

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED PROJECT OF 1 X 5 MVA SUBMERGED ARC FURNACE FOR PRODUCTION OF FERRO ALLOYS LOCATED AT PLOT NO. B-41/3, MIDC CHANDRAPUR, GHUGGUS ROAD, TAL. DIST. CHANDRAPUR BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S. DESTINO MINERALS & METALS PVT. LTD., PLOT NO. B-41/3, MIDC CHANDRAPUR, GHUGGUS ROAD, TAL. DIST. CHANDRAPUR

Date : 25/04/2023
Time : 12.00 P.M.,
Place : At Project Site, M/s. Destino Minerals & Metals Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. B-41/3, MIDC Chandrapur, Ghuggus Road, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur

Preamble:-

Project Proponent M/s. Destino Minerals & Metals Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. B-41/3, MIDC Chandrapur, Ghuggus Road, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur, has applied to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department (MoEF & CC) Govt. of India, (GoI), New Delhi for permission of carrying out the study in the radius of 10 k.m. of project and preparation of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for obtaining Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Project of 1 x 5 MVA Submerged Arc Furnace for production of Ferro Alloys located at Plot No. B-41/3, MIDC Chandrapur, Ghuggus Road, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.

The proposed project has been approved by the MoEF & CC, GoI, New Delhi and Terms of Reference (ToR) was sanctioned on 29th August 2022. As per Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006, the environment study should be carried in the radius of 10 km from the project site before environmental public hearing and to include in the final environmental impact assessment report the environmental issues raised by the project affected people about the proposed project. As the proposed project falls under Category A1(a), it is mandatory to the Project Proponent to obtain prior Environment Clearance (EC) from MoEF & CC, GoI, New Delhi.

Project Proponent M/s. Destino Minerals & Metals Pvt. Ltd., Plot No. B-41/3, MIDC Chandrapur, Ghuggus Road, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur, Maharashtra, has applied Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on 07/02/2023 for conducting Environment Public Hearing. District Collector, Chandrapur, Maharashtra State, in co-ordination with MPCB Chandrapur Office, approved to hold a public hearing on 25/04/2023. It is directed to conduct the online public hearing. The meeting number and password was made available.

As per EIA Notification, 2006, 30 days' advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Office, MPCB Chandrapur in the Local Newspaper in Daily Navarashtra, Nagpur Edition for Marathi and in National Newspaper

daily The Times of India, Nagpur Edition for English on 01-04-2023. An appeal is made to residents of the area, environmental organizations, residents to be displaced by the project or residents to be affected by the project in any other way to submit their views, comments, suggestions or objections about the proposed project in writing or by email to the local MPCB Chandrapur office till the date of public hearing.

Also copy of draft EIA report and executive summary in Marathi and English were made available at various notified offices of Government for the observation, study and comments of the local people as under:-

- (1) Environment Department, 15th Floor, New Administrative Building, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400032
- (2) Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 2nd and 4th Floor, Opp. Cine Planet, Near Sion Circle, Sion (E), Mumbai-400022
- (3) Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, First Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Opposite Bus-Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.
- (4) Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, First Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Opposite Bus-Stand, Railway Station Road, Chandrapur.
- (5) Collector Office, Chandrapur.
- (6) Zilla Parishad, Chandrapur.
- (7) District Industries Center, Chandrapur.
- (8) Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Chandrapur.
- (9) Sub-Divisional Office, Chandrapur, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.
- (10) Tahsil Office, Chandrapur, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.
- (11) Panchayat Samiti Office, Chandrapur, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.
- (12) Grampanchayat Office Chinchala, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.
- (13) Grampanchayat Office Padoli, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur.

It is also informed to the notified government departments (Sr.no.05 to 13 as above) about giving wide publicity at their level regarding Environmental Public Hearing.

The public hearing was thus widely publicized following the due procedure as per the Notification, so that it would be convenient for the project affected or concerned persons to register their views, comments, suggestions or objections with the concerned department. As per the directives, the public consultation is arranged on the project site.

As per the EIA Notification as issued by the MoEF & CC, Gol, New Delhi dated 14th September, 2006, Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has constituted Environment Public Hearing Committee vide no. E-24/2023 under letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-230329-FTS-0242, dated 29/03/2023 as under :-



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

This office is in receipt 09 notices, complaints, statements, objections regarding the above project and the persons / concerned institutions have been informed to attend the public hearing and submit their views, opinion, suggestions or objections if any complaints, statements, objections.

The attendance sheets of the participants during the public hearing as well as the Order of the Environment Public Hearing Committee constituted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board are attached herewith as **Annexure-I & II.**

Minutes of the Environment Public Hearing:-

At the beginning of the meeting, Shri V. D. Shukla, Field Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Shri Mahadev Khedkar, ~~Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mur~~ ^{ADM Chandrapur} & Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee; Shri A. M. Kare, Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Chandrapur and Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee, Project officials, Journalists, NGOs working in the field of environment and local people who were present in large number and informed all the procedure of the public hearing. He appealed all the participants to raise views, doubts, ideas, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. He said that the public hearing is organized only for the local people and project affected persons, so that the environmental issues and doubts would be resolved.

Convener of the meeting further informed that this meeting is arranged to know the feelings, suggestions or objections of the local people for the proposed project in environmental angle only and this Committee has no right to sanction, reject or recommend the proposed project. The suggestions or objections received during the meeting will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting in Marathi and in English and it will be submitted alongwith Final

EIA report, the written suggestions/objections with the approval of Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee through MPCB Head Office to Environment, Forest & Climate Change Ministry, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly.

Convener of the meeting further informed that as per the provisions of the Notification, the meeting is being photographed and video is being shot and after the presentation, the participants can raise their questions, suggestions, thoughts and objections. The Project Environmental Consultant or Project Proponent will answer the same. While asking questions, first inform your full name and residence village.

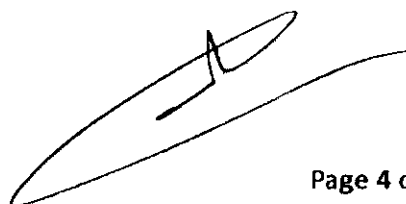
With the permission of Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee, Convener asked Environment Consultant to give presentation of Environment Management Plan of the proposed project.

Project Consultant informed regarding expansion of the project and Environment Management Plan in local language Marathi. Following points were explained in the meeting:-

Detailed Information of the Project -

- Project Area, Latitude-Longitude, Map, Submerged Area, Beneficiary Area, Forest Area, Project; Features, Project Significance, Consequences, Land Use, Earthquake Stability;
- Project objectives, social status, employment opportunities, development of farmers due to the project;
- Project analysis, summary, findings;
- Analysis of social and economic status
- Information about air, water, land, sound, project affected areas etc.
- Impact and management of air, water, displacement, biodiversity due to planned project
- Information on environmental management after project implementation
- Information on other environmental management

After reading the suggestions given by Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Convener appealed to the participants to raise their environmental suggestions or objections about the proposed project. While raising questions, inform the full name, village. He also informed Project Environment Consultant and Project Proponent to give appropriate answers.



Views, questions, suggestions/objections raised during the Environment Public Hearing and the answers/promises given by the Project Proponent:-

1) Shri Rajesh Bele, Founder President, Sanjivani Paryavaran Samajik Sanstha, Chandrapur :-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	At the outset, the Environmental Consultant of the company said that permission has been obtained from the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board. However, has the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board given permission to the said project?	Member, Environmental Public Hearing Committee and Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB), Chandrapur said that Consent to Establish – C to E has been granted as per rules. MPCB will not grant the consent letter (Consent to Operate – C to O) to start the project unless the company receives the Environmental Clearance (EC) from the Government of India after public hearing on environmental issues.
2)	The report of the company notes that in the year 2020, there is an uneasy situation regarding pollution in Chandrapur MIDC. This project is a polluting project. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report does not include information on how much coal you will burn each day. It was expected to be reported. Furnace will be commissioned in the project. How much waste material will come out of it is not stated. How to dispose of the fumes coming out of the furnace?	Project Proponent replied that it would not be correct to say that the project is polluting. Any project causes a small amount of pollution. But now there has been so much technological advancement that we can completely control the pollution. There will be no water pollution from this project. Because in this project water will be used only for cooling the plants. The water will circulate inside the machine. The water will not come in contact with soil or dust. So, the quality of water means that the water received from the MIDC will be returned to the MIDC. There will be no discharge of water, hence no water pollution. Therefore, there is no question of pollution of the nalla and soil.
3)	There is a residential area at a distance of 100 meters from the project. It is a hazardous polluting project. The micro particles from that	Next issue is about air pollution. If the project is a source of air pollution, coke will be used in the project. Coke is the process of coal, its volatile matter i.e. its

<p>smoke are going to harm humans, all wild animals, domestic animals. As the said area is a "Highly Critical Polluted Area", it is not suitable to set up a project here. The area of the project is 1.4 hectares and the coal stock, waste material stock cannot be in the small project area. You mentioned in the project that there are no water sources. There are drains on both sides of the project. This drain provides water to the farmers during the rainy season, similarly water to the Ira river flows from this drain. Both these streams flow around the project. But the report says that there are no drains near the project. The quality of water and air shown in the project is incorrect and false. It is misleading the public.</p>	<p>polluting elements are removed. Coke is not made here, it is made in big steel projects, Bhilai steel project, Bokaro steel project etc. Coke does not emit any carbon. That means 98% is not emitted, 2% is emitted, for which a bag filter will be installed. So, the dust particles, get stuck in the bag filter and the clean air will be less than the standards as prescribed by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board i.e. less than 50.0 mg/Nm³ i.e. 30.0 mg/ Nm³. It means there will be no air pollution. Because we will have our system such that it will be 30 ml/Nm³. He further stated that the slag produced in the project will not come with water or air. The slag will be used to fill the pits.</p>
<p>4) Coal will be used as fuel in the project. It will emit SO₂ gas and how will it be disposed of? Also, the stack height in the project is not given. As per Government directives, four acres of land is required for the said project. Government Order (GR) will be made available. The report submitted by the Project Promoters to MIDC has shown an investment of more than 20 crores and in the Environmental Impact Assessment report has shown less.</p>	<p>It is indicated that the Environmental Impact Assessment report is incorrect. Project Promoter said that the Project Environmental Consultant has carried 10 k.m. radius of the project survey as per the directives as passed by the Government. Accordingly, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been prepared. The level of water and air here is as per the standards passed by the Government. The next point is the height of the chimney. The height of the chimney will be kept as per the guidelines passed by the Central Pollution Control Board. It cannot be less than that. Now we raised a question about the project area. You had objected that there is less space. In response, the project promoter said that our furnace is only five meters. Project Proponent informed that not a drop of water will be wasted, because the water will be recycled and reused.</p>
<p>5) At that time, a question was raised by some of the participants that these</p>	<p>Suggestions have been noted.</p>



<p>things remain only on paper. We do not get water in the village. When the will use the water, we will not have any water left.</p> <p>Shri Rajesh Bele said that you assert that there will be no air pollution. But whether the project is small, medium or large, pollution is pollution, it will happen from this project as well.</p> <p>All the companies install sophisticated equipment and claim that there will be no pollution. But Chandrapur is the most polluted and the health of the people has been seriously affected. I have available the government statistics of people dying here due to pollution.</p> <p>No project is shut down because it causes pollution. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board takes bank guarantee only. I have been working on pollution since 2010. A criminal offense is not registered against the company for causing pollution. This is a tragedy. Human life is at risk. However, we oppose this project. If the project gets permission, we will file a Public Interest Litigation in the High Court and get a stay on it</p>	
<p>6) At that time, Shri Rajesh Bele said that along with the notice published in the paper, boards should be put up in the Gram Panchayats area. So, the villagers will know the information about public hearing on environment. Hence, Notice boards should be put up in radius of 10 km in the project area. Similarly, all environmental documents should be made available. Shri. Bele objected that 10 km away from here, Chandrapur Municipal Corporation is in the distance and notice should also be given to them. Until then, this public hearing should be canceled and a new date should be given.</p>	<p>Chairman, Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that the suggestions and objections raised by the participants, Gram Panchayat representatives have been noted.</p>



2) Shri Pravin Singh, Former Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Kosara, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	<p>Kutala village is just 300 meters away from the project. They have not received a letter regarding the project. So, the people of Kutala village did not come. The villagers will suffer the most from this project.</p> <p>Project officials say there is plenty of water. But there is no drinking water in our village. Even digging 300 feet deep does not yield water. Later, due to the wind, the smoke will come to the village. It will affect the crops in the fields. Our stomach is on our hands only. Our children live here. However, we are completely against this project.</p>	<p>Project Officer said that all the latest pollution control equipment will be implemented in the project. Similarly, the health of the workers and employees working in the project will be taken care of.</p> <p>Also, various social activities will be implemented in the project area under the company's CSR fund, in which health camps will be organized in the villages in the project area.</p>

3) Shri. Vivek Dhote, Gram Panchayat Member, Chinchala, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	<p>All Gram Panchayats in the radius of 10 k.m. distance from the project had to be informed. But it was said in the meeting that the Kutala Gram Panchayat has not been informed. Hence, this public hearing should be postponed.</p> <p>Similarly, Chinchal Gram Panchayat has been informed about the meeting yesterday. The company says that now there will be no pollution. So the fly ash cluster which has started in MIDC is not closed but its dust flies on our houses. He showed the video of the same to Environment Public Hearing Committee. Here Environment Public Hearing</p>	<p>Here Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all to raise any suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only.</p> <p>Project Proponent here informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has published public notice 30 days in advance of public hearing in local and national newspaper. Also, all the Gram Panchayat offices were send environment documents. The environment documents regarding the project were also made at MIDC Chandrapur office. Local people</p>

	Committee appealed all to raise any suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only.	would have overviewed the environmental documents.
2)	The project is said to provide employment to 40 people. So in which cadre will you get the contract of employment, i.e. skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled?	Project promoter said that skilled means having a degree and college training. Experience is part of skill.

4) Shri Prakash Shende, Member, Gram Panchayat Nagala, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	You said in the meeting that all environmental documents about the concerned project are available in the MIDC office. Just as, it is our obligation to take public hearings, so is our obligation to make documents available. If we had received the environmental public hearing report, we would have done the study as well. Now the question is to file a complaint. So we have registered many complaints before this. Nothing happened. We are against this project.	Suggestions have been noted

5) Shri Bhushan Rahate, Dy. Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Kosara-Khutala, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	Welcome to all who came to the public hearing. Prior notice of this meeting was required to be given to the Gram Panchayat. Although the project is under ----- Gram Panchayat, the boundary on the side of the project is Khosara-Khutara Gram Panchayat. You have not given us any kind of prior intimation. Also, each company promised to employ local	Project Proponent said that local people have raised suggestions regarding employment in the project. In the project only local people will be given employment opportunities. Since this project is small, forty people will be given employment contracts in the beginning. Local persons who have competent skills

people until the project starts. Once the project is started, the Kuthal company here will not give job opportunities to the local people. Only assurances are given in the meeting. Due to the project, the locals have to suffer a lot of pollution. But the local people are not considered while giving employment contract in the project. No facility has been provided in the public hearing meeting here. Hence, we, our village panchayats are against the said project. If our approval is required, you will have to enter into an agreement with the Gram Panchayat to employ local people in various cadres. Village Panchayat Chinchal, Khusara-Kuthara etc. with Gram Panchayats. You have to make a mutual agreement. Local engineers, fitters, welders, electricians etc. The recruitment in various cadres will have to be done of the local people. Otherwise, we will oppose this project and will oppose the project in the future as well.

will definitely be given contract of employment in the project. Similarly, training will also be given to the concerned person, but for that, the construction of the project needs to be completed first. At that time the Gram Panchayat office of the area will be contacted. Here, some local participants collectively demanded that the public hearing be cancelled.

6) Shri. Roshan Ramteke, Dy. Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Khutala-Kosara, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	We do not know anything about the said project, similarly we did not know about the present meeting. Hence, this public hearing meeting should be canceled and a further meeting should be called	Suggestions have been noted.

7) Shri. V. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Hyderabad:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental
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		Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	<p>I am the first environmentalist in India who supports the industrialization. According to me, unemployment is pollution in society.</p> <p>At that time, the local participants collectively, instructed to speak in the local language Marathi or Hindi. Some local people felt that there was no need for a person to from other State to come and speak in favor of the project while raising local issues. At this moment, Environment Public Hearing Committee suggested that the person present should be allowed to speak.</p> <p>Shri Reddy said that 40 crore youths in India are waiting for job opportunities. Central Government and various State Governments can provide employment to around 5-6 lakh people. So every year around one crore young men and women come to the waiting list for jobs.</p> <p>However, there is a need for industrial progress, similarly there is a need for environmental balance and conservation. Your Environmental Consultant has conducted surveys on water, air and air pollution. However, the present health status of the people in the project area, the present status of crop production should be surveyed. The water conservation scheme should be implemented in the project. A plan should be made to store water in the project. 33% green belt development is mandatory in the project. But the Project Proponent should develop additional green belt. Medicinal plants and fruit bearing trees should be planted in large quantities.</p> <p>Likewise, I request that a Co-ordination Committee be formed to spend the CSR funds with the local people. Committee should take up only required work.</p>	<p>Project Proponent informed that the suggestion given by Shri Reddy regarding green belt is accepted.</p>

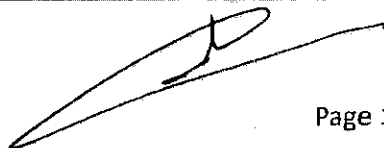
<p>Complaints were made about pollution here. The said project will be developed in the "notified industrial development area". Similarly, environmental protection is also necessary.</p> <p>I wish the project all the best and request Government of India to approve the concerned project.</p>	
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8) Mrs. Rutuja Narule, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Khutala-Kosara, Tal. Dist. Chandrapur:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	The concerned company has made any correspondence with the Gram Panchayat. The villagers including myself were not knowing about today's public hearing.	Point is noted.

9) Shri Rahul Balamwar, Dy. President, Maharashtra Nav Nirman Sena:-

Sr. No.	Objection / Information / Question	Answers / Assurances given by Project Promoter / Environmental Consultant / Environmental Public Hearing Committee as per discussion
1)	<p>We hear in the media that Chandrapur is the most polluted city in India. So, we should tell in the meeting how polluted the city is. And if it is a polluted city, how can you allow such polluting companies.</p> <p>We read in the media that there is a huge increase in asthma and heart disease due to pollution. Here the participants have expressed negative reactions about the proposed project. There is residential colonies / bastis adjacent to the project.</p>	<p>Member, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that this Committee does not give any permission, recommend the project or reject the project. This Committee is constituted to register the suggestions, views, objections of the local people for the proposed project in environmental angle only. The report will be submitted to Central Government. An Expert Committee will take further decision accordingly. The suggestions, objections have been noted.</p>



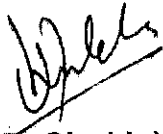
At that time, Shri Prakash Shende again demanded to cancel the public hearing and hold it again. Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that Committee has taken note of this.

Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee appealed all the participants to raise suggestions, views, objections in respect of proposed project in environmental angle only. There was no response.

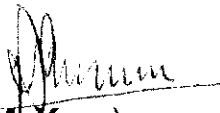
While concluding the meeting, Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanks all local people for attending the meeting and raising their views, suggestions or objections. He declared that the meeting is concluded.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

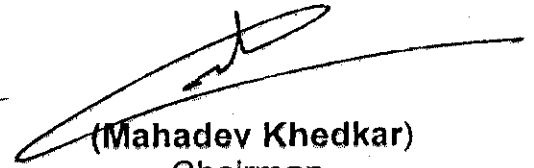
Enclosed 09 written suggestions, objections as received.



(V. D. Shukla)
Representative of
Convener, Environment
Public Hearing Committee
& Field Officer,
M.P.C.Board, Chandrapur



(A. M. Kare)
Member,
Environment Public
Hearing Committee &
Regional Officer,
M.P.C.Board, Chandrapur



(Mahadev Khedkar)
Chairman,
Environment Public
Hearing Committee & Sub-
Divisional Magistrate, Mul,
Dist. Chandrapur.

Additional District
Magistrate,
Chandrapur.