

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION IN EXISTING UNIT OF M/S. PARAG AGRO FOODS & ALLIED PRODUCTS PVT. LTD. - SUGAR CAPACITY FROM 4,500.0 TCD TO 7,500.0 TCD, CO-GEN POWER FROM 14.0 MW TO 22.0 MW AND PROPOSED DISTILLERY/ETHANOL PRODUCTION – FROM 45.0 KLPD TO 100.0 KLPD BY M/s. PARAG AGRO FOODS & ALLIED PRODUCTS PVT. LTD. RAVEDEWADI, TAL -SHIRUR, DIST -PUNE, MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S PARAG AGRO FOODS & ALLIED PRODUCTS PVT. LTD. (PAFAPPL)

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion in existing unit of Sugar Capacity from 4,500.0 TCD to 7,500.0 TCD; Co-Gen Power from 14.0 MW to 22.0 MW and proposed Distillery/Ethanol Production from 45.0 KLPD to 100.0 KLPD at Ravedewadi, Tal – Shirur, Dist – Pune, Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s. Parag Agro Foods & Allied Products Private Limited (PAFAPPL) was conducted on Wednesday, the 29th September, 2021 at the site of the said industry at 12.00 noon.

As per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEFCC,

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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- 84 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 210916 -FTS-095, dated 16th September, 2021:-

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-II **Convener**
MPCB, Pune

At first Shri. Pratap Jagtap, Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune, as Member and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that this Public Hearing is called in the epidemic situation of Covid-19, hence, it is requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines dtd. 14/09/2020 of Govt. of India. As per the guidelines, only 100

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persons are allowed in a session. If the participants are more, then remaining will be allowed in next session. The sessions will continue till all the participants are given opportunity to attend the Public Hearing. The thermal checking of all participants done and use of sanitizer which made compulsory is kept at the entrance of the pandol and also made compulsory to wear a mask and follow the social distancing amongst the persons in the meeting hall.

Shri. Pratap Jagtap, Sub Regional Officer, Pune-I, MPCB, Pune, Member & Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri. Himmat Kharade, Additional District Magistrate, Pune and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and local people / participants who were present at site. Further it is 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.

Maharashtra Pollution Control Board is in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s. Parag Agro Foods & Allied

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Products Private Limited (PAFAPPL), Ravedewadi, Tal – Shirur, Dist – Pune, Maharashtra, for their proposed expansion in existing unit of Sugar Capacity from 4,500.0 TCD to 7,500.0 TCD; Co-Gen Power from 14.0 MW to 22.0 MW and proposed Distillery/Ethanol Production from 45.0 KLPD to 100.0 KLPD.

The Convener further informed that this existing project is established outside the Industrial Zone and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A 1 (d), 5 (j) and 5 (g), which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai, for which prior environmental consultation is mandatory.

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 along with pre-feasibility report to the State Appraisal Committee for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies

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and Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Maharashtra has considered the project and given online approval on 1st April, 2021.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Pune II in the Local Newspaper in Daily Loksatta for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily Indian Express for English on 27-08-2021. 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 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- Shirur, Tahsil Office – Shirur, District – Pune; Grampanchayat office at Ravadewadi, Tal – Shirur, Dist – Pune; Sub Regional Office, Pune-II, MPCB, Pune; Regional Office, MPCB, Pune 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. The public in general were appealed to

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send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed new distillery 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.

Shri Pratap Jagtap, Member, Convener requested Chairman of the Public Hearing Committee to start the proceedings.

With the permission of Chairman, Project Environment Consultant gave geographical location of the proposed unit, proposed impact on the environment due to proposed project and details of Environment Management Plan of the proposed unit.

Environment Consultant informed that Project Proponent has reserved total fund for Environment Management Plan of Rs. 1,085.0 lakh and for their annual maintenance, Rs. 74.25 lakhs are reserved. This proposed Distillery Project is ZLD i.e. Zero Liquid Discharge Project (The most advance technology of Electro Static Precipitator will be installed in the project for the control of air pollution. Due to this expansion of the project, local people will get job opportunities and there will be tremendous increase in the local business).



After presentations, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding propose / plant in environmental angle only.

Following persons have taken part in the discussions and the answers given by Project Environment Consultant / Project Proponent / Environment Public Hearing Committee:-

1) Shri Pravin Ananda Pawar, Residence-Aamdabad, Tal – Shirur, Dist – Pune :-

I am farmer and do farming in this area. My sugarcane crop is also delivered in this project. I request to reduce the severity of the pollution caused by the proposed expansion of the distillery project. The pollution may be of water or air, so all the pollution control devices should be kept in operation effectively. I support the expansion of the project and my village is 8.0 k.m. away from the project site.

2) Shri Popat Baban Rohile, Residence At - Rohilewadi Post – Kawathe Yamai, Tal – Shirur, Dist -Pune:-

When this project will be commissioned?

The Managing Director of the Project Proponent answered that part distillery project will be commissioned in this year and reaming proposed expansion will be commissioned in

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next year. The total expansion will be in operation in next 1-2 years.

3) Shri Yogesh Mohanrao Thorat, Residence – At Post – Aamdabad, Tal -Shirur, Dist-Pune -

My village is 8.0 k.m. away from the project site. How the local farmers will be benefited from this expansion of project? Will it raise the economic status of farmers?

Managing Director of the Project Proponent informed that from either Distillery project or co-gen project, it will help to improve the economic condition of the factory, which will enable project proponent to pay higher prices for sugarcane to the farmers. Many social welfare schemes were implemented under the CSR fund in the area. This can be continued in future also.

4) Shri Santosh Mhatarba Gaikwad, Residence – Pimparkhed, Tal – Shirur, Dist – Pune :-

Due to expansion of the project, the industrial effluent will be generate. Hence, what measures have been taken to control the pollution?

Project Environment Consultant answered that due to expansion of project the trade effluent which will be generated will be treated and reused for the green belt development. The

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proposed Distillery Unit will be ZLD i.e. Zero Liquid Discharge project. Not a drop of treated effluent will be discharged to the outside of factory. The spent wash which will be generated in the Distillery unit will be treated in MEE (Multi Effective Evaporator) and it will converted into steam. The water will be treated in CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit) The treated water will be recycled and reused in the distillery unit (and remaining solids will be burnt in the boiler).

5) Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalists, President, Paryawaran Parirakshana Sanstha, Shivajinagar, Nalgonda District, Telangana State:-

I congratulate project proponent for taking in hand the expansion of the project. I am the first Environmentalist, who supports the project. In India, most of the Environmentalists do oppose the project, but I support the projects. As per my opinion, unemployment is major pollution in the society. In India, there are 40 crores unemployed boys and girls in the age of 18 to 35. It is essential to get job opportunities to them. Everybody will not get government jobs. Many environmentalists blame industries for the health issues. But 85% of Indian are not staying near the project. He support the project with following suggestions:-

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Environment Consultant has carried out the survey in 10 k.m. radius of the project. We congratulate for it. My suggestion that survey of health and education also be carried in the distance of 10 k.m. of the project.

Project Proponent should carry the ground water survey of 10 k.m. radius from the project. I suggests that the water storage tanks shall be built to save the rain water and the stored rain water be used for the process. The avenue plantation be carried on the roads of the area. It will protect from the dust pollution.

I would also like to suggest that while carrying green belt development in the nearby villages, fruit bearing plants and medicinal plants be cultivated. The skill development programme should be implemented in the nearby villages for young boys and girls. Due to which, local locals will get job opportunities in this and in other projects.

A Co-ordination Committee should be constituted to implement various schemes under CSR Fund in which company officials, officials of Government Departments, Local Representatives be included.

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Please do conduct Health Camps in the scheduled time. Also Immunity Safety Programme should be implemented.

I request Environment Public Hearing Committee to give unconditional sanction and recommend it to MoEF & CC. He also submit his written suggestions to company.

6) Shri A, Venkatesh Reddy, NGO:-

The Projects are backbone of the nation. Due to various projects, the Government gets the revenue. Only projects should not be treated for pollution, there are other factors also. He has given few suggestions for the control of pollution -

Project should be kept neat. Most advanced technology should be installed and operated, local people should be given job opportunities. The project should be sanctioned immediately.

7) Shri. Sundarshan, NGO:-

While supporting the project, he suggested that Bal Kamgar/Child Labour should not be allowed for workings. Local people should be given job opportunities. CSR fund



should be spent on the basic education. Safety and security system be provided in the factory. We support the project.

8) Shri H. Madhubabu, Samajik Prayavaran Karkyakarta, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society, Hyderabad:-

He support the project & requested to consider writing suggestions. He submitted writing suggestions to the Committee.

At last once again Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed expansion of the project. There was no response from the participants.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed in the meeting that in this public hearing of expansion of the project M/s. Parag Agro, the people residing at 10 k.m. radius are present. They have raised their suggestions and objections regarding the project. The 13 writing suggestions have been received to the Environment Public Hearing Committee. The writing suggestions alongwith minutes of the meeting will be submitted to Government for

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further necessary action. He thanked all for attending the meeting.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee on behalf of Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the Public Hearing is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

The writing suggestions 14 received in the meeting are enclosed.



(Pratap Jagtap),
Member, Convener,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer,
Pune – 1, MPCB, Pune



(Himmat Kharade)
Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate,
Pune, Dist. – Pune