

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION IN EXISTING UNIT OF SUGAR CRUSHING CAPACITY FROM 4,000.0 TCD TO 7,500.0 TCD, PROPOSED MODERNAZATION & EXPANSION OF CO-GEN POWER PLANT FROM 15.0 MW TO 28.0 MW AND COMMISSIONING OF 45.0 KLPD NEW DISTILLERY PLANT AT MOHAN NAGAR, KUMTHE, POST-AARAG, TAL- MIRAJ, DIST-SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S MOHANRAO SHINDE SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED.

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion in existing unit of Sugar Crushing Capacity from 4,000 TCD to 7,500 TCD, Proposed Modernization and Expansion of Co-Gen Power Plant from 15.0 MW to 28.0 MW and Commissioning of 45.0 KLPD New Distillery Plant at Mohan Nagar, Kumthe, Post – Aarag, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli, Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s Mohanrao Shinde Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited was conducted on Thursday, the 30th December, 2021 at the site of the said industry at 11.30 am.

As per approved to conduct the public hearing on Thursday, the 30th December, 2021 at 11.30 am by the Hon'ble District Collector, Sangli and as per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, 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-118 of 2021 under letter No. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-211214-FTS-0170, dated 14th December 2021. Accordingly the following committee members were present.

- 1) Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, (IAS)
Collector & District Magistrate
Sangli.

- Chairman



- 2) Shri Sanjay Jirapure, - Member
Representative of Regional Officer,
M.P.C.Board, Kolhapur
- 3) Shri. Navanath S. Awatade, - Convener
Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli

Shri Navnath S. Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Abhijit Chaudhary, District Magistrate, Sangli and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Sanjay Jirapure, Representative of Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and local people/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. MoEF & CC, 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.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the background of Covid-19. And as per the guidelines and directivities issued by The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Vide their office memorandum dtd. 14-09-2020 it is requested to all participants to follow strict the said guidelines. The thermal checking and use of sanitizer is kept at the entrance of the Panadol and now it is compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons.

Convener further informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment Notification of Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (i.e. MoEF & CC, 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.

He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Mohanrao Shinde Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited for their proposed expansion in existing unit of Sugar Crushing Capacity from 4,000 TCD to 7,500 TCD, Proposed Modernization and Expansion of Co-Gen Power Plant from 15.0 MW to 28.0 MW and Commissioning of 45.0 KLPD New Distillery Plant at Mohan Nagar, Kumthe, Post – Aarag, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli.

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.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report to the Impact Assessment Division, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and it has been considered and given online approval on 29-11-2018.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Sangli in the Local Newspaper in Daily Sakal for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily The Times of India for English on 30th November, 2021 and 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 in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices 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 Collector Office, Sangli; Additional District Collector Office,



Sangli; Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Sangli; General Manager, District Industries Centre Office, Sangli; Tahasildar, Tahsildar Office-Miraj, Tal – Miraj, District – Sangli; The Gram Sevak, Grampanchayat offices – Bedag, Aarag, Erandoli, Lingnoor, Landagewadi, Payyapachiwadi, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli; Regional Office, MPCB, Kolhapur and at Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB www.mpcb.gov.in for information and study of the people in general. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed project.

Convener informed that participants can raise their views, suggestions /objections for the proposed expansion of the project in environmental angle only orally as well as in writing also.

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

With the permission of the Chairman, the Environmental Consultant of the project made a presentation on the entire Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project. She informed about the geographical location of the proposed project, possible impact on the environment due to the proposed project, and the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared for it.

The project consultant is informed that this is Agro - Based Industry and this project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). Not a drop of treated effluent will be generated outside the factory. For air pollution control, advanced technology of Electro Static Precipitator (ESP) will be installed at the stack. There will not be any noise pollution. As new modern technology will be adopted, there will not be any smell nuisance.



The project consultant is informed that the capital cost for the Environment Management will be Rupees 4.73 crores and Recurring cost will be 93.0 lakh. As the project is a Brown Field, 1% of the total project cost, it means 4.04 Crore will be spent on Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER). An additional 117 manpower is required for project expansion and new distillery and a total of 567 persons will be employed in the project.

After the Presentation, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed the participants that Environment Consultant has made in-depth and detailed presentations on water, air, noise, hazardous and non-hazardous waste and remedial measures in the proposed project. He appealed all the participants to raise views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed plant in environmental angle only. While raising the suggestions or objections, full name and residential village name should be informed so that it will be made easy to mention the details in the minutes of public hearing.

Following participant have taken part in the discussions and the answers given by Project Environment Consultant/Project Proponent/ Environment Public Hearing Committee.

- 1) **Shri Santaji Ramchandra Gaikwad, Residence – At Post – Belanki, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli:-**

Whether there will be pollution and to what extent due to project expansion and commissioning of new distillery plant?

Ans. Project Environment Consultant informed that as shown the Presentation, the proposed project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). Not a drop of treated effluent will be discharged outside the factory premises. Hence, there will not be any water pollution.



Environment Consultant further informed that for air pollution control, an Electro Static Precipitator (ESP), the most advanced device will be installed at the stack which arrests the dust particles. The efficiency of ESP is 99.99%. Hence, there is no threat of air pollution.

2) **Shri Balasaheb Krishanarao Patil, Residence – At Post – Erandoli, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli :-**

Due to this project, whether there will be any loss of farmers' water?

Ans. The Environmental Consultant said that there would be no loss of farmers' water. As informed in the Presentation, this project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project. Not a drop of treated effluent will be discharged outside the factory premises. The most advanced technology R.O. (Reverse Osmosis) system will be commissioned in the plant. Due to which the treated effluent will be recycled and reused in the process. There will not be any water pollution in the area. Therefore, there will be no loss of water to the farmers.

3) **Shri Tanaji Rajaram Dalvi, Residence – At Post – Vyankochi Wadi, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli :-**

While developing the expansion of the project and new distillery plant, will there be any tree cutting/deforestation?

Ans. The Project Environmental Consultant answered that there would be no tree cutting/deforestation. In the presentation, the outline and plan of the project is shown. There are small shrubs on the project site. It cannot be called as trees. They will have to be removed in very small quantities. There will be no tree cuttings/deforestation.

Wanted

- 4) **Shri Tanaji Dalvi again asked the question** and said that details about the air pollution control system should be explained.

Ans. Environment Consultant further informed that in the new expanded project, 110.0 TPH boiler will be installed. The stack to the tune of 62 meters height will be provided to it. The ESP system will be provided to it. The dust particles will arrest in the ESP system. The ESP gives the efficiency of 99.99%. Hence, there is no possibility of dust particles coming out. Similarly, there will be no generation of any gas in the atmosphere.

- 5) **Shri Avinash Raosaheb Kerimane, Residence – At Post – Malgaon, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli :-**

How many people will get job opportunities due to this project expansion?

Ans. Due to expansion of project and new distillery plant, it will provide Employment opportunities to 117 new people. Total 567 people will get employment opportunities, both old and new projects.

- 6) **Shri Babasaheb Bhausahab Nargachhe, Residence – At Post – Bolvad, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli :-**

I am a farmer. Will the electricity and fertilizer produced in the project be available to local farmers?

Ans. The Managing Director of the Project said that the power produced in the project will be sold to Maharashtra State Power Distribution Company Limited, a power generation company of the Government of Maharashtra as per the agreement. Therefore, Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company will provide electricity to the surrounding villages as per their distribution. Similarly, the fertilizer produced in the project is of excellent quality and will be made available to the members and

beneficiaries.

7) **Shri Shivaji Shrikant Mahadik, At Post – Shipur, Tal-Miraj, Dist – Sangli**

How the farmers will be benefitted due to this project expansion and setting up of new distillery project? How is it going to benefit?

Ans. The Managing Director of the project said that the plant consisting of modern devices would be operational and there would be no pollution. So, there will be no water, air and noise pollution. Due to expansion of sugarcane crushing capacity, more sugarcane crop will be procured from local farmers. The loss of weight of sugarcane crop will be avoided as the sugarcane crop will be crushed without delay.

Due to the timely crushing of sugarcane, the sugar yield of the factory will increase. This will also increase the income of the factory. In addition, the Ethanol project will provide additional revenue to the factory. It will help to pay less interest on capital amount. Therefore, it will be possible for the factory to give extra price to the local farmers.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise any suggestion, objections if any remains regarding the proposed project.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee further informed that as per the provisions under EIA Notification, Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli has published 30 days in advance a public notice in a local newspaper in Marathi and in national newspaper in English appealing public to submit any suggestions or objections. Also, the environmental documents i.e. EIA report and Executive Summary in Marathi and English



were made available to the notified government offices. Accordingly, the Gram Panchayat Office, Aarag has submitted the suggestions and objections received from the local people regarding the proposed project and the public hearing by the Village Development Officer, Shri N.B. Kore, to the Sub-Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli. There are 166 names in the list.

Similarly at individual level also, some views, suggestions, objections have been received by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli. Hence, Project Proponent and their Environment Consultant are instructed to give their written explanation regarding the suggestions, objections received in writing and submit the same to Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Sangli so that it can be included in the minutes of public hearing.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee further informed that no objections, suggestions or comments have been received from other notified Government Offices till to date.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee further informed in the meeting that the participants can submit their suggestion, objection in writing also if any. The acknowledgement for it will be given. He informed that the suggestions and objections received, the explanation from the Environment Consultant of the Project Proponent, the letters of supporting the project will be submitted along with minutes of the meeting in Marathi and in English and Final EIA report to the Government for further needful.

Convener again appealed to all the participants to raise any suggestion or objection if any. As there was no response for the participants, Convener requested Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to express his views.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that we have gathered here for the proposed expansion of the sugar crushing capacity, modernization and expansion of the co-gen and



commissioning of new distillery unit of Project Proponent M/s Mohanrao Shinde Sahakari Sakhar Ltd., Mohannagar, Aarag, Tal – Miraj, Dist – Sangli. He further said that as per EIA Notifications as issued by the Govt. of India, it is mandatory to publish 30 days in advance public notice in local newspaper and in national newspaper. Also the EIA and Executive Summary were made available to notified government offices. The Environment Consultant has given detailed information regarding Environment Management Plan and Project Management and Environment Consultant have given suitable answers. As informed by the Convener, the suggestions and objections raised during the meeting will be included in the minutes of meeting. Also, the explanation which will be given by the Environment Consultant and Project officials will also be submitted along with the minutes of the meeting.

Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that the public hearing is held in a cordial atmosphere. In the background Covid-19 and Omicron variant, the sitting arrangement is made accordingly. Chairman appealed participants to raise any suggestion or objection. There was no response from participants.

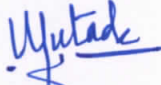
Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the public hearing meeting is concluded.

Finally 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.

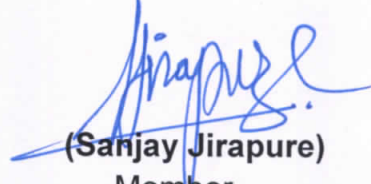
The procedure of public hearing has started at 11.30 am and ended to 01.15 pm.



In the context of this public hearing of this project the written objections/suggestions received on 29-12-2021 from 282 citizens of the surrounding area in the board office and objections/suggestions of 166 citizens of Arag and Arag area received vide letter No. 240/21 from Gram Panchayat Office, Arag dated 29-12-2021 on 30-12-2021 to this office. The detail information of these objections/suggestions along with written answers/explanations received from the factory/factory technical advisor are attached in the accompanying table along with photocopies of all written objections/suggestions as well as answers/ explanations received from the factory/factory technical consultant.



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



(Sanjay Jirapure)
Member
And Representative of Regional Officer,
MPC Board, Kolhapur



(Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, IAS),
Chairman

And Collector & District Magistrate, Sangli.