MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING OF M/S. VIDARBHA IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR PROPOSED ARVI LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT AT WARDHA RIVER, VILLAGE DHANODI, TAH-ARVI, DIST-WARDHA.

Environmental Public Hearing in respect of Proposed Arvi Lift Irrigation Project at Wardha River, Village-Dhanodi, Tal-Arvi, Dist-Wardha under the Chairmanship of Shri Narendra Lonkar, Additional District Magistrate (A representative nominated by the District Collector, Wardha). Shri. Nagesh Lohalkar, Regional Officer, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur was the member of the public hearing panel and Shri.Kiran Hasabnis, Sub-Regional Officer-II, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur act as a convener. The Public Hearing started at 11.30 hrs. with the permission of the Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel. Attendance of the People present during the Public Hearing is attached as **Annexure-I**.

BACKGROUND:

M/s. Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation, Nagpur under Water Resource Department, Government of Maharashtra has proposed the Arvi Lift Irrigation Project to irrigate an area of 8400 Hector of Culturable Commond Area (CCA) by utilizing the water from the Wardha River in Arvi Block of Wardha District of Maharashtra State. The height of the Lower Wardha dam above lowest foundation is 27.8 m (91 ft) while the length is 9464 m (31,050 ft.). The volume content is 2639 km³ (633 cu mi) and gross storage capacity is 253,340.00 Km³ (60,779.50 cu mi.). Arvi Lift Irrigation Scheme is a part of Lower Wardha Project having command Area (8400 ha C.C.A.) in Arvi and Deoli Tahsil for which 25.74 Mm³ water is reserved from Main Storage of Dam for this scheme.

PURPOSE AND PROCEDURE:

With the permission of Chairman of Public Hearing the Sub-Regional Officer-II, MPCB, Nagpur has started Public Hearing by welcoming the Chairman and Member of the public hearing panel, local citizens from the village and others present.

Chairman of the Public Hearing Panel stated that, this Public Hearing is for recording the views/objects/suggestions of the participants regarding the project. The same will be communicated to the Government. He also clarified that this panel is not here to take decision for accordance of any approval to the project. He then appealed the participants to express their views.

Sub-Regional Officer-II, MPCB, Nagpur explained the purpose of conducting this public hearing that as per MoEF, GOI Notification SO 60(E) of 27th January, 1994 and amended on 14th September, 2006. The notices for the public hearing was published in two local widely circulated news papers i.e. the 'Hitavada' (English) and 'Tarun Bharat' (Marathi) on 17/03/2017. Copies of the same are enclosed as **Annexure-II.** Copies of the executive summary / EIA containing salient features of the project & EIA both in English and in Marathi and other information/documents were made available to the public by making these documents available in various Govt. offices as well as local Gram Panchayat as per MoEF GOI Notification. Suggestions, comments and objections of the public were called in writing till before the date of Public Hearing from the publication of the notice. The public hearing panel was constituted vide MPC Board Office Order No. E-28/2017 vide letter No. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-1446 dtd. 10/04/2017. Copy of the same is enclosed as **Annexure-III**.

Thereafter, Sub-Regional Officer-II, Nagpur and Convener requested the project proponent to give their detail presentation about the project and the Environmental issues related with it. Accordingly, representative of the project proponent gave detailed power point presentation of the project in local language as under:

He has given information regarding project undertake by M/s. Vidarbha Irrigation Development Corporation for proposed Arvi Lift Irrigation project. He further explained regarding project location, benefits of proposed project, proposed facilities, Land environment, Air Environment, existing water quality, water consumption, biological environment, socio-economic environment, impact on focal infrastructure, environment management plan, air emission, preventive maintenance / inspection.

PROCEEDING:-

- 1. Shri. Amol Prabhakar Tidake, Dhanodi, Tah. Arvi, Dist-Wardha.
 - He said that, there is already well and drip irrigation in his agriculture field. So can such villagers get the benefit of this proposed scheme?

Project Proponent:- If, the villagers having agriculture field submit their application for getting benefit of proposed irrigation scheme then project proponent will sanctioned their demand and they can get the benefit. In hilly area, the water will be supply with high pressure pumps.

- 2. Shri. Purushottam Raghobaji Uikey, Pachegaon, Tah. Arvi, Dist-Wardha.
 - What is the rate of water bill to be charged to villagers for proposed scheme?

Project Proponent:- For implementation of this irrigation scheme contractor will be appointed and the cost of the project will born by contractor for 5 years and depending upon total cost of project, the water bill rates per hector will be decided.

- 3. Shri. Devidas Uzar, Dhanodi, Tah-Arvi, Dist-Wardha.
 - Whether the Village Mouza-Hiwara is included in proposed irrigation scheme?

Project Proponent: - Yes, it is included in the proposed irrigation scheme.

- 4. Shri. Sanjay Chanekar, Bahadurpur, Tah-Arvi, Dist-Wardha.
 - Whether the Village Mouza-Bahadurpur is included in proposed irrigation scheme? Previously, there is a lake, but presently, which is not in existence, hence the nearby villages will be included in the proposed scheme or not.

Project Proponent :- Yes, it is included in the proposed irrigation scheme. The survey will be carried out and then villages will be included in the proposed irrigation scheme and the benefit will be offered to the villagers.

- 5. Shri. Sandeep Bhimrao Machale, Dhanodì, Tah-Arvi, Dist-Wardha.
 - I have a requirement of water on daily basis for my agriculture crops like vegetables. So, whether water will be supplied on daily basis from proposed irrigation scheme?

Project Proponent :- The water will be supplied from proposed irrigation scheme on rotation basis. Some villagers those are not taking water on daily basis will be shifted to the villagers those have demand of daily water supply.

6. Shri. Bhaurao Vitthalrao Korde, Sawangi, Tah-Arvi, Dist.Wardha.

 He congratulated project proponent for including his village in the proposed irrigation scheme? He further said that, Govt. has made a lake in the year 1972, but till date the affected people in the vicinity had not get the benefit for agriculture field and nearby villages. So whether from new proposed irrigation scheme can villagers get the benefit.

Project Proponent:- Excluding the area which is affected due to the lake, other agriculture field will get the benefit from proposed irrigation scheme.

Shri. Nagesh Lohalkar: Member of the panel (Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Nagpur).

Representative of the project proponent has given full information regarding project i.e. Water, Air & Green belt, their benefits, impact and management. Total 06 peoples expressed their Views/Comments/Objections, the recordings will be communicated to the Government. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is not authority to take any decision. After this public hearing participants can submit their views/comments/objections in writing in Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Nagpur office said Regional Office, M.P.C.Board, Nagpur.

Shri. Narendra Lonkar, Chairman, Public Hearing Panel (Additional District Magistrate, Wardha).

He said in the concluding speech that, people present in the public hearing expressed their views/opinion. The project proponent has given explanation w.r.t. the point raised by the people present in the public hearing. The public hearing is completed in friendly atmosphere. Project proponent also present their views and time bound program regarding question raised in the public hearing. Thus, He declared the public hearing is ended.

(Kiran Hasabnis)
Sub-Regional Officer-II,
MPC Board, Nagpur &
Convener of the Public
Hearing Panel

(Nagesh Lohalkar)
Regional Officer,
MPC Board, Nagpur &
Member of the Public
Hearing Panel

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(Narendra Lonkar)
Additional District Magistrate, Wardha
& Chairman of the Public Hearing
Panel