



MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF EXISTING MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY UNIT FROM 45.0 KLPD CAPACITY TO 105 KLPD ON MOLASSES/CANE JUICE PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S YEDESHAWARI AGRO PRODUCTS LIMITED, GUT NO.119, 120 ANANDGAON (SARANI), AT POST – JAWALBAN, TALUKA – KAIJ, DIST- BEED, MAHARASHTRA

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion of existing Molasses Based Distillery Unit from 45.0 KLPD capacity to 105.0 KLPD on Molasses/Cane Juice proposed by Project Proponent M/s. Yedeshawari Agro Products Limited, Gut No.119, 120, Anandgaon (Sarani), At Post – Jawalban, Taluka – Kaij, Dist – Beed, Maharashtra was conducted on Wednesday, the 11th February, 2021 at the site of the said industry at 11.00 a.m.

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 Board's Office Order No. E- 11 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 210205-FTS-002, , dated 05th February, 2021:-

1) **Shri. Ravindra Jagtap**

District Collector, Beed

: Chairman

2) **Shri. Pravin Joshi**

Regional Officer,

M.P.C.Board, Aurangabad

: Member

3) **Dr. Yogini Balankhe**

Sub Regional Officer,

M.P.C.Board, Jalna

: Convener

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Jalna and Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed. She requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India w.r.t. Covid 19 Sops. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer is kept at the entrance of the pandol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons in the meeting hall.

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener of the Public Hearing committee welcomed Hon'ble Shri. Ravindra Jagtap, IAS, District Collector, Beed and Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee, Dr. P. M. Joshi, Regional Officer, MPCB, Aurangabad and Member of the Public Hearing Committee, Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and participants who were present further 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.

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Yedeshawari Agro Products Limited, Gut No.119, 120, Anandgaon (Sarani), At Post – Jawalban, Taluka – Kej, Dist – Beed, Maharashtra for their proposed expansion in existing distillery of existing Molasses Based Distillery Unit from 45.0 KLPD capacity to 105.0 KLPD on Molasses/Cane Juice.

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener further informed that this existing project is established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A 5 (g), which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment, Forest and Climate Change Department, Govt of India, New Delhi (MoEFCC, GoI), for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener 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.

The Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi for Terms of Reference (ToR) to conduct of EIA studies on 11-02-2020 and Environment Department, Govt. of Maharashtra has considered the project and given online approval on 20-02-2020.

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 followed 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 Sub Regional Office, MPCB Jalna in the Local Newspaper in Daily Sakal for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily Times of India for English on 09-01-2021. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed unit.

Also copy of EIA report and executive summery 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, Beed; Additional District Magistrate Office, Beed; Zilla Parishad Office, Beed; District Industries Centre Office, Beed; Tahsildar Office- Kej, District – Beed; Grampanchayat office at Sarani (Ananagaon), Yusuf Vadgaon, Bavachi, Pathara, Paithan, Bhatunba, Chandansavargaon, Jawalban, Sawaleshwar, Aanegaon, Gotegaon, Shelgaon Ganji, Bobadewadi, Kumbhefal, Dhakefal, Tal – Kej, Dist – Beed; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Jalna; Regional Office, MPCB, Aurangabad and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, 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.

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener informed that for the above project, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Jalna is in receipt of suggestions from Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, President, Dharitri Paryawaran Parirakshana Sanstha, District – Nalgaonda, Telangana State; Shri H.

Madhu Babu, President, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society, Mushirabad, Hyderabad; Shri Ranga Rao Kothkonda, Environmentalisist, Mother Earth Pollution Control Society, Sarur Nagar, Rangareddy, Telangana State. She requested all that participants can raise their views, suggestions/objections for the proposed expansion of the project in environmental angle only oral as well as in written.

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener started Public Hearing with permission of Chairman, Public Hearing Committee.

With the permission of Chairman, Project Environment Consultant gave geographical location of the proposed unit, proposed impact on the environment due to proposed project and details of Environment Management Plan of the proposed distillery unit trough detailed power point presentation.

After presentations, the participants were appealed to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding propose plant in environmental angle only.

Following are some questions, suggestions and objections raised by the public participants during the public hearing.

1) Shri Narayan Shinde, Resident-Hol, Tal-Kaij, Dist -Beed.

I am sugarcane crop producer. This project proved beneficial for raising the standard of living of our region. Our area was declared as 'Special Backward Area.' This Kaij Taluka used to provide labors to other Talukas and Districts. But due to this project, we have got job opportunities in our Taluka only. We have got new life due to this project. Due to

expansion of this project/distillery, local farmers will get additional rate for sugarcane crop.

As there were no job opportunities, people used to migrate other districts. The local farmers were harassed by Solapur, Osmanabad and Nanded Sugar Factory Management. After commissioning of this factory, our harassment is stopped. Hence, it is requested to co-operate the Project.

2) Shri Suhas Ganapat Gujar, Sarpanch, Dhanegaon Grampanchayat, Tal – Kaij, Dist – Beed:-

The Manjara Dam is near my village. The water storage is started since last 40 years. Hence, our area is considered as 'Green Belt.' There are large number of sugarcane producers in this area. Hence, our cordial relations are with this project. In 2009-2011, farmers used to work hard to produce sugarcane crop, and same hardships is to face to sale the sugarcane crop. We have to sale sugarcane crop far away at Sant Tukaram Sugar Factory, Pune and at Bukkeshwar Sugar Factory at Latur. We were harassed. The Bukkeshwar Factory used to give rate of Rupees 900/- to their members, but they used to give us rate of Rupees 500/- only. The Sant Tukaram Sugar Factory, Pune is used to give us rate of Rupees 300/- only. This was because we did not have sugar factory in our area.

The farmers residing in our area has to dump/throw their sugarcane crops on the bund of their fields or have to sale it at any lower cost.

But When this factory emerged in 2013, the farmers here also emerged. The local farmers have got confidence that they will not have to throw their sugarcane crop on the bund of their fields. The farmers remained as sugarcane producers. Otherwise they would have not remained as sugarcane producers. After commissioning of

the sugar factory, we have got reasonable rate for our sugarcane crop and also given good treatment. After expansion of the distillery project, we will get additional rate for our sugarcane crop. Hence, it is heartfelt request that the project should be sanctioned.

At this moment, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that first all should raise their suggestions, objections and collective answers will be given by the Environment Consultant.

3) Shri Dhondiram Vitthal Sonawane, Resident-Anandgaon (Sarani), Taluka -Kaij, Dist – Beed :-

Whether Project Proponent has planned to plant trees for control of pollution in the proposed expansion of the project?

4) Shri Kishor Vyankatrao Thorat, Sarpanch, Kumbhephal, Tal – Kaij, Dist – Beed:-

The situation in this area is that there is drought situation after every 3-4 years. After getting enough rain only, sugarcane crops is to be cultivated. The farmers in this area are not cultivating other crops than sugarcane crop. The situation at seven years back was that our sugarcane crop was not purchased by the sugar factory for 2-2 ½ years. But due to this factory, our economic status is increased. Due to this project only, the local farmers and unemployed persons have been survived.

5) Shri Sambhaji Mohan Lomte, At Post -Hol, Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-

This Yedeshwari factory is established in 2013. At that time, not a single sugar factory was in operation. At that time, Chairman of this sugar factory ordered that if at all there is loss of the factory, nothing matters, but the sugarcane crop of the local farmer should not be wasted.

In 2013, this sugar factory had carried sugar crushing of 3,18,000 Metric Ton. Otherwise there would have many suicides. But due to this project, this region has got new life. The sugarcane crop of the local farmers is not just lying in his agriculture fields, but it comes in the factory. He thanked factory management.

6) **Shri Rajendra Nivrutti Thombare, At Post – Dahifal, Tal – Kaij, Dist -Beed:-**

Whether there will be any manufacturing of products which are harmful to environment and how it will be disposed of?

7) **Shri Vaijanath Nanasaheb Chaudhary, Resident At Post – Paithan, Tal – Kaij, Dist – Beed :-**

Due to expansion of the Distillery unit, whether there will pollution and whether management has planned to plant trees to control pollution?

8) **Shri Shivaji Bhausahab Gadge, At Post – Dhatephal, Tal – Kaij, Dist – Beed:-**

Due to commissioning of this project, local people have got job opportunities. There is no loss due to this factory.

9) **Shri Kiran Karnatak Sonawane, Sarani, Tal – Kaij, Dist -Beed :-**

How raw material will be provided for the project?

10) Shri Madhukar Dhondiram Sakhare,
At Post – Kanadi Badan, Tal-Kej, Dist-Beed:-

11) Shri Uttam Ramahari Lomte, At Post – Tadgaon, Tal-
Kalamb, Dist – Osmanabad:-

Which benefit local people will be get from this project?

12) Shri Govind Prasad Chaundary, At Post – Paithan, Tal-Kaij,
Dist - Beed

Which bye-product will be produced in the
Distillery Unit?

13) Shri Dhananjay Vitthal Karpe, At Post – Jawalban,
Tal-Kaij, Dist -Beed:-

Which method will be implemented for the production of Alcohol?

14) Shri Arun Apparao Gaikwad, At Post -Sarani,
Tal – Kaij, Dist-Beed:-

Which method will be used for the production of Alcohol?

Dr. Yogini Balankhe, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee directed to answers to the questions raised:-

- a) Project Environment Consultant answered that two participants have asked about green belt development/planting of trees. He answered that it is mandatory to develop 33% of green belt. Now the question/point is raised which trees will be planted? Central Pollution Control Board in 2008 has published certain standards regarding planting of trees which have big leaves or deciduous trees, which can arrest the pollutants. The planning will be made to plant these trees.

- b) Second question was asked whether there will be any production of solid waste? It is answered that in the production activities, yeast sludge will be made. The water from Yeast Sludge will be removed and yeast sludge will be burnt in the incineration. Also, the water from CPU sludge will be removed and it will be burnt in the incineration;
- c) The question was raised regarding the sources of raw material for the factory. The Molasses will be required as raw material. It will be obtained from sugar factory or if required, it will be purchased through tender procedure also. There will not be any scarcity. If all required, cane juice from sugar unit will be used and remaining juice will be used for sugar production.
- d) What is the benefit from this project, the question was raised? It is answered that the Project Proponent has reserved 1 ½ crores for CSR Fund. The drinking water scheme, sanitation, green belt development, drip irrigation schemes will be implemented.
- e) Whether there will be any ill-effects on the health of the people, this question was raised. The air quality will be maintained as per the standards. There will not be any hazardous products produced in the unit. The distillery unit is in operation since 2017. We have studied the health status of 10 k.m. radius.
- f) The question was raised regarding manufacturing system of the Distillery. This is to inform that previously there was batch fermentation system. Now, there is continuous fermentation system, due to which there will generation of less quantity of effluent and the quality of products will be high/good. Further to inform that Continuous Fermentation is economical.
- g) The question was asked regarding spent wash. The answer is spent wash will be burnt.
- h) The question of bye-product was raised. The CO₂ which will be produced will be used for bottling. It can be used as Cool Shield for the Corona vaccine. The CO₂ Bottling plant will be taken in hand immediately.

After giving these answers, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Meeting appealed all to raise any suggestions, objections regarding environmental angle of the expansion of the project.

15) Shri Umakant Bhusari, Member, Usuf Vadgaon Panchayat Samiti, Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-

After inception of this project, the labourers who used to be migrated by groups for jobs at different States is now stopped.

He said that in the area in which I am working, 30,000 hectars of land are brought under sugarcane crops production. This factory has given the rate as per the F.I.R. since last seven years. But the factory did not keep pending disbursement of payment of farmers. Hence, the success to the project will increase our standard of living also. Hence, it is requested that the project should be sanctioned at the earliest.

16) Shri Mhaske Uddav Rajabhau, At Post – Savaleshwar, Tal – Kaij, Dist – Beed:-

He said that he has to ask two questions. First in the 60 KLPD distillery project, 6 lakh litres of spent wash will be generated. How it will be disposed of?

The second question whether there will employment generation due to this project in our area?

17) Shri Ganesh Kachru Nande, At Post -Bavachi, Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-

The Yedeshwari sugar factory is commissioned on this dry land. Our village is very small. Nearly 400-500 souls are staying here. 10-12 youths from our village are working in this plant. They have got source of livelihood. The farmers from our village are cultivating sugarcane crops. This factory is giving high prices than other sugar factories of our district. I feel that this project should succeed. I request to co-operate the project.

18) **Shri Amol Ratan Raut, At Post – Anandgaon (Sarani), Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-**

How many days the project will be in operation?

19) **Shri Thorat Bhausaheb Shankar, At Post – Kumbhefal, Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-**

Which bye-products will be manufactured in the projects?

20) **Shri Dattatraya Vyankatrao Bhakare, At Post -Jawalban, Tal-Kaij, Dist -Beed:-**

What will be the benefit to the local people after expansion of the project?

21) **Shri H. Madhubabu, President, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society, Mushirabad, Hyderabad:-**

He said that I have already given my suggestions in writing. Due to expansion of the project, there will be development in the area. Local people will get job opportunities. I support the project.

22) **Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist,**

President, Dharitri Prayavaran Parirakshna Sanstha, Dist – Nalgonda, Telangana :-

Shri Sunanda Reddy informed in Hindi and Marathi that he is only Environmentalist who supports Industrial Development. Most of the Environmentalists opposes industrial development, but I support it.

He congratulated Project Proponent for their planning of expansion of distillery project. He said that in India, unemployment is

major pollution. In India there are nearly 40 crore young male and females in the age of 18-35 years who are waiting for the job opportunities. In Maharashtra, the industrial development situation is very good. For the environment protection and preservation and for the industrial development, I am giving few suggestions: -

Environment Consultant has carried the survey of 10 k.m. radius of water, air and land. They have done good work. My request is present status of health, crop pattern and ground water of 10 k.m. radius be carried and report should be submitted. It will be helpful for environmental status.

There is 12 acres of land in the project. Hence, Rain Water Harvesting should be implemented. The big tank should be built to catch rain water and after completion of rainy season, the water from the preserved storage tank should be utilised. Water is very precious and it has limited source.

While developing green belt, fruit bearing plants and medicinal plants please be planted. The green belt drive be implemented in the nearby villages. Also avenue plantations should be carried wholeheartedly. It will control the pollution and villagers will get fruits.

The skill development programme for local young boys and girls should be undertaken immediately.

The requirement of 3.0 Crore litre water will be required for sugarcane crop. Hence water should be saved. He congratulated Environment Consultant for giving present environmental status. Shri Reddy requested Environment Public Hearing Committee to recommend Govt. of India unconditional Environmental Clearance. He informed that he has already submitted written suggestions to Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Jalna in advance.

23) **Shri Shivaji Chaudhary, At Post – Paithan, Tal-Kaij, Dist-Beed:-**

He informed that Yedeshwari Sugar Factory is commissioned in 2017. At that time, the public hearing was held and we have asked

many questions. It is observed that factory management has satisfied our many suggestions which were raised during the public hearing meeting. Shri Shivaji Chaudhary said that his village is 3.0 k.m. away at the downside of the factory. The ill-effects are there due to waste, but due to planning of the factory management, it is not observed. Due to expansion of the distillery unit, the local educated youths will get job opportunities. The economic conditions of the farmers who are staying on dry land will be good. It is requested to sanction the project at the earliest.

24) **Shri Ramchandra Vitthal Gund, Corporator, Kaij, Dist-Beed:-**

Due to this project, everybody will be benefitted. We have started hotel here. We will also be benefitted. The project should be sanctioned at the earliest, so that our hard work will be converted into money.

Answers given by Environment Consultant as per the directives of Environment Public Hearing Committee :-

- a) The question was asked for the benefit to the region. Due to expansion of these project, there will be job opportunities to local people and there will be indirect increase in local business.
- b) The answer for the production of bye-product is already given. Co₂, Ethenol will be bye-product.
- c) The project will run for 330 days, it means that it will work whole year.
- d) The direct employment to 40-50 persons will get. But there will be tremendous increase in indirect local business such as hotels, mobile shops etc.,
- e) Spent wash will be disposed of by incineration.

Environment Consultant said these questions were asked. Other were their psychic/personal emotions.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee appealed all to raise their suggestions, objections, views regarding the expansion of the project in environmental angle. At this time, Public Hearing Committee asked to give clarification for the doubt raised by Shri Mhaske.

Environment Consultant answered that spent wash to the tune of 105.0 KLPD quantity of the project(existing + proposed) will be disposed Bio-Methenisation Plant and it will concentrated with digester and will be burnt. The water from the spent wash will be removed and it will be recycled and reused.

Member of the public hearing and Regional Officer Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Aurangabad shared has views as follows-

The good answers are given by the Project Officials and Environment Consultant in the meeting. One of the participants also informed here that Project Proponent has worked on the suggestions raised during the public hearing meeting previously. He expressed the opinion that the project should continue this. The terms and conditions as stipulated in the consent should be followed strictly. Also Online Monitoring system for water and Online Monitoring for stack should be installed and operated in the plant immediately. It should be linked with MPCB and CPCB server. This for conservation of environment only. The anti pollution control equipments should be carried operation and maintenance periodically.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to guide with few words.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee congratulated factory management for planning the expansion of the

distillery. He remarked that when there is no factory is seen miles to miles in this rural areas, they have commissioned the project in 2013.

He expressed the opinion that this public hearing and people have raised their opinion. It is noted. The suggestions given by the people should be implemented wholeheartedly. The Environment Public Hearing Committee is also supporting the public suggestion. It is our decision. Now people have become aware. Previously, when we used to conduct public hearing, negligible people used to attend. Now transparency has increased. Keeping in mind the transparency and public faith, we have to march forward. He congratulated Project Proponent for conducting public hearing in a well-mannered way.

Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared in Marathi and in English and after approval of the Chairman, it will be submitted and alongwith Final EIA and written suggestions/objections to Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Govt of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee at MoEFCC, Gol will take further decision about the project. She thanked all local people, project officials, government officials, journalists, environmentalists for attending this meeting and on behalf of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

The written suggestions/objections dated 07/02/2021, dated 08/02/2021 & dated 11/02/2021 are enclosed herewith.


(Dr. Pravin Joshi)

Member

And

Regional Officer

M.P.C. Board, Aurangabad



(Ravindra Jagtap)

Chairman

And

District Collector, Beed

रविंद्र जगताप
जिल्हाधिकारी, बीड


(Dr. Yogini Balankhe)

Convener

And

Sub-Regional Officer

M.P.C. Board, Jalna