri Tushar Madhukar Waghmare, Corporator, Dindori Nagar Parishad :-

He informed that they have very good experience of Megafine. The villagers were not knowing about CSR fund. The project management has planted the saplings and also provided the tree guards to protect the saplings. Now the saplings have become trees. The lush greenery is developed.

13) Shri Shantaram Pagare, resident of Kadwa Mhalungi, Tal-Dindori, Dist-Nashik :-

The social welfare schemes implemented by the company should be informed and future plan of welfare schemes also please be informed. Chairman, Public Hearing Committee

here remarked that while giving presentation, all the information has been given in which the projects carried are informed and projects to be carried in future is also informed.

Shri Pagare here registered the objection that the company has not carried any work in Avankhed village and Mahluske village. Project officials promised to do the needful.

Chairman, Public Hearing Committee informed that –

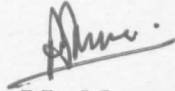
- 1) While considering the safety issue for the workers in the new plant, if there is fire incidence, the Assembly Point is not ear-marked. Project Officials has shown two Assembly Points i.e. one is near Canteen and other is near Main Gate.
- 2) Chairman, Public Hearing Committee here remarked that accessibility should be easy to coming together at Assembly Point. The Assembly Point should be made permanent. Green belt and Assembly Point are different subjects. The Assembly Point should be marked on the map/lay out.
- 3) The safety health status and its checking period should be decided. While working in the factory, the workers and others will come into contact with many organic chemicals. If anybody has any sufferings, it may be converted into serious health issues. Hence, the medical check-up should be carried periodically. The medical report should be properly maintained.
- 4) Preparation of Onsite Disaster Management Plan is mandatory as per guidelines of DISH. It should be

prepared and copy of the same should be submitted to DISH office and Collectorate Office.

- 5) Many participants and local representatives have given very good suggestions. Hence, Health Status, Crop Status and Geological Status of the area please be made.
- 6) Good suggestions have been received for CER fund. As prior approval from Collector is required, the programme should be given priority as per need of the local people. If any project is implemented in a village, it should also be implemented in another village next year.
- 7) Now there is need to get the work especially to young people. Hence, Skill Upgradation Programme should be taken in hand. The concerned person should become self-reliant. The Central Government is implementing the Atal Yojana. The State Government gives training at various places. For this, the Project Proponent should extend financial support. If any small device is given, it can help the person to become self-reliant.
- 8) The programme of Women Empowerment should be implemented . As Government has now banned the Plastic, preparing and selling the paper bags will make them self reliant. The Skill Upgradation and Women Empowerment programmes should be given top priority.
- 9) Co-operate with local farmers and local people
- 10) The Onsite Disaster Management Plan should be submitted to Collector Office.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed Project Proponent that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting should be considered positively. He declared that the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

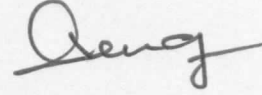


(A. M. Kare)

Convener of the Public Hearing
Committee

and

Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB,
Nashik



(Dr. J. B. Sangewar)

Member of the Public Hearing
Committee

and

Regional Officer,
MPCB, Nashik



(Ramdas Khedkar)

Chairman,

Public Hearing Committee

and

Additional District Magistrate, Nashik

Dist – Nashik