

MINUTES OF THE ONLINE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF SANCTIONED MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY UNIT FROM 45.0 KLPD TO 95.0 KLPD PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S BHIMASHANKAR SAHAKARI SAKAHR KARKHANA LTD., (BSSKL), AT – DATTATRAYANAGAR, POST – PARGAON VIA AWASARI BK, TAL- AMBEGAON, DIST – PUNE.

The online Public Hearing for proposed expansion of sanctioned Molasses Based Distillery Unit from 45.0 KLPD to 95.0 KLPD proposed by Project Proponent M/s Bhimashankar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., (BSSKL), At – Dattatrayanagar, Post – Pargaon Via Awasari BK, Tal-Ambegaon, Dist – Pune was conducted on dated 15th July, 2021 at Collector Office, Pune at 12.00 noon.

As per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification dated 14th September, 2006 as issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Govt. of India (GoI), New Delhi and subsequent amendment on date 01-12-2019, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board vide Office Order No. E-48 of 2021 under letter no.BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-210629/FTS-0237, Dated 29-06-2021 has constituted following Environment

Public Hearing Committee: -

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

Shri Nitin Shinde, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune-2, Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Dr. Jayashree Katare, Additional District Magistrate, Pune and Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, officials of the Collector Office who handled online system, government officials, NGOs working in the field of environment, journalists and online participants who were present in large number 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. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai was in receipt of application of M/s Bhimashankar Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., (BSSKL), at Dattatrayanagar, Post – Pargaon Via Awasari BK, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist. – Pune for proposed expansion of sanctioned Molasses Based Distillery Unit from 45.0 KLPD to 95.0 KLPD at the existing site of the industry. Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that though Project Proponent has obtained Environment Clearance for the 45.0 KLPD Distillery unit, the project is not still commissioned. Meanwhile, cultivation of sugarcane crop has increased, hence the crushing capacity of the factory is also increased. Hence, considering the availability of additional molasses and increased demand in the market, the factory management has planned to commission the increased capacity of sanctioned distillery from 45.0 KLPD to 95.0 KLPD.

The Convener further informed that, as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A 5 (g). 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 for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and MoEFCC, GoI, New Delhi considered the project and given online approval on dated 24.12.2020.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published in the local newspaper in Daily Loksatta for Marathi and in national newspaper Daily Indian Express for English on dated 10-06-2021 The public were appealed to send their

suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the sanctioned molasses-based distillery 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, Pune; Additional District Magistrate Office, Pune; Zilla Parishad Office, Pune; District Industries Centre Office, Pune; Tahsildar Office- Ghodegaon, Tal-Ambegaon, Dist, Pune; Grampanchayat office at Pargaon via Awasari BK, Tal-Ambegaon, Dist- Pune; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Pune-2; Regional Office, MPCB, Pune and Head Office of MPCB at Mumbai, Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai and on MPCB website. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed Distillery expansion. The Convener further informed that written suggestions are received by local MPCB Office through E-mail. He appealed Chairperson of the Committee to allow to start the proceedings.

Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that public notice was published on dated 10th June, 2021. It is also informed that on site Public Hearing will be conducted at project site with Covid-19 guidelines and if there is lock down/restrictions the Public Hearing meeting will be held online, for which link

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87377274183?pwd=OHRiUnR3Q2pXQjRSYithdTJRWXZRZz09>) was made available in the public notice.

District Administration directed to conduct online meeting considering the pandemic situation, hence online meeting is arranged.

With the permission of the Hon'ble Chairperson of the Public Hearing Committee, Project Environment Consultant gave the presentation on Environment Management Plan of the project.

Environment Consultant informed the total cost for the proposed increase in the capacity of distillery will be Rupees 8293 lakh. The capital cost for the Environment Management will be Rupees 1348 lakh. Environment Consultant gave the detailed information of Environment Management Plan.

After the presentation, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their suggestions, objections regarding Environment Management Plan of the project.

FOLLOWINGS HAVE PARTICIPATED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS, QUESTIONS AND ANSWER GIVEN BY PROJECT PROPONENT :-

- 1) **Shri Vaibhav Sahebrao Badhekar, Residence – Jarkarwadi, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	I am staying at Jadhavwadi. My village is 5.0 k.m. from the project. How the air pollution will be prevented from the project?	The main source of air pollution is stack/chimney attached to the boiler. Hence, we are installing 60 meters height of chimney to the boiler. The most advanced devices like wet scrubber or ESP (Electro Static Precipitator) will be provided to it, due to which 80-85% of smoke will be prevented. Hence, there will not any ill-effects on the surrounding areas.

- 2) **Sou. Sujata Rithe, Sarpanch, Nagapur, Tal -Ambegaon, Dist – Pune :-**

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	My village is just 5.0 kilometre from the project. What will be the main source of water pollution in the project?	The main components of water pollution in the project are spent wash, spent lease and condensate. The treatment will be given in the factory premises only. Not a drop of treated effluent will be discharged outside the factory. The treated effluent will be concentrated and the quantity of it will be minimised and then it will be used as fuel in the Incineration Boiler. Hence, the treated effluent will not go outside the factory. This project is ZLD i.e. Zero Liquid Discharge Project.

3) Shri Navnath Rajaram Mehetre, Residence – Shingave Pargaon, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist-Pune:-

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	I am staying from 3.5 – 4.0 kilometre away from the factory. Due to this expansion of the project, whether local people will get job opportunities?	There are job opportunities in the new distillery project. There will be requirement of 99 persons in the plant. Local people will be given opportunity in the job.

4) Mrs.Savita Ubale, Grampanchayat Member, Ranjani, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist – Pune:-

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	Which solid waste will be generated from this Distillery Plant?	The ash will be produced. It will be from bagasse and spent wash. The ash will also be produced from sugarcane, small bagasse in which potassium is in large quantity. As it is useful for agriculture, it will be made available to the farmers to use as fertiliser.

5) Shri Balasaheb Labade, Residence – Pargaon Via Avasari Budruk, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist-Pune:-

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	Whether the smoke coming out of the factory will affect the health of the people?	No smoke will be emitted from the factory which will affect the health of the people. The fuel which will be used for boiler is bagasse from the factory. Basically, spent wash is not at all harmful. After burning of spent wash, the produced ash will be used in the agriculture fields as contains of potassium is large in it. The most modern devices i.e. Wet Scrubber or ESP (Electro Static Precipitator) will be installed due to which 85-90% smoke will be controlled. Hence generation of smoke will be very meagre. There will not be any ill-effects on the health of the people residing near the vicinity of the plant.

6) Shri Santosh Walse Patil, Residence – Nirgudsar, Tal – Ambegaon, Dist-Pune:-

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	How will the solid waste from the project will be disposed off?	The ash which will be generated from the boiler in the form of solid waste. The ash will be potash-rich and it will be made available to local farmers for use in agriculture fields.

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

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/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 environmentalist in India opposes 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. It will help for keeping environment balancing study.</p> <p>c) Shri Reddy informed that he supported the project and written objections raised by him</p>	<p>Suggestions are noted.</p>

	<p>are informed. He said that he will again sent the suggestions by email to local MPCB office.</p> <p>d) He suggested to make Safety & Environment Protection Rules.</p> <p>e) Shri Reddy congratulated Environment Consultant for preparing the EIA report in a right manner.</p> <p>f) He suggested to undertake in hand the programme of avenue plantation with green belt development in nearby villages.</p> <p>g) Shri Reddy also suggested Environment Public Hearing Committee to recommend MoEFCC, Govt. of India to give unconditional permission.</p>	
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At this moment, Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all online participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections if any.

**8) Shri Ujjawala Vavhal, Member, Grampanchayat, Shingave,
Tal – Ambegaon, Dist – Pune:-**

Sr. No.	Objection/Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	I am staying 2.5-3 k.m. away from the factory. My question is which steps will be initiated to minimise the water pollution?	The main components which create water pollution from the factory are spent wash, spent lease and condensate. It will be treated in the factory only. The treated effluent will be concentrated and the quantity of it will be minimized and it will be burnt in the Incineration Boiler as fuel. The spent lease and condensate are the polluted components which will be treated in R.O. system or in CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) which will be installed in the project. After treatment in RO system or in CPU, the water will be recycled and reused in the process. There will not be any generation of any effluent outside the factory.

While concluding the meeting, Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that this meeting is started on 12.00 noon and many online participants have raised their suggestions. The suggestions, views, objections have been noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. She further appealed online participants to raise their views if any. It will be noted. There was no response from the participants.

Then Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the opinion that if anybody might have faced difficulty to handle the online connection or there may be few persons who desired to raise their views by mail, they can send it on local MPCB office. The suggestions, objections raised by email will also be noted and it will be sent to Government for further action. She informed Convener of the meeting to make available the email id. She said that she is giving few time if anybody desires to raise any question, if there is no question, then the meeting will be concluded. As there was no response, she asked Member, Convener of the meeting to conclude the meeting.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee while appealing to raise any doubts, questions informed that while publishing public notice in news and making available all the relevant documents i.e. executive summary in Marathi, English at notified government offices, grampanchayat offices, E-mail id is made available on the covering letter. If anybody types just MPCB on Google, the website address gets. For information to all, Convener of the meeting orally informed the mail address as -

a) sropune2@mpcb.gov.in;

b) ropune@mpcb.gov.in

Convener informed to send views, suggestions of any on above referred addresses.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee expressed the opinion that more than enough time is given to participants to raise their views. As there is no response, it seems that there is no questions. Hence, the Public Hearing is concluded. Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee thanks Chairperson of the meeting, Government Officials, the officials who handled the online system at District Collector Office, Project Officials, NGOs working in the field of environment and on behalf of Chairperson of the meeting, declared that meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



(Nitin Shinde),
Convener, Member,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Sub- Regional Officer, Pune-2,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board
Pune



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