

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF MOLASSES/SUGAR CANE JUICE BASED DISTILLERY UNIT OF 30.0 KLPD CAPACITY PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SHRI KEDARESHWAR SAHAKARI SAKAHR KARKHANA LIMITED, AT – SUMAN NAGAR, POST – BODHEGAON, TALUKA – SHEVGAON, DIST- AHMEDNAGAR, MAHARASHTRA

The Public Hearing for proposed establishment of Molasses/Sugar Cane Juice based Distillery Unit of 30.0 KLPD capacity proposed by Project Proponent M/s Shri Kedareshwar Sahakari Sakahr Karkhana Limited, At – Suman Nagar, Post – Bodhegaon, Taluka – Shevgaon, Dist- Ahmednagar, Maharashtra was conducted on 10th November, 2020 at the site of the said industry at 11.00 a.m.

Following were the panel members as per Board's Office Order No. E- 59 of 2020 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 201023-FTS-0094. dated 23/10/2020.

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

Shri Sanjeev A. Redasni, I/c Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Ahmednagar, Member and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the background of Covid-19. Hence, it is requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer is used at the entrance of the pandol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Shri Redasani, Member, Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed Hon'ble Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials and participants who were present and informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEFCC, GoI) 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.



The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar was in receipt of application from Project Proponent, M/s Shri Kedareshwar Sahakari Sakahr Karkhana Limited, At – Suman Nagar, Post – Bodhegaon, Taluka – Shevgaon, Dist- Ahmednagar, Maharashtra for proposed establishment of Molasses/Sugar Cane juice based Distillery of 30.0 KLPD capacity.

The Convener further informed that this project will be established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category B 5 (g). 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 submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies on 01-09-2019 and Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra has considered the project and given online approval on 10-10-2019.

As per the Office Memorandum as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi (MoEFCC, GoI) dated 14th September, 2020, while conducting the public hearing, certain guidelines are issued such as thermal checking, use of sanitizers. Wearing of mask, keeping social distancing.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by MPCB Ahmednagar Office in the Local Newspapers in Daily Sakal for Marathi on 30-09-2020 and in National newspaper daily Times of India for English on 01-10-2020. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summary were made available at various notified offices of Government i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, West Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001; District Magistrate Office, Ahmednagar; Additional District Magistrate Office, Ahmednagar; Zilla Parishad Office, Ahmednagar; District Industries Centre Office, Ahmednagar; Tahsildar Office- Shevgaon, Dist, Ahmednagar; Grampanchayat office at Bodhegaon, Hatgaon, Badgavhan, Ladjalgaon, Shingorigaon, Divate, Chede-Chandgaon,

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Mangarul Khurd, Tal- Shevgaon , Dist- Ahmednagar; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Ahmednagar; 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 proposed new distillery project. The Convener further informed that not a single objection/complaint is received by local MPCB Office, Ahmednagar;.

Member, Convener Shri Redasani requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

With the permission of Chairman, Project Environment Consultant gave details of Environment Management Plan of the proposed distillery unit.

Project Environment Consultant informed that proposed Distillery Project will be commissioned with spending of Rupees 53.50 crores. This project will be Zero Liquid Discharge Project. He gave detailed information regarding various pollution control devices.

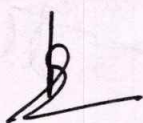
After the presentation, Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee asked to give some clarification on certain points by Project Environment Consultant. It is as under: -

a) Please refer ETP Diagram/Flow Chart, in which it is shown 268 M3/day to 283 M3/day. Then when 268 M3/day and when 283 M3/day?

Here Project Environment Consultant informed that the flow increased upto 283.0 M3/day is due to addition of R.O. reject. At this, Member, Convener remarked that it cannot be understand from the chart and hence directed to give separately. The Environment Consultant informed that R.O. rejects is coming from CPU;

b) Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked Environment Consultant regarding Compost Yard. It is informed by the Environment Consultant that the Compost Yard will be prepared as per directives of Central Pollution Control Board. It will be developed by bricks on edge or RCC on three acres of land.

c) Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked Environment Consultant that if the spent wash from 328 converted upto 65, how much percent it is reduced? You have to design the plant as per the volume reduction ratio. Shri Redasani here remarked that the volume reduction does not observed 30%. Here, Project Environment Consultant informed in detail how 30% concentration reduction can be achieved.



d) Member, Convener further objected that nothing is mentioned regarding Online Monitoring. He asked which units will be fixed and details of power generation.

Project Environment Consultant gave details of power generation and Online Monitoring.

Shri Sanjeev Redasani, Member, Convener here informed the participants that Project Environment Consultant gave detailed presentation. All the points regarding environmental angle are explained. The steps to prevent the pollution is also explained. Hence, the participants who are present are appealed to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections regarding environmental angle of the proposed project.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that the Project Proponent M/s Shri Kedareshwar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Suman Nagar, Post – Bodhegaon, Tal – Shevgaon, Dist – Ahmednagar proposes to establish molasses / sugar cane based for 30.0 KLPD capacity. We have gathered here for its Public Hearing Meeting. As per Notification of MoEFCC, GoI, public hearing is an important stage and wide publicity is given as per the guidelines. The project has become Development Centre since last 25-30 years. When there is unemployment, no work to needy persons, there are many co-operative sugar factories in Maharashtra which has come up with development in rural areas.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that the Project Environment Consultant has given a very detailed presentation. Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee congratulated him for the same. All the technical aspects have been informed. It is informed that the project proponent planned to use 100% molasses/sugarcane juice.

Chairman of the Committee appealed participants to raise their suggestions and objections. While giving it, the participant has to inform his name and name of his village. Those who desires to give writing suggestions, they can submit it. Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that video shooting is also taken of the meeting. The suggestions, objections raised will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Following persons have taken part in the discussions and the answers given by Project Environment Consultant/Project Proponent/ Environment Public Hearing Committee:-



1) **Shri Karbhari Gavade, Resident-Chede-Chandgaon, Tal-Shevgaon, Dist – Ahmednagar:-**

I am farmer and also Member of Karkhana. Due to this project, what benefit the Members of the Karkhana will get?

Project Environment Consultant informed that the molasses will be converted into alcohol, which will increase its value addition. We have plan in mind to use 100% molasses in future. Hence, there will be increase in income of the Karkhana. The agriculturists would be given additional rate of Rupees 150-200 per ton for their sugarcane crops.

Secondly, due to establishment of new distillery, there will be job opportunities available to local people. The local people may get job opportunities.

The press mud and spent wash which will be produced in the process can be converted into manure with addition of bacteria. And after adding micro nutrients, if it is used in the fields, there will be 10-15% increase in crops production.

This project is of Farmers - Members. It is our experience that the stocks of sugar remain lied in the factory. The bank has to pay interest, though the unsold stocks of sugar is in the store. The Farmer Members then have to give less FRP. Due to commissioning of the distillery project, the profit can be utilitised for commissioning of other new projects in stages. In our area, there is huge production of Tur Pulse. If all 15,000 farmers-members come together, we can commission Dal Mill Project. Our equity will be created. Many such projects can be started. The management has already planned the projects of next ten years. With your co-operation only, we will succeed.

2) **Shri Ayub Jaibuddin Shaikh, Resident – Bodhegaon, Tal – Shevgaon, Dist – Ahmednagar :-**

I am Member of the Karkhana and I am agriculturists. Whether farmers will get direct financial benefit from this new distillery unit?

Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that the answer is already given for this question. Here project proponent was asked whether additional rate will be given for sugarcane crop. Project Environment Consultant informed that the sugarcane crop will be definitely given satisfactory rates.

Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that factory will definitely become financial viable. But as this is environment public hearing, it is requested to raise the issues related to environmental angle only of the



proposed project. He said that what will be the impacts on the environment of the proposed project could be raised here by the participants.

3) Shri Balasaheb Shesharao Kajale, Badgavha, Tal-Shevgaon, Dist - Ahmednagar:-

I am farmer and Member of this factory. What steps have been taken by the project proponent to prevent water pollution of this project?

Project Environment Consultant further answered that the complete master plan for any pollution i.e. in respect of water and air has been prepared by the Project Proponent. There will be production of industrial effluent in the manufacturing process which is called as spent wash. The BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) quantity is large in the spent wash. As per policy of Govt. of India, we can produce biogas from the spent wash. We have already planned to produce the same. The biogas is a fuel. It is more useful than any other solid fuel i.e. coal. Due to use of biogas, the efficiency of the boiler gets more. The fuel will be saved. After treatment, the residue will be produced due to which pollution load will be minimized. The BOD level will be reduced to 85-90%. If the biogas plant is looked after whole heartily, the remaining nutrients from the spent wash are very useful. Many countries such as Brazil is using it as controlled land application, due to which the land gets many more good nutrients. But if it is not sprayed by controlled manner, there are chances of ground water pollution in rainy season. As we have to avoid ill-effects of it, we are going to concentrate it. Hence from 328 Tone per day, it will be reduced to 65 Tone per day. Then press mud will be mixed in it and after adding culture, we will get organic fertilizer/manure. The Nitrogen contents in it will be 1.5 to 2.0%. The P2O5 or Phosphorous level will be 1.5 to 1.8% and K2O, which is called as Potash, the level of it will be 3.0 to 3.5%. There will be other micro nutrients too. Thus, we are converting the waste i.e. spent wash into useful organic fertilizers. This project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). Not a drop of effluent will go outside the factory.

We will defeat the pollution. The vapor coming from Evaporation Unit, the effluent coming from condensate and cooling tower and from other units will be treated in CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) and 80% of treated effluent will be recycled in the process. Our requirement of fresh water will be minimized and the water cess will be saved.



4) **Shri Pramod Vithhal Abhang, Resident-Hatgaon, Tal – Shevgaon, Dist – Ahmednagar :-**

I am farmer and Member of the Karkhana. Which benefit the surrounding areas will get due to this distillery project?

Project Environment Consultant informed that the answer is already given previously. The project proponent will get profit through the Distillery Project, hence sugarcane crop can be given additional rate. Local people will get job opportunities. The financial help can be given to various social welfare projects Here Environment Consultant remarked that as participant is Member of the factory, if the sugar factory is operated smoothly, then the capacity/production of the distillery unit can be increased. Many other project can be taken in hand. Hence, all are requested to support the project.

5) **Shri Vijay Kanade, Residnet – Bodhegaon, Tal – Shevgaon, Dist – Ahmednagar:-**

Whether the local farmers will be get water for agriculture use?

Project Environment Consultant informed that normally 510-millimetre rain fall per annum is in this area. While carrying the survey to prepare Environment Impact Report, it is observed that there are many bhandhara in the area. We can preserve rain water there, it is one part. Secondly, we can plan to increase the water level of the area. Hence, Project Proponent has thought that the fresh water which is to be lifted from the river should be totally stopped. It should be tried. There are many Government programmes for saving of water, it can be implemented through our project also. Hence, the fresh water in the area can be made available to other crops.

Here, Member, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as per directives of the Govt. of India, the Distillery Project should be Zero Liquid Discharge Project. Hence, nobody should think that the local farmers will be get the treated effluent of the karkhana. It is not at all possible. It is mandatory to Project Proponent to establish Distillery Project as Zero Liquid Discharge Project only.

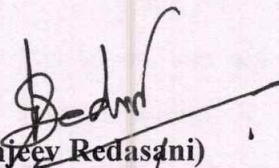
Member, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that as explained by the Environment Consultant, Project Proponent under CSR Fund can undertake in hand various government programmes of saving of water such as Pani Adava, Pani Jirva (Stop the Water & Percolate the Water) or developing Shet Tale (Agriculture Lake) with the co-operation of Govt. of Maharashtra. Hence, the farmers will not get the treated effluent at any cost.



Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all to raise their suggestions, objections if any. There was no response from the participants. He remarked that the suggestions and objections given by the participants are well answered by the Project Environment Consultant.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee informed that this project falls under Red Category and as discussed during the meeting, the project is Zero Liquid Discharge, and hence approved. The project proponent will follow the directives. The suggestions, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of meeting. It will be sent along with Final Environment Impact Assessment Report to Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly. He thanked all government officials, project officials and local people who have attended this meeting and raised the views. He declared that the Public Hearing Meeting is completed.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



(Sanjeev Redasani)
Member, Convener
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Incharge, Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Ahmednagar



(Sandeep Nichit)
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Ahmednagar
District - Ahmednagar