

## MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IN RESPECT OF PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE SUGARCANE CRUSHING CAPACITY FROM 7500 TCD TO 13200 TCD; DISTILLERY CAPACITY FROM 45.0 KLPD TO 145 KLPD (RETIFIED SPIRIT/EXTRA NEUTRAL ALCOHOL/ETHANOL) AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW 24 MW CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SAHYADRI SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED AT YESHWANTNAGAR, TAL-KARAD, DIST-SATARA, MAHARASHTRA

The public hearing in respect of proposed expansion of the Sugarcane Crushing Capacity from 7500 TCD to 13200 TCD; Distillery Capacity From 45KLPD to 145.0 KLPD (RS/ENA/Ethanol) and establishment of new 24 MW Co-Generation Power Plant proposed by Project Proponent M/s SahyadriSahakariSakharKarkhana Limited at Yeshwantnagar, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara, Maharashtra was held on 15-06-2019 at 11.00 a.m. at Conference Hall near Guest House at project site.

Following were the panel members as per Board's Office Order No. E- 31of 2019 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B - 1879, dated 07-06-2019.:-

- 1) Shri Sunil Thorve, - **Chairman**  
Addl. District Magistrate, Satara  
(Representative of District Magistrate,  
Satara)
- 2) Shri DilipKhedkar, - **Member**  
Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Pune
- 3) Shri BabasahebKukade, - **Convener**  
Sub Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Satara

Shri BabasahebKukade, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the public hearing committee, company 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 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as amended on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2009, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the Schedule of the said Notification .The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara was in receipt of application of Project

Proponent M/s SahyadriSahakariSakharKarkhana Limited at Yeshwantnagar, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara, Maharashtra, for proposed expansion of the Sugarcane Crushing Capacity from 7,500.0 TCD to 13,200.0 TCD; Distillery Capacity From 45.0 KLPD to 145.0 KLPD (RS/ENA/Ethanol) and establishment of new 24.0 MW Co-Generation Power Plant in the existing project premises only. TheConvener further informed that, the above project is out of MIDC area and as per EIA Notification, 2006 (As Amended), the project for Combined Activities falls under Category 'A' [Sugar Production – Category B 5 (j), Molasses Based Distillery Category 'A' 5 (g), Co-gen Project A 1 (d).

Convener of the meeting further informed that the aim of conducting public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the process, and they should know the developmental activities and environment management plan of the unit. The project proponent had submitted online-prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC, Gol for grant of Terms of References (ToRs) andMoEFCC, Golhas sanctioned the same on 4<sup>th</sup>May, 2018.

He further informed that as per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspapers in Daily Lokmat for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express for English on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019.

Shri.Kukade, Convener further informed that 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, Western Zone Office, Nagpur; District Magistrate Office, Satara; Additional District Magistrate, Satara; ZillaParishad, Satara; District Industries Centre, Satara; Tahsil Office-Karad, Dist, Satara; Grampanchayat offices At Post – Yeshwantnagar; Koparde Haveli; Shahapur; Shrivade; Tasvade; Masur; Nadashi, Tal- Karad, Dist- Satara, at Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara; Regional Office, MPCB, Pune; Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB. The public were appealed to send any objection / suggestion regarding the above project. TheConvener further informed that not a single objection in writing is received by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Satara against the project. He appealed the participant to raise their suggestion, objection if any for Environment Management Plan of the project. He requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to allow to start the proceedings.

Shri Sunil Thorve, Chairman of Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed officials of the project proponent 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 Project Environment Consultant appointed by the company has gave the presentation. He explained the Environment Management

Plan and informed that project proponent has planned to spent Rupees 50/- Crores for the various pollution control devices. Environment Consultant further informed that not a drop of treated effluent would go outside the project. The project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project. For the control of air pollution, the most advanced device of Electro Static Precipitator will be install, which gives the efficiency of 99.9%. Due to expansion of the project, the local people will get job opportunities, but indirect opportunities will be more.

Project Environment Consultant further informed that the expansion would be carried in the existing premises of the project. Hence, there is no requirement of additional land and water also. There is 70% water in sugarcane crop. The effluent produced in the manufacturing activities will be treated and recycled in the process only.

After the presentation given by the Environment Consultant, Shri DilipKhedkar, Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune and Member of the Public Hearing Committee informed all that at the beginning of the meeting, Convener of the Meeting informed regarding conducting the Public Hearing Meeting. Before this meeting, as per the Notification, the survey is carried in the periphery of 10 k.m. of the project regarding present status of environment and report is prepared by the Environment Consultant. It is calledas "Environment Impact Assessment Report". The study of present level of pollutants and impact on environment after expansion of the project is carried. The Environment Consultant also informed the Environment Management Plan by presentation. The other issues of the local people and factory may be there. But it has separate platform. In this meeting the suggestions, objections if any be raised in environmental angle only for the proposed expansion of the project. If anybody desires more information on presentation, it can be asked. If the local people think that after expansion of the project, there will be ill-effects on the environment, the issue can be raised, it will be discussed. He informed that the suggestions, objectionswill be noted and will be included in the minutes of meeting. While giving suggestion or objection, name and name of village should be informed.

**Details of Questions & Queries raised by the public and answers given by the Project Proponent / Public Hearing Committee/ Environment Consultant of the Project Proponent is summarized as below :-**

- 1) **Shri Govindrao Krishna Thorat, Sarpanch, Grampanchayat Nadashi, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**
  - Shri GovindraoThorat informed that the project is commissioned in 1969-70. At that time, the sugar crushing capacity was 1,250.0 MT/Day. The management of the factory have thought wisely of increase in sugar production,as there is increase in sugarcane production in the area. The crushing capacity of the factory is

increased from time to time. The factory management has also paid the increased rates for purchase of sugarcane.

- Shri Thorat further informed that project proponent do take steps for preservation and protection of environment. Here in valleys also, the project management do carry green belt development programme and planting saplings. He further said that as Sugarcane Producers' Member, the Government is appealed to sanction the expansion of the project and establishment of co-generation project.
- Here, Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed all the participants that only suggestions, objections regarding environmental angle of the proposed expansion of the project may be raised. This meeting is not for giving lecture on other subjects. If the participants desire any additional information regarding Environment Management Plan, it can be asked. But other issues should not be raised. If anybody agrees to sanction of the expansion, it should be informed as Agreed for the Expansion. If anybody opposes, the objection against the project should be raised.

**2) Shri Dattatraya Tatya Shelar, Social Worker, Resident of Shahapur village, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara**

- Shri Dattatraya Shelar asked whether additional land will require for the expansion of the project? The Project Environment Consultant informed that for the expansion of the project, there is no requirement of additional land and water. The project will be commissioned in the existing project site only.
- Shri Shelar remarked that if additional land is not required for the expansion of the project, the local people do support the project.

**3) Shri Shamrao Dasharath Pawar, resident of Wadoli(Ni.) village, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- Shri Shamrao Pawar informed that there is no complaint of pollution against the project by the people residing in the project vicinity. They support the expansion of the project and hence it should be sanctioned.

**4) Shri Ramesh Baburao Jadhav, Member, Grampanchayat Masur, Member of Sugarcane Producers, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- Shri Ramesh Jadhav expressed the opinion that while expansion of the sugar project and Ethanol project, the Project management has taken utmost care to avoid any threat of the pollution in the radius of 10 k.m. of the project site. The project management do follow the guidelines as prescribed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB). Hence, it is appealed that the expansion of the project should be sanctioned and project proponent should be directed to follow the strict guidelines of MPCB.

5) **Shri Netaji Ramchandra Chavan, resident of Koparde (Haveli) village, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- Shri Netaji Chavan informed that local people have not suffered due to any pollution from the project till to date. While supporting the expansion, he remarked that most of the time, the farmers have to wait many days for handing over the sugarcane for crushing in the project. This waiting period should be minimized.
- The Project Proponent informed that 7,500 MT/Day sugarcane crushing is carried in the project. The crushing of sugar is carried for 180 days. Normally, 22,000 hector of sugarcane is registered for a season. Hence, the farmers have to wait many days for handing over the sugarcane. Now the period of waiting will be definitely minimized.

6) **Shri Shahajirao Ganapatrao Chavan, resident of Perale village, Tal-Karad, Dist – Satara :-**

- Shri Shahajirao Chavan expressed that the Project Proponent has always kept the aim of Zero Pollution Project, planned and implemented it whole heartedly. It is our experience in other areas that there is smell threat at the 4-5 k.m. distance of the sugar factory and without hanker chip, it is very difficult to walk. Here we are inside of the project area. The project will be Zero Pollution Project and factory management will implement the same. Hence, it is requested the Government Authorities to co-operate to succeed the project.

7) **Mrs. Lina Nivasrao Jadhav, Dy.Sarpanch, Yeshwantnagar Grampanchayat, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara:-**

- Mrs. Lina Jadhav asked the project proponent about the preventive steps to avoid pollution from the proposed new boiler to be installed for sugar crushing.
- Project Consultant informed that, Electro Static Precipitator (ESP), a most advanced device will be installed at stack to avoid air pollution. The efficiency of the ESP is proved as 99.9%. Hence, there will not be any threat of air pollution in the vicinity of the project.

8) **Shri Laxman Antu Yadav, resident of North Koparde, Ex. Sarpanch, North Koparde Grampanchayat, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara, Social Worker :-**

- After the expansion of the sugar industry and distillery, whether the quantity of the Pressmud will increase and how it will be disposed of?
- The Environment Consultant informed that most of the oil companies do purchase Ethanol. Here, Member of the Public

Hearing Committee intervened and informed that the concerned person is asking the proposed increase in quantity of spent wash due to expansion. The Environment Consultant informed that liquid spent wash will be converted into solid and it will be burned in the boiler. The project is Zero Spent Wash Project and Zero Liquid Project i.e. ZLD.

**9) Shri Shankarao Khape, Ex. Sarpanch, Banawadi Gaon, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- The members of the project have demanded in the Annual Meeting to expand the crushing capacity of the sugar and distillery. After expansion of the project, whether there will be an increase in the quantity of organic fertilizer or compost fertilizer? There is always an increase in demand of the farmers for the fertilizers, which cannot be fulfilled.
- The Environment Consultant informed that there will be an increase in the quantity of organic fertilizer. As the distillery unit can be operated for 270 days, there will be an increase in compost, which may be to the tune of one and half quantity.

**10) Shri Uttamrao Krishna Yadav, resident of Vanvasmachi, Dist-Satara, Social Worker :-**

- Shri Uttamrao Yadav asked about the preventive steps to avoid noise pollution after the expansion of the project.
- The Environment Consultant informed that modern machineries will be commissioned for the production activities in the project. The enclosures will be installed to the noise-producing machineries. The ear-plugs will be provided to the workers, who work near the noise-producing machineries. There will be no threat of noise pollution. In all, there will be ambient noise levels in the factory.

**11) Shri Yuvraj Shinde, resident of Antawadi, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- Shri. Shinde expressed the opinion that the local people have no objection for the expansion of the project. The Project Proponent has implemented in the past the programme of green belt i.e. Sow the Tree, Save the Tree (Zade Lava, Zade Jagva). It should be continued in the future also.

**12) Shri Bhimrao Ingavale, resident of Riswadgaon, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara:-**

- Shri. Ingavale informed that he stays at a distance of four kilometers from the project. The local people have not suffered due to pollution from the project. The Administration of the sugar factory is working hard for keeping a clean environment and also paying the

desired rate while purchasing the sugarcane. The local farmers who are member of the sugar industry always eager to hand over the sugarcane to the industry. But they have to wait for 18-19 months to hand over the sugarcane crop due to less crushing capacity. It is desired that the waiting period should be minimized. He supported for the expansion of the project.

**13) Shri Narayan Appaji Jadhav, Ex.Sarpanch, Tasawade Gaon, Tal-Karad, Dist-Satara :-**

- Shri Narayan Jadhav opined that the Project Proponent always takes utmost care of the environment and implement various programmes of green belt development. Hence, it is requested that expansion of the project should be permitted.
- Member, Public Hearing Committee here remarked that as per the opinion, suggestions raised by the local people, it seems that the local people supports the expansion of the project. But, if anybody desires to raise any objection in environmental angle for the expansion of the project, they are allowed to raise suggestion, objection if any. There was no response from the participant.
- Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee directed Project Proponent to give information regarding social welfare schemes with budgetary provisions to be carried in the 10 k.m. radius of the project. The information may be made available to the local people now or after sometime. Project Proponent requested to give time to make available the information to local people.
- The Environment Consultant further informed that as per the guidelines of the Central Government, the project proponent has to spent Two Crores Twenty Five lakhs in five years for the social welfare schemes in the local area. Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee asked Project Proponent to make available the local people the details of social welfare schemes alongwith budgetary provisions.
- Shri Khedkar, Member of the Public Hearing Committee here said that as informed by the Environment Consultant of the project, the project proponent has to spend Rupees Two Crores Twenty five lakhs for social welfare schemes in the local area. Also for the Environment Management Plan, the project proponent has planned to spend huge amount of Rupees Fifty Crores.
- Shri Khedkar, Member of the Public Hearing Committee said that as a representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, it is informed here that stringent parameters will be prescribed to the Project Proponent. The Project Proponent also planned to install ESP to avoid air pollution, installing evaporator in the Effluent Treatment Plant to convert the liquid spent wash into solid and burn it in boiler. As per the new guidelines of Central Government, the Project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). He further informed that Central Pollution Control Board and Maharashtra Pollution

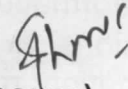
Control Board do prescribe stringent parameters to various industries, so that local people should not suffer due to the pollution from the industries.

- He informed that Project Proponent promises to install modern machines for the manufacturing activities and modern pollution control devices. The project is Zero Liquid Discharge.

While concluding the meeting, Shri.Kukade Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that this Committee does not take any decision. The suggestions raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The report of the meeting along with Final Environment Impact Assessment Report will be submitted to the Expert Committee of Ministry of Environment, Forest, Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. The Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly.

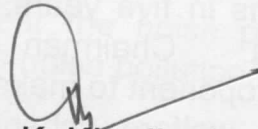
Convener of the Public Hearing Committee thanked local people who came in large number and raised the suggestions, government officials and officials of the project and declared that the proceeding of the meeting is completed.

The meeting concluded after extending thanks to the Chair.



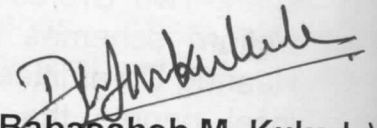
**(Sunil Thorve)**

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee  
and  
Addl. District Magistrate, Satara,  
Dist-Satara



**( Dilip K. Khedkar)**

Member of the Public Hearing  
Committee and Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Pune



**(Babasaheb M. Kukade)**

Convener of the Public  
Hearing Committee and  
Sub Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Satara