

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION IN EXISTING UNIT OF CL, SG & STEEL CASTINGS FROM 28,800.0 TPA TO 60,000.0 TPA AT PLOT No.C-18, FIVE STAR MIDC, KAGAL, TAL - KAGAL, DIST – KOLHAPUR (416 216) , MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SYNERGY GREEN INDUSTRIES LTD., (SGIL),

The Public Hearing for proposed expansion in existing unit of CL, SG & Steel Castings from 28,800.0 TPA to 60,000.0 TPA at Plot No.C-18, Five Star MIDC, Kagal, Tal – Kagal,, Dist – Kolhapur (416 216), Maharashtra by Project Proponent M/s Synergy Green Industries Ltd (SGIL), was conducted on Saturday, the 09th October, 2021 at the site of the said industry at 11.30 a.m.

District Collector, Kolhapur approved the date of public hearing on Saturday, the 09th October, 2021 and as per the Notification dated 14-09-2006 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, (MoEF & CC, GoI), 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- 87 of 2021 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 210930-FTS-0125, , dated 30th September, 2021:-

- 1) District Magistrate-Kolhapur
or his representative not below
the rank of an Additional District
Magistrate

Chairman

2) Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolapur
(Representative of Maharashtra
Pollution Control Board)

Member

3) Sub Regional Officer,
MPCB, Kolhapur

Convener

Shri Pramod Mane, Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Shankarrao Jadhav, Additional District Magistrate, Kolhapur and Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri Ravindra Andhale, In-charge Regional Officer, MPCB, Kolhapur and Member of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists and Company Officials and local people/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. MoEF & CC, Gol) 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.

Convener of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all and informed that the meeting is called in the prevailing situation of Covid-19 pandemic. Hence, it is requested all the participants to follow strict guidelines as issued by Govt. of India and Govt. of Maharashtra from time to time. Also, He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Synergy Green Industries Ltd. (SGIL), Plot No.C-18, Five Star MIDC, Kagal, Tal – Kagal,, Dist – Kolhapur (416 216), Maharashtra for their proposed expansion in existing unit of CL, SG & Steel Castings from 28,800.0 TPA to 60,000.0 TPA

The Convener further informed that this existing project and as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category B 3 (a), 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 Environment Assessment Committee-I, Environment & Climate Change Department, New Administrative Building, Mantralaya, Mumbai for Terms of Reference (ToR) for conduct of EIA studies and it has been considered and given online approval on 26-11-2020.

As per said Notification, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Kolhapur in the Local Newspaper in Daily Pudhari for Marathi and in National Newspaper daily The Times of India for English on 08th September, 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. District Magistrate Office, Kolhapur; Additional District Magistrate Office, Kolhapur; Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad Office, Kolhapur; General Manager, District Industries Centre Office, Kolhapur; Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, West Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001; The Chief Officer, Hupari Nagarparishad. Hupari, Dist – Kolhapur; Tahasildar, Tahsildar Office-

Hatkanangale, Kagal & Karveer, District – Kolhapur; The Gram Vikas Adhikari, Grampanchayat office, Talandage/Pattan Kodoli/Kasaba Sangaon/Rui/Halsawade/Sangawade, Dist – Kolhapur; Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Kolhapur; Regional Office, MPCB, Kolhapur 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 send any suggestion or objection regarding the proposed new distillery project. Also, 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.

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 ear-marked capital cost of Rupees 635 lakh and for maintenance of pollution control devices Rupees 70 lakhs.

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

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise views, suggestions or objections regarding proposed project in environmental angle only in brief. While raising it, first name and name of the village should be informed.

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

1) Shri Tanaji Anantrao Kotare, Residence-Talandage, Tal - Hatkanangale, Dist - Kolhapur :-

My agriculture fields are just 8-10 kilometer from this project site. A stack/chimney is installed in this project, due to which the dust generated through the chimney do fall on our crops in our fields, orchard, due to which the pollution has increased and the disease has started to increase. What steps will be taken in this regard?

Dr. Prashant Banne, Technical Advisor of the project informed that stacks have been erected in the project which is in operation. It has been provided with casstee type dust collector. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) has specified the norms of 150 Nm³ for dust emission. Our dust emission is less than the specified norms. After expansion of the project, three more stacks/chimneys will be installed connecting casstee type dust collector to it. Prior permission for it will be obtained.

Here Shri Kotare blamed that pollution control devices are not operated efficiently in the plant. The pollution control system is just on the paper. Here in this Kagal Five Star MIDC, the dust falls on our house and also on our crops. If anybody desires to see, we can go there after this meeting.

At this time, the project consultant remarked that it was not just our company that was responsible for the issue.

At this moment, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested Project Consultant that whatever pollution control system which will be operated and there will not any emission dust. Also, if there is any mishap/accident, there should proper adequate system to avoid it.

Environment Consultant answered that the dust emissions will be less than the specified norms as prescribed by the MPCB. Also, the adequate height of the stack/chimney will be provided after connecting casstee type dust collector to stack, there will be dust emissions of 30-40 microns. Here, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Meeting opined that a simple question is asked by the local person is that if for some unavoidable reasons, the pollution control system becomes inactive and emits dust, what will you do?

Project Consultant answered that Online Monitoring System will be installed and operated as per the directives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB). Convener here informed in the meeting that the directives have been already issued to Project Proponent that if at all there is dust emissions, then the Project Proponent will stop its manufacturing activities.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee here remarked that public hearing means taking note of all the questions and answers asked by the participants in the meeting and to submit all those matters to the Government along with the minutes. It is obligatory to Project Proponent to initiate all the preventive steps which suites technically. If the farmer feels that ordinary farmers in the area will be affected, he will not be able to go to the MPCB office every time. It should not happen that farmer to give up his farm work and ask for the Justice. So, whatever most advanced pollution control system is available, it should be installed and operated. There should be co-ordination with the locals.

Project Environment Officer explained that if at all there is any accident/mishap, locals will be informed and the production process at the project will be shut down immediately.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that Project Proponent will not be allowed to start production until the entire pollution control system is made operational.

2) Shri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Chairman, Paryavaran Parirashana Sanstha, Shivajinagr, Nalgonda District, Telangana State :-

Shri Sunanda Reddy congratulated Project Proponent for taking in hand the expansion of the project. He said that he is first Environmentalist in our country, who supports the projects. In India, most of the Environmentalists do oppose the projects. I support the projects. He said that unemployment is the biggest social pollution in my opinion. In our country, there are 40 crores unemployed in the age of 18 to 35. They should get an opportunity to get the jobs. Everybody will not get government jobs. Only 560 lakhs can get central and state government jobs. Remaining get the job in private companies only. Here, Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing asked Shri Reddy to raise the issues regarding the particular project only.

Shri Reddy said that he desires to give few suggestions: -

The Environmental Consultant of the project properly surveyed the water, land, air, for which he congratulated the Environmental Consultant.

He suggested that the survey in between the radius of 10 k.m. of the project of health, crop patterns, ground water and educational be carried and data should be prepared. Also Shri Reddy said that the project has 10 acres of land. Project Proponent should carry survey of ground water in the radius of 10 k.m. of the project. The storage facility should be developed to save the rain water. Water is very limited source. The green belt drive should be

undertaken in the nearby villages. The avenue plantation should be carried. The trees should be planted which will arrest the dust.

He said that while developing the green belt, fruit bearing plants and medicinal plants be sowed. For the empowerment of the local young boys and girls, they should be extended Skilled Development Programme. Hence locals can work in this plant and others may get job opportunities at different projects.

A Committee consisting of project officials, local officials, local representatives. It will boost of the common people. He further suggested that after specific period, the health camps should be arranged.

Shri Reddy appealed Environment Public Hearing Committee to recommend the concerned committee of Government of Maharashtra that the project without any terms and conditions be sanctioned.

3) Shri Ajit Ganpat Shirole, Residence – Talandage, Tal – Hatkanagale, Dist – Kolhapur :-

While supporting the objections raised by Shri Kotare in the meeting, Shri Shirole said that with Synergy, all other companies are also responsible for the inconvenience/trouble caused to the local people. He informed all the good and bad of the Project Proponent. He informed that good things are that in this project, the salary is allotted considering Minimum Wage Act. Shri Shirole demanded that in the Talandage village, there are many educated people. If they are competent, then they should be also given job opportunities.

Shri Shirole further objected that due to pollution, the annual production of agriculture has reduced. Agriculture is not affordable.

If you get a job with MIDC, then the house expenses are covered. Even those who have livestock cannot afford to do so. At this moment, Shri Shirole

was asked by the Committee to raise suggestion or objection regarding the project only.

Then Shri Shirole has objected that action should be taken against all the companies responsible for the pollution caused by dust. Damage to agriculture due to pollution, should be paid by the company. Otherwise, the Project Proponent should take our agriculture fields and pay some amount to the local farmers every month. The well water of local farmers is polluted.

At this moment, officer of the Project Proponent informed that local people and people who are staying nearby will be given priority for job opportunities in the expansion of the project.

4) Shri H. Madhubabu, Social Environment Karyakarta, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society, Hyderabad :-

Shri H. Madhu Babu suggested that in the expansion of the project, only local people should be given job opportunities. Most advanced pollution control system should be made operational in the industry. The trees do prevent the dust, hence green belt should be developed. The CSR and CER should be spent in the project affected area only. He supported the expansion of the project.

5) Shri A. Sudarshan, Prayavaran Karyakarta, Cheyutha Rural & Environment Development Society, Wadapatti, Dharmastehala, Nalgonda, Telangana State :-

While supporting the project, he suggested that there should not be child labour in the plant. Local people should be given job opportunities in the plant. CSR should be spent for the basic education. The safety and security system in the factory should be kept up to the mark. The expansion of the project is supported.

**6) Ms. Jayashree Sanjay Bhosale, Sarpanch, Talandage Grampanchayat, Tal –
Hatkanangale, Dist – Kolhapur:-**

The agriculture in the village is very bad. Water comes to our village once in 18 days. For this, water needs to be provided from here. Now only 12 hours of water comes. It should be available 24 hours as before.

She further said that huge 1200 acres of land in Talandage village has been given to MIDC. Hence, the people of Talandage village should be given top priority in the job opportunities.


Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed the participants to raise their views, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project. There was no response in the meeting. Then, he requested Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to conclude the meeting.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee while concluding the meeting informed that two primary points were raised during the meeting i.e. job opportunities to local people and effects of pollution on horticulture. Hence, Project Proponent should initiate effective steps immediately. The local people also appreciated Project Proponent for the good work carried. For increasing the revenue of our nation and increase in job opportunities, we need various projects. He congratulated all the locals for holding the public hearing in a very cordial atmosphere. Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing informed that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The minutes in English and Marathi alongwith Final EIA report and writing suggestions/objections received during the meeting will be submitted to Environment & Climatic Change Department, New Administrative Building,

Mantralaya, Mumbai. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly. He declared that public hearing meeting is concluded.

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

In the meeting, 07 suggestions including the mail received is enclosed herewith for further necessary action.



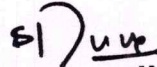
(Pramod Mane)

Convener
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer, MPCB,
Kolhapur



(Ravindra Andhale)

Member,
Environment Public Hearing
Committee
And
I/c Regional Officer, MPCB,
Kolhapur



(Shankarro Jadhav)

Chairman,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Kolhapur,
District - Kolhapur