

## Minutes of the Public hearing

**MINUTES OF THE ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MOLASSES BASED EXISTING DISTILLERY UNIT FROM 30.0 KLPD TO 105.0 KLPD CAPACITY BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S NIRA BHIMA SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LTD., SHAHAJINAGAR, AT POST – REDNI, TAL – INDAPUR, DIST – PUNE**

**Date of Public Hearing** - **02-07-2021**  
**Time** - **12.00 After Noon**  
**Place of Public Hearing** - **Online video conferencing through zoom application.**

### INTRODUCTION :-

An application for obtaining Environment Clearance for the proposed expansion of the molasses based existing Distillery Unit from 30.0 KLPD to 105.0 KLPD capacity of Project Proponent M/s Nira Bhima Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shahajinagar, At Post-Redni, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune is received.

Accordingly, Environment, Forest & Climate Change Ministry, (MoEF & CC), Govt. of India (GoI), New Delhi has sanctioned Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) on 31-10-2019.

As per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006 as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Govt. of India (GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide Office Order No. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-210625/FTS-0221, Dated 25-06-2021 has constituted following Environment Public Hearing Committee: -

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



The suggestions, objections, questions received during the meeting and also to MPCB offices, Attendance Sheet of the meeting are enclosed herewith.

### **MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING:-**

Shri Pratap Jagtap, Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Jayashree Katare, Additional District Magistrate, Pune and Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Shri Nitin Shinde, Incharge Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Project Officials, Environment Experts and Online participants and with the permission of Hon. Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed the preamble of the Environment Public Hearing.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent M/s Nira Bhima Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Shajinagar, At Post – Redni, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune in their existing unit of Sugar – 3,500.0 Ton/Day; Electricity from Co-Gen Project - 18.0 MW and Molasses Based Distillery – 30.0 KLD has proposed the expansion of the molasses based Distillery Unit from 30.0 KLPD to 105.0 KLPD capacity and applied to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 24-08-2020 for conducting Environment Public Hearing. Project Proponent has obtained Standard Terms of Reference (ToR) from MoEF & CC, Gol, New Delhi on 31-10-2019 with certain terms and conditions.

Hon. District Collector, Pune has directed to conduct Environment Public Hearing for the proposed project on 15-04-2021. As per EIA Notification as issued by MoEF & CC, Gol dated 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2006, 30 days in advance public notice was published in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express on 09-03-2021. But due to Covid-19 Pandemic, the public hearing was postponed. The public notice in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express was published on 09-04-2021 to inform the public about postponement of the meeting.

Afterwards, Hon. District Collector, Pune has directed to conduct public hearing on 02-07-2021 for which public notice was published in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express on 29-05-2021. The corrigendum notice was also published on 30-05-2021 in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express.

Due to Covid-19 Pandemic situation, it is decided to conduct the public hearing online/virtual. Regarding same prior public notice was published on 26-06-2021 in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express for the information of all.



Convener informed that today on 02-07-2021 at 12.00 noon, the public hearing is arranged by Zoom Video Conferencing.

Convener further informed that as per public notice published on 09-03-2021 in local newspaper Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper The Indian Express, the public, Organizations working in the field of environment were appealed to send their views, suggestions or objections for the proposed expansion of the project. Also, the environment reports of the project were made available at the following offices:-

- 1) District Collector Office – Pune.
- 2) Zilla Parishad Office-Pune.
- 3) District Industries Centre, Pune.
- 4) Environment & Climate Change Department, New Administrative Bldg., 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Madam Cama road, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.
- 5) Hon. Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Kalpataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.7, Opp. Cine Planet, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 22.
- 6) Zonal Office, West-East Zone, Environment, Forest & Climate Change Ministry, Govt. of India, New Secretariat Bldg., Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001.
- 7) Regional & Sub Regional Office-Pune, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jog Centre, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Wakadewadi, Pune-Mumbai Road, Pune – 411 003.
- 8) Sub Divisional Officer, Sub Divisional Office-Baramati, Tal – Baramati, Dist – Pune.
- 9) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office-Indapur, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune.
- 10) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Office, Indapur, Tal-Indapur, Dist-Pune.
- 11) Gram Sevak, Gram Panchayat Office-Redni, Bhodni, Reda, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune.

Convener further informed that if participants desire to raise their suggestions, objections in writing, they can email the same on [sropune1@mpcb.gov.in](mailto:sropune1@mpcb.gov.in), so that it can be brought to the notice of Chairperson of the meeting. The participants who desire to raise their views, suggestions or objections orally, can raise it after the presentation. While raising the suggestion, everybody must tell his/her name and name of the residence village. Project Proponent or Project Consultant will answer it.

Convener informed that the proceedings of this meeting are noted and minutes of the meeting in Marathi and in English will be prepared. It will be submitted to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department, Govt. of India, New Delhi through MPCB Head Office.

Convener further informed that this meeting is conducted to know the views of the local people regarding the proposed project and this Committee has no right to recommend or sanction the project. The suggestions, objections received during the meeting and answers given are to be considered while preparing Final EIA by



Project Proponent, which is submitted to MoEFC & CC, Gol. An Expert Committee at MoEF & CC takes further decision. He requested Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

Dr. Jayashree Katare, Additional District Magistrate, Pune and Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed all online participants and informed that first the Environment Consultant will give presentation for the proposed expansion of the project. The participants who desire to raise their suggestions or objections on any issue may take down the same. The participants will be given an opportunity to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding Environment Management Plan. She informed Environment Consultant to start the Presentation.

Environment Consultant gave details of expansion and Environment Management Plan of the project. He informed that molasses will be used from the sugar factory for the expansion. As per the EIA Notification, as this project falls under Category "A," it is necessary to the project proponent to obtain Environment Clearance for which prior public hearing is mandatory.

Environment Consultant informed that due to Covid-19 pandemic situation, there is huge demand of Alcohol for producing sanitizers. Central Government has already given permission to use Power Alcohol for blending in petrol. There is demand of Fermentation Alcohol at foreign countries also. Hence, Project Proponent has planned expansion of the distillery by investing the amount of 79.75 crores. As per aim of "Make In India," it is necessary to produce Alcohol to save our foreign exchange. It is need of the Time. Hence, Central Government has taken these projects on Fast Track.

Environment Consultant further informed that this project will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) project. He informed the detailed treatment and disposal of the spent wash, solid waste and saving and conservation of water, Disaster Management Plan inside the project.

Environment Consultant also informed that Project Proponent is committed for the development of the project area and environment protection. It is promised that more trees will be planted than the prescribed standards. Also the project will adopt Japanese Technology (Dayaki Exis) for the treatment of sewage generated from the industry.

After presentation, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed plant.



**Followings persons have participated during the discussions and answers given by the Project Proponent / Project Consultant / Public Hearing Committee :-**

**1) Shri Dnyaneshwar Shivajirao Manedeshmukh, Residence – At Post – Lumewadi, Tal – Indapur, Dist-Pune:-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion / Objection/ Question	Answer
1)	Due to expansion of the Distillery Unit, there will be increase in quantity of waste water. How it will be treated / disposed? Whether people will suffer due to it?	Project Environment Consultant answered that after expansion, the spent wash in liquid form will be burnt in incineration boiler. It means that liquid spent wash will be converted into ash. After incineration of 100 litre spent wash, then ash will be generated as 10.0 kg. Hence there will not be any threat and surrounding people will not suffer.

**2) Shri Vasant Haribhau Ghogare, Residence – At Post – Surwad, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion / Objection/Question	Answer
1)	How the members will be benefitted from this distillery expansion project?	a) Environment Consultant informed that due to increase in production quantity, profit/income will be increased. At present, there is no demand for the sugar. Alcohol gets much better price. The factory can be benefitted financially. With maximum sugarcane crushing, there will be maximum generation of molasses and from molasses, Alcohol can be produced. All the Members will be benefitted due to increase in production.
		b) At this moment, Managing Director of the Project answered that due to production of Ethanol, the factory will be financially benefitted. Due to which all farmers will get more price for their sugarcane crop.
		c) Also due to expansion of the Distillery Project, additional 50 persons can get job opportunities in the Distillery Plant.

3) **Shri Deepak Ravindra Kamble, Residence – At Post – Bavada, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion / Objection/ Question	Answer
1)	Due to expansion of the distillery unit, there will be air pollution. What initiatives will be taken for air pollution control?	Environment Consultant informed that the sources of air pollution will be incineration boiler, where the spent wash will be burnt. The ratio will be 80% spent wash and 20% coal. The height of the chimney will be 62 meters and Electro Static Precipitator (ESP) devices will be installed to it, which gives 99.5% efficiency. Hence, there will be no air pollution of any kind.
	At this moment, he has asked whether 100% guarantee will be given?	Environment Consultant promised 100% guarantee and informed that Online Continuous Monitoring System will be installed for air pollution. Due to online monitoring system if the range of pollutants exceeds, by default alert message will receive from system to industry.

4) **Shri Subhash Ghogare, Residence – At Post – Bavda, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion / Objection/ Question	Answer
1)	How many by-products will be manufactured in this project?	Environment Consultant answered that in the distillery unit, firstly Rectified Spirit is produced. Then we can get Extra Neutral Alcohol. After producing Ethanol, we get Fusel Oil. CO <sub>2</sub> is also produced.

5) **Shri Rajaram Mahadev Pol, Member of Karkhana, Residence – At Post – Nirwangi, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1)	Due to expansion of the distillery project, there will be increase in Solid Waste. Which steps will be taken to dispose off the Solid Waste? Whether residents will be suffer due to it?	a) Environment Consultant informed that the Solid Waste generated from the Distillery Unit will be Yeast Sludge from the fermentation. It will be burn in the incineration boiler. b) The other Solid Waste generated will be ash from the incineration boiler which will be disposed through brick manufacturers or Project Proponent may start brick manufacturing unit.

**6) Shri Maloji Vasantrao Shinde, Member of Karkhana, Residence – At Post – Ozare, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection / Question	Answer
1)	How many days the Distillery Unit will remain in operation in a year?	Environment Consultant informed that as incineration boiler will be installed in the distillery unit, the distillery unit can be operated throughout the year. Earlier, spent wash is treated in compost yard to produce compost, however in rainy season this activity required to stop.

**7) Shri Jayanand Bandgar, Residence Pithewadi, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection / Question	Answer
1)	How much water will be required to the distillery unit after expansion? How it will be made available?	It is informed by the Environment Consultant that after expansion, the requirement of water will be 1118.0 M3 per day. Out of 1118 m3/day water, the fresh water demand is 277 M3/Day which will be fulfilled from Bhima river, CPU treated water @ 837 M3/Day will be reused and STP treated water @ 7 M3/Day will be reused.

**8) Shri Dattu Bhosale, Residence – Vakil Vasti, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1)	Whether Project expansion will lead increase in job opportunities?	The Environmental Consultant replied that due to expansion of the project there will be generation of employment in the vicinity of sugar factory.

**9) Shri Bhagwat Khanderao Patil, Residence – At Post – Nimgaon Ketki, Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1)	In view of the benefits of the distillery expansion, we support this project and request that this project be completed as soon as possible.	Suggestion is noted.

**10) Shri Ramchandra Maruti Ghorpade, Residence – At Post – Bavda,  
Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1)	We support the Project.	Suggestion is noted.

**11) Shri Malojiraje Vasantrao Shinde, Residence – Bhosare,  
Tal – Indapur, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1	As this project will be beneficial to the Members, we support the project.	Suggestion is noted.

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

Sr.No.	Suggestion/ Objection/Question	Answer
1)	I am giving 2-3 suggestions:- a) The saplings should be planted to avoid the pollution. Proper planting of trees will prevent dust pollution. b) The local young boys and girls should be priority while giving job opportunities. c) The CSR and CER Funds should be spent only in the affected areas. d) We support the project and request Environment Committee to recommend Environment, Forests & Climate Change Department for sanction of the project.	Environment Consultant informed that all the suggestions have already included in the EIA.

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee and Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed Online participants to raise their suggestions, objections, questions if any.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that after the presentation, the questions raised by the participants are properly answered by the Environment Consultant, which have been noted. Hence, the participants who desires to raise other issues rather than raised can ask the questions.





**13) Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, President, Dharitri  
Paryavaran Parirakshana Sanstha, Dist – Nalgonda, Telangana  
State :-**

Sr.No.	Suggestion/Objection/Question	Answer
	<p>Shri Sunanda Reddy, an Environmentalist has informed in English that he is the first Environmentalist in India who supports industrial development. Almost all environmentalists in India oppose industrial development. But I always support the industrial development. He congratulated Project Proponent for deciding the expansion. He said for environment protection and safety, he desires to give few suggestions: -</p> <p>a) He said that Environment Consultant of the project has carried the survey of the periphery of the project of water, air and soil. It is good.</p> <p>b) Shri Sunanda Reddy requested to study the health status, crop pattern and present status of the ground water of the 10 k.m. radius. Prepare the report. It will help for keeping environment balancing study.</p> <p>c) Shri Reddy informed that he supports the project and emailed suggestions to MPCB. He said that he will again send the suggestions by email to local MPCB office;</p> <p>d) He suggested to make Safety &amp; Environment Protection Rules;</p> <p>e) Shri Reddy congratulated Environment Consultant for preparing the EIA report in a right manner.</p> <p>f) Shri Reddy also suggested Environment Public Hearing Committee to recommend the project to MoEFCC, Govt. of India for grant of permission.</p>	<p>Suggestions are noted.</p>

Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee again appealed Online Participants to raise their suggestions, objections if any.

There was no response from the participants. At that time, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that as there is no response, it is presumed that there are no questions from the participants. He requested Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting.

While concluding the meeting, Chairperson remarked that the suggestions, objections raised by the participants during the meeting are nicely answered by the Environment Consultant. It is noted. Now, the nobody desire to raise the issue. But if anybody desires the same, it can be sent on the email of MPCB Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I. It can be included in the minutes of the meeting. Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that for the Online Meeting, total 78 persons were connected. The 13 people raised their suggestions, objections.



Chairperson of the meeting asked details of Corporate Environment Responsibility Fund. She remarked that after obtaining prior approval from the District Collector only, it is desired to utilise the CER Fund. Still Environment Consultant has referred 2% as per the circular of 2018. Hence, answer should be given on it.

At this moment, Environment Consultant has started to give the information regarding CSR Fund. Chairperson directed to give detailed information regarding CER only.

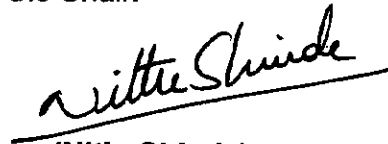
Environment Consultant's informed that as per the Notification of May, 2018 regarding CER, certain guidelines were issued and as per guidelines, after conducting the public hearing, the demand made in the meeting should be considered. The provision should be made accordingly. Hence, as per the guidelines, the Corporate Environment Responsibility Fund will be spent. Chairperson of the meeting remarked that CER draft should have been made available in this meeting. Hence, the information should be shared. Environment Consultant promised to do the same.

Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed thanks to project officers, environment consultant and Online participants who have joined this meeting and declared that the meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



**(Pratap Jagtap)**  
Convener,  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
Sub Regional Officer,  
Pune – I,  
MPCB, Pune



**(Nitin Shinde)**  
Member  
Environment Public Hearing  
Committee  
And  
I/c. Regional Officer,  
MPCB, Pune



**(Dr. Jayashree Katare)**  
Chairperson,  
Environment Public Hearing Committee  
And  
Additional District Magistrate, Pune  
District – Pune