

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SUGAR CANE CRUSHING CAPACITY OF EXISTING UNIT FROM 3,500.0 TCD TO 8,000.0 TCD; ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW 40.0 MW CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT AND 135.0 KLPD DISTILLERY TO PRODUCE RECTIFIED SPIRIT/125.0 KLPD (EXTRA NEUTRAL ALCOHOL) / 125.0 KLPD (ETHANOL) BASED ON B/C HEAVY MOLASSES / SUGARCANE/JUICE/SYRUP/GRAIN PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SGZ AND SGA SUGARS (JV) LIMITED, GAT NO. 465, 466, 467 & 499, AT POST – TURCHI, TALUKA – TASGAON, DIST- SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA.

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion of Sugar Cane Crushing capacity of existing unit from 3,500.0 TCD to 8,000.0 TCD; Establishment of New 40.0 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 135.0 KLPD Distillery to produce Rectified Spirit/125.0 KLPD (Extra Neutral Alcohol) / 125.0 KLPD (Ethanol) based on B / C Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane/ Juice/Syrup/Grain proposed by Project Proponent M/s SGZ And SGA Sugars (JV) Limited, Gat no. 465, 466, 467 & 499, At Post – Turchi, Taluka – Tasgaon, Dist- Sangli, Maharashtra was conducted on 24th 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- 66 of 2020 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 201117-FTS-0020, Dated 17-11-2020, are present:-

- 1) Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, (IAS)
Collector & District Magistrate - Sangli, **Chairman**
- 2) Shri. Ravindra Anadhale,
Regional Officer, MPCB - Kolhapur **Member**
- 3) Shri. Navanath S. Awatade,
Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Sangli **Convener**

Shri Navanath Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli, 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 to all participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India. The thermal checking and

use of sanitizer is used at the entrance of the Panadol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Shri Navanath Awatade, Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed District Magistrate and Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment 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. MPCB was in receipt of application from Project Proponent, M/s M/s SGZ And SGA Sugars (JV) Limited Gat no. 465, 466, 467 & 499, At Post – Turchi, Taluka – Tasgaon, Dist- Sangli, Maharashtra for proposed expansion of Sugar Cane Crushing capacity of existing unit from 3,500.0 TCD to 8,000.0 TCD; Establishment of New 40.0 MW Co-generation Power Plant and 135.0 KLPD Distillery to produce Rectified Spirit/125.0 KLPD (Extra Neutral Alcohol) / 125.0 KLPD(Ethanol) based on B / C Heavy Molasses / Sugarcane/ Juice/Syrup/Grain.

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 A. 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 along with pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and accordingly MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi has considered the project and given approval.

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 scanning, use of sanitizers, wearing of mask, keeping social distancing etc.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by MPCB Sangli Office in the Local Newspapers in Daily Lokmat for Marathi and in

National newspaper daily the Times of India for English on 24-10-2020. 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, Sangli; Additional District Magistrate Office, Sangli; Zilla Parishad Office, Sangli; District Industries Centre Office, Sangli; Tahsildar Office- Tasgaon, Dist, Sangli; Grampanchayat offices at Turchi; Nimani; Nehru Nagar; Yevali; Julewadi; Dhavali and Rajapur, Tal- Tasgaon, Dist- Sangli; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli; Regional Office, MPCB, Kolhapur 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, Sangli.

Convener Shri Navanath Awatade requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

With permission of Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, the Project Environment Consultant gave detailed presentation on Environment Management Plan (EMP) of the project.

Environment Consultant informed that the proposed project is of Rupees 350.0 Crores and as per the directives of the Govt. of India, the Distillery unit will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). He gave all the information of Pollution Control Devices.

After the presentation, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their doubts, suggestions and objections in environmental angle of the proposed project.

Following participants have participated during the discussions and answers given by Project Environment Consultant / Project Proponent / Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

1) Shri Hemant Vasantao Patil, Resident – Yelavi, Tal – Palus, Dist – Sangli.

The additional water will require for this project. Whether the local agriculturists will face any difficulties due to the usage of additional water by the project proponent?

Ans -

Project Environment Consultant answered that the use of minimum water will be followed in the project. The water will be recycled and reused in the process. Due to which, very meagre quantity of water will be required in the production activities. Hence, there will not be any difficulties to the local farmers. Moreover, there will be additional benefit to the local agriculturists as the treated effluent can be used in the agriculture fields.

Here Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee asked where the treated industrial effluent will be discharged. It is informed by the Project Environment Consultant that nearly 1,035.0 kilolitre/day treated effluent will be used for the agriculture purposes. The Project Proponent here informed that if the local farmer's demands for the use of treated effluent, an agreement will be made with them and their demand will be fulfilled.

2) Shri Ganesh Patil, Resident of Turchi, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli.

Whether the local farmers can use treated effluent from the factory in their agriculture fields?

Ans :-

Project Proponent here answered that as answered here now, the treated effluent will be beneficial to any crop. If the local farmers demand for it, then an agreement will be made and treated effluent will be given to them for agriculture use.

3) Shri Babasaheb Patil, Resident of Tasgaon, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli

The coal will be used in the manufacturing process. Which preventive measures will be adopted to prevent the pollution of coal?

Ans.:-

Project Environment Consultant informed that Sulphur will be produced due to use of coal. The Electro Static Precipitator (ESP) will be installed and operated to prevent any sort of pollution. The ESP is most advanced technology, which gives 99.99% efficiency. Hence, there will not any discharge of pollutants in the environment.

4) Shri Atul Patil, Resident of Dhavali, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli.

The large quantity of ash will be produced from the boiler in the distillery project. Which preventive steps will be implemented to prevent any ill-effects on the health of surrounding people?

Ans.:-

Project Environment Consultant informed that as answered just now, the most advanced system of Electro Static Precipitator (ESP) will be installed and operated in the process. Hence, the 99.99% of ash will be collected. The ash will be made available to local brick manufacturers as their raw material to produce the bricks. The remaining will be used to mix in the compost. So the surrounding people will not face any difficulties.

5) Shri Sachin Shinde, Resident of Dhavali, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli.

The effluent will be produced in the sugar and distillery unit. Which treatment will be given to it to avoid any pollution?

Ans.:-

The treated effluent from the sugar unit will be used for the agriculture purposes. The effluent from the distillery unit which is called as spent wash will be converted in the form of powder. The powder form of spent wash will have large quantity of NPK/Nutrients. The dialogue with the local companies are in process to purchase the powder form of spent wash to make it available to local farmers. An agreement will be made with the local companies to purchase it.

6) Shri Prasad Pelwan, Resident of Tasgaon, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli

Whether factory will be make available the compost/organic fertilizer to local agriculturists?

Ans.:-

Project Proponent informed that the compost/organic fertilizer will be made available to the local farmers at a reasonable cost.

7) Shri Vijay Vittahal Patil, Resident – Nimani, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli

Whether press mud and ash which will be produced in the process will be made available to local farmers?

Ans.:-

The press mud and ash will be definitely made available to the local farmers.

8) Shri Dillip Patil, Resident – Nagaon, Tal – Tasgaon, Dist – Sangli.

Whether additional rate will be given to the sugar crop?

Ans.:-

Project Proponent informed here that it is not at all viable to operate the sugar factory only to produce the sugar, hence bye products are always considered. Now as per the policy, an agreement of six years is made with the Government to produce co-gen and transfer the energy/electricity to Government. The rate of Rupees 4.99 to 5.30 is given to the factory which is an additional income gets to the factory. In the distillery project, the bye products of ENA, Rectified Spirit and Ethenol are produced. The Central Government always give encouragement and support to produce Ethenol. Now recently Central Government has already increased the rate of Rupees 3.0 to 3.25 of the purchase of Ethenol, hence the factory will get an additional income of Rupees 55-60 per litre, so increased rate can be given to the local agriculturists.

9) Shri Vijay Ganapati Patil, Resident – Vambawade, Tal – Palus, Dist – Sangli.

Whether Project Proponent has any plans to make irrigation schemes and roads for communication?

Ans.:-

Project Proponent answered that though it is responsibility of the Government or local body to make the roads of the area where the sugarcane crop is produced, the factory is taking responsibility to develop

the roads from the first/original sugarcane producer who gives sugarcane crop to the factory.

10) Shri Ravindra Andhale, Incharge Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee.

How the press mud will be disposed of?

Ans.:-

Project Environment Consultant informed that it will be disposed of as soil conditioner. There are nutrients such as Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium in press mud also.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee asked whether permission will be given by MPCB.

Project Environment Consultant informed that the press mud gets the rate of Rupees 250-300. The press mud is sold after mixing with compost at various places.

Here, Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee asked whether directives will be followed.

Project Proponent informed that as per the directives of the Central Government, it is mandatory that the distillery project should be ZLD i.e. Zero Liquid Discharge. The compost yard will be constructed of concrete layer and the press mud will be mixed with the spent wash which will be produced by the factory. The remaining spent wash will be burnt in the boiler.

Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed to raise any objection or suggestion in environmental angle regarding the proposed project. There was no response from the participants.

Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that the objections raised by the participants are nicely answered by the Project Consultant.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee informed that the objections and the answers given will be included in the minutes of the meeting and it will be submitted along with final Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. It will be to MoEF & CC, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee of the MoEF and CC will take further decision accordingly.

Finally Mr. Navanath S. Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, and Convener of Public Hearing thanked the audience and Hon'ble Chairman and member of committee, technical consultant and office bearers of the factory for extending their full co-operation for compilation of the today's public hearing and with the permission of the Hon'ble Chairman the said public hearing was declared over.

The procedure of public hearing has started at 11.00 am. and ended to 01.15 pm.



(Navanath S. Awatade)
Convener
And Sub Regional Officer, MPC Board,
Sangli



(Ravindra Andhale)
Member
And Regional Officer, MPC Board,
Kolhapur



(Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, IAS),
Chairman
And Collector & District Magistrate,
Sangli.