

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF EXISTING MOLASSES BASED DISTILLEY UNIT FROM 75.0 KLPD TO 150.0 KLPD CAPACITY PROPOSED BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S RAJARAM BAPU PATIL SAHAKARI SAKHAR KARKHANA LIMITED, POST - SAKHARALE, TALUKA - WALWA, DIST- SANGLI, MAHARASHTRA.

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion of existing Molasses Based Distillery Unit from 75.0 KLPD To 150.0 KLPD Capacity proposed by Project Proponent M/s Rajarambapu Patil Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, Post - Sakharale, Taluka - Walwa, Dist- Sangli, Maharashtra was conducted on 08th July, 2021 at the site of the said factory at 12.30 noon.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC, Gol), 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-50 of 2021 under letter No. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B-2107010-FTS-0149, dated 1st July, 2021:-

- 1) Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, (IAS) - **Chairman**
Collector & District Magistrate - Sangli,
- 2) Shri Ravindra Andhale - **Member**
Regional Officer,
M.P.C.Board, Kolhapur
- 3) Shri.Navnath S. Awatade, - **Convener**
Sub Regional Officer,
M.P.C. Board, Sangli

While starting the meeting, Chairman of the Project Proponent welcomed all for attending the public hearing for expansion of the production capacity. He gave detailed information regarding expansion of the project and said that this project is "Zero Liquid Discharge" project.

Shri.Navnath S. Awatade, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Sangli, Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the background of Covid-19. Hence, it is requested to

all participants to follow strict guidelines of Govt. of India. 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.

Shri.Navnath S. Awatade, Convener of the Public Hearing Meeting welcomed Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, IAS, District Magistrate and Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Shri Ravindra Andhale, Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Company Officials, NGOs, and 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. 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. MPCB was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Rajaram Babu Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, At Post- Sakharale, Taluka - Walwa, Dist- Sangli, Maharashtra for proposed expansion of molasses based distillery unit from 75.0 KLPD To 150.0 KLPD Capacity.

The Convener further informed that this project is established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A5 (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 obtained Terms of Reference (ToR) & accordingly submitted the EIA report.

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 issued 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 MPCB Sangli Office in the Local Newspapers in Daily "Sakal" for Marathi and in National newspaper daily "The Times of India" for English on

08/06/2021. The public were appealed to send their suggestions, views, doubts or objections regarding the proposed 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, Sangli; Zilla Parishad Office, Sangli; District Industries Centre Office, Sangli; Tahsildar Office- Walwa, Dist, Sangli; Chief Officer, Islampur Municipal Council, Islampur, Tal-Walwa, Dist-Sangli; The Gram Sevak, Grampanchayat offices at Sakharale, Borgaon, Hubalwadi, Kapuskhed, Pharnewadi, Bahe, Tal- Walwa, 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, 15th Floor, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai and on the website of MPCB Mumbai. The public in general were appealed to send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed expansion of the distillery project. The Convener further informed that not a single objection/complaint is received by local MPCB Office, Sangli.

Convener Shri. Awatade requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings & with permission of Hon'ble Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, the Project Environment Consultant gave detailed presentation on Environment Management Plant (EMP) of the project.

Environment Consultant informed that the cost of the proposed project is of Rupees 11,589.09 lakh.lakh and as per the directives of the Govt. of India, the Distillery unit will be Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD). After expansion of the project, 50 persons will get job opportunity in the plant. He gave all the information of Pollution Control Devices.

After the presentation, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee remarked that Environment Consultant has given very detailed presentation and all the aspects of environment and steps to control pollution explained. He appealed the participants to raise their doubts, suggestions and objections in environmental angle of the proposed project.

Following participants have participated during the discussions and answers given by Project Environment Consultant / Project Proponent / Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

1) Shri Vinod Rajaram Babar, Residence – Post -Sakharale, Tal – Walwa, Dist – Sangli:-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	Will this project reduce or increase employment generation?	General Manager of the Project Proponent answered that there will be job opportunities after the expansion of the project. He informed that as shown in the presentation, 50 persons can get job opportunities in the expanded project.

2) Shri Avinash Adhikrao Patil, Residence – Post – Sakharale, Tal – Walwa, Dist – Sangli

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	How will this project benefit the local people?	General Manager of the Project Proponent answered that due to expansion of the project, the local people will get number of benefits. The sale of Ethanol, will help to give additional rate for the sugarcane crops to local farmers. There will be requirement of extra tankers for carrying Ethanol, it will be taken from the local transporters only. Hence there will be increase in local business activities. These are benefits of the project.

3) Shri.Sadguru Balasaheb Chaugule, Residence – Post Sakharale, Tal – Walwa, Dist – Sangli :-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	Due to expansion of the project, how much air pollution will cause and what will be ill-effects of air pollution on the people, who are residing in the vicinity?	Project Environment Consultant informed that as shown in the Presentation, two different types of boilers will be installed and operated in the project. The main source of air pollution in the

		<p>plant is Incineration Boiler. The ESP (Electro Static Precipitator) will be installed to it to arrest the dust particles. The ESP is most advanced devices which gives 99% efficiency. Hence, the air pollution will be minimised.</p> <p>Also, while using sugarcane juice, there will not be burning of coal in the plant. The bagasse which is produced from the sugar factory will be used. The wet scrubber will be commissioned for control of air pollution. It also gives more than 97% efficiency. Hence, there may be very less threat of pollution.</p>
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4) Shri Rajendra Jaysingrao Patil, Residence – Post -Sakharale, Tal – Walwa, Dist – Sangli :-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	How the waste water produced in the project will be disposed of?	<p>There will be generation of two types of waste water. One is Spent Wash. When the spent wash will be produced after the Ethanol, it will be steamed/vaporised. The water will be created due to steam will be recycled and reused in the production activities. The remaining spent wash will be converted to achieve 60% solids, which will be burnt in the Incineration Boiler.</p> <p>When the sugarcane juice will be used, the spent wash which will produced will be converted into steam/vapor. The water will be removed through it and spent wash will be converted into powder form. Before converting it into powder form, the system of bio-gas will be installed and operated. Due to production of Renewal Energy, the bagasse will be saved. The potassium quantity in the powder form of spent wash is higher,</p> <p>Hence, most of the fertiliser producing factories do purchase it as their raw material.</p>

5) Shri Sachin Ramchandra Patil, Residence – Islampur, Tal-Walwa, Dist – Sangli:-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/Question	Answer
1)	How much cost will be incurred for this project and what is planning of factory management for getting the funds?	Managing Director of the Project Proponent answered that the basic cost will be Rupees 118 crores 86 lakhs. The GST will be Rupees 18 Crores 85 lakhs. The total cost of the project will be 137 crores 71 lakh. 90% financial provisions will be made from Financial Institutes and 10% self-contribution. Rupees 65/- crores have been sanctioned by District Central Bank, Sangli. For remaining amount, loan application is submitted to State Bank of India. The proposal is in process of sanction. The 10% self-share is available with the karkhana.

6) Shri Sarjerao Narayan Deshmukh, Resident – ParnerBorgaon, Tal – Walwa, Dist-Sangli, Member:-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/ Questionn	Answer
1)	We are thankful to District Collector, Sangli; MPCB and factorymanagement for arranging this public hearing before the expansion of the project. We congratulate Chairman of the RajaramBapuSahakariSakhar Karkhana Ltd., Considering the present rate of sugarcane, agriculture cultivation is not at all affordable. Hence, due to this project, the local farmers will get additional income. The project proponent is carrying all the social welfare schemes since last 50 years and interest of the Members and Farmers is always protected. Hence, with the expansion of the project, the heirs/sons of the farmers residing in the vicinity of the project be given job opportunities in the plant. I am giving this suggestion. The project should be started at the earliest.	The suggestion is noted.

7) Shri Baburao Nivrutti Patil, Residence – Post – Sakharale, Tal – Walwa, Dist – Sangli:-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	<p>The cultivation of agriculture is main business in the area. Afterwards, cultivation of sugarcane crops and manufacture of sugar industries were established here. Then only, living standards and economic status have raised. We always demand to Board of Directors that our sugarcane crop should get a rate based on the product.</p> <p>But considering the present situation, this is not possible. Hence planning of expansion of the distillery unit is definitely a good decision. This project is Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) and hence there will not be any pollution. The spent wash will be burnt in the factory only. Hence, we agriculturists support the project.</p>	The suggestion is noted.

8) Shri PradipTanajirao Chavan, Residence – At Post - Nave Khed, Tal – Walwa, Dist-Sangli:-

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	<p>The presentation made by Vasantdada Institute shows that the expansion of the project is for the interest of the agriculturists. Due to expansion of the project, 50 persons will get job opportunities. Also due to production of Ethanol and 20% use of it in the petrol as per directives of Central Government, the additional income will be beneficial for giving additional rate to the farmers for sugarcane crop.</p>	The Suggestion is noted.

	<p>This factory has undertaken in hand various social welfare development projects since last 50 years. The sugar factory has lion's share for development of Walwa Taluka. I inform here that we have no objection for this project.</p>	
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9) Shri Ravindra Andhale, Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee.

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	<p>In the project, M.E.E. (Multi-Effective Evaporator) is commissioned and also Spray Dryer. Where both have the same purpose, then what is the reason for these two things?</p>	<p>Project Consultant informed that three types of raw materials will be used in the project. C Heavy molasses, B Heavy molasses and sugarcane juice. When C Heavy and B Heavy molasses will be used, the spent wash from it contains the solids more than 10-12%. So, after evaporation, we are going to send it to the incineration.</p> <p>The spent wash produced from the sugarcane juice, it will be of 3.0 litre for per litre Ethanol. The contains of solids will be 5-6%. For converting it upto 60%, the power which will require, there is bi-methinization plant. Hence, the purpose is to use infra-structure facilities which are available in the plant, the potash in the powder form of the spent wash will be used for the manufacture of manure.</p>

10) Shri Navnath S. Awatade, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee

Sr.No.	Objection/ Suggestion/ Question	Answer
1)	<p>As asked by Member, Environment Public Hearing, which will be kept in operation? Whether incineration boiler or Dryer? You have provided separate evaporation unit for B & C molasses. You mentioned that while using sugarcane juice, you have provided evaporation followed by dryer.</p>	<p>When the B & C root will be used, at this time one root will go to incineration. When the sugarcane juice will be used, then evaporation, afterwards biogas and then evaporation, then it will be converted into powder.</p> <p>The two roots will be used for ZLD as per the raw materials. However, the main purpose of both the processes is Zero Liquid Discharge.</p>

Whether all these units will be installed or whether you have any other plan?	There will not be any type of water generation outside the project.
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Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise their suggestions, objections if any. There was no response from the participants.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee requested Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee to express his views.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee while concluding the meeting informed that today this public hearing is called for expansion of molasses project from 75.0 KLPD to 150.0 KLPD of Rajarambapu Patil Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited.

As this project requires obtaining Environment Clearance, prior public consultation is mandatory as per the directives of Environment Impact Assessment Notification, hence this meeting is arranged. The Environment & Technical Consultant has given detailed technical presentation. The information regarding Environment Management Plan (EMP) is given to avoid the pollution in future. The participants have raised their suggestions, objections, views. The main purpose of this Public Hearing is to make aware the public regarding environmental and technical aspects of the project and inform the benefits of the project. This purpose is fulfilled in this meeting. In the public hearing, it is not expected that Chairman of the Committee should raise his/her suggestion or objection. It should be raised by the PAPs (Project Affected Persons) and people residing in the vicinity. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared and it will be submitted to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department, Govt. of India, New Delhi through Head Office of MPCB.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee opined that the public hearing is conducted in a very proper and amicable manner, for which MPCB and Project Proponent has taken efforts. He congratulated MPCB and officials of the project for taking efforts and declared that the public hearing is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair. In the meeting the Grampanchayat offices of Sakharale, Bahe and Hugalwadi has submitted their written statement to Chairman of the Environment Public

Hearing Committee. Finally convener of public hearing thanked the Hon'ble Chairman, Member of committee, audience, technical consultant & office bearers of the factory for extending their full cooperation for compilation of today's public hearing & with the permission of Hon'ble Chairman, the said public hearing was declared over.

The procedure of public hearing has started at 12.30 noon and ended to 02.15 pm.

(Navanath Awatade)
Convener
And Sub Regional Officer,
M.P.C. Board, Sangli

(Ravindra Andhale)
Member
And Regional Officer,
M.P.C. Board Kolhapur

(Dr. Abhijeet Chaudhari, IAS)
Chairman
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Collector & District Magistrate, Sangli.