

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY FROM 60 KLPD TO 120 KLPD (INCREASE BY 60 KLPD) USING C/ B HEAVY MOLASSES / SUGARCANE JUICE / SYRUP IN THE EXISTING PREMISES OF 10,000 TCD SUGAR FACTORY, 33 MW CO-GENERATION PLANT & 20 MT/DAY ACETIC ACID PLANT.

The Environment Public Hearing for PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY FROM 60 KLPD TO 120 KLPD (INCREASE BY 60 KLPD) USING C/ B HEAVY MOLASSES / SUGARCANE JUICE / SYRUP IN THE EXISTING PREMISES OF 10,000 TCD SUGAR FACTORY, 33 MW CO- GENERATION PLANT & 20 MT/DAY ACETIC ACID PLANT at Akluj, Tal- Malshiras, District - Solapur, Maharashtra proposed by Project Proponent M/s. Sahakar Maharshi Shankarrao Mohite Patil Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., At Shankarnagar- Akluj, Tal- Malshiras, Dist-Solapur, Maharashtra was conducted on Tuesday, the 06th June, 2023 at 12.00 noon at project site.

Shri Nikhil Jalindar More, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur and Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Sou. Shama Pawar, Additional District Magistrate, Solapur and Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee; Environmentalists, NGOs, Journalists, Representative of media channels and Company Officials and local people/participants who were present and with permission of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee started the proceedings.

He appealed all to follow the strict guidelines of Central Government and State Government for COVID epidemic.

Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that as per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) 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.

He informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s. Sahakar Maharshi Shankarrao Mohite Patil Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., At Shankarnagar- Akluj, Tal- Malshiras, Dist-Solapur, Maharashtra to conduct Environment Public Hearing for for PROPOSED EXPANSION OF MOLASSES BASED DISTILLERY FROM 60 KLPD TO 120 KLPD (INCREASE BY 60 KLPD) USING C/ B HEAVY MOLASSES / SUGARCANE JUICE / SYRUP IN THE EXISTING PREMISES OF 10,000 TCD SUGAR FACTORY, 33 MW CO- GENERATION PLANT & 20 MT/DAY ACETIC ACID PLANT at Akluj, Tal- Malshiras, District - Solapur,.



Convener further informed as per EIA Notification, 2006 the category of project falls under Category A schedule 5 (g) which requires to obtain prior Environmental Clearance from the Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt of India, New Delhi 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 participate in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application on 30/11/2022 alongwith pre-feasibility report to the, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi and it has been considered and given online approval on 06/12/2022.

After approval from District Collector, Solapur to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing on Tuesday, the 06th June, 2023 at 12.00 noon, 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- 36 of 2023 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 230518 FTS- 0029 dated 18-05-2023 :-

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

As per the said Notification, 30 days advance public notice was published by Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur in the Local Newspaper in daily Sanchar in Marathi and in daily Divya Marathi in English on 05-05-2023. 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 in Marathi and in English at various notified Government offices as under:-

- 1) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Zonal Office, Western- Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Line, Nagpur-440 001;
- 2) District Collector, Solapur;
- 3) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Solapur;
- 4) General Manager, District Industries Center, Solapur;
- 5) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti Malshiras, Taluka - Malshiras, District - Solapur;
- 6) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office Malshiras, Tal- Malshiras, District - Solapur;
- 7) Chief Officer, Akluj Municipal Council, Akluj, Tal- Malshiras, Dist-Solapur
- 8) Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Offices - Mouje – Yashwantnagar, Choudeshwarwadi, Girzani, Bagechiwadi, Pisewadi, Kondabavi, Aanandnagar, Paniv, Vizori, Savatgavan, Malinagar villages Dist – Solapur;
- 9) Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 10) Joint Director (WPC), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Mumbai;
- 11) Regional Officer, Regional Office-Pune, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jog Center, 3rd Floor, Wakadewadi, Old Pune Mumbai Road, Pune – 411 003;
- 12) Sub Regional Officer, Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur;
- 13) Website of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai;

Convener informed that 01 written suggestions/ objections/ comments/ complaints for expansion of the project have been received by Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Solapur.

Convener informed that an opportunity is given to all participants to raise any doubts, suggestions or objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle, which can be submitted by orally or in writing also.

Convener asserted that this Committee is only for recording public opinion, suggestions, objections and has no right to approve, reject or recommend the project. The suggestions/objections raised by the participants in the public hearing will be noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting.

Similarly, the revised Environmental Assessment Report of the Project Proponent and minutes of the meeting after approval of Chairperson will be submitted through MPCB Head Office to the Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New

Delhi after taking note of the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded in the meeting. An Expert Committee there takes further decision regarding the same. He had requested Chairperson of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to inform Project Proponent to start the presentation

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Environmental Consultant of the project made a presentation on the entire Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project. He gave information about the geographical location of the proposed project, potential impact on the environment due to the proposed project, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) prepared for it, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Fund and Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) Fund.

It is informed that Rupees 49 crores will have to spend for commissioning of the project. Project Proponent has ear-marked Rupees 1625 lakh as capital investment and Rs. 85 lakh for operational expenditure for environmental responsibility. The project is Zero Liquid Discharge Project & will be equipped with ATFD & CPU.

After the presentation, Chairperson, Environmental Public Hearing Committee appealed participants to raise their suggestions, objections if any regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only. While raising the suggestions, objections, mention your name and village name while registering suggestions or objections.

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

1) Shri. Anand Bhagwan Bhivarkar, Udayanagar, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.-

How much alcohol will be produced per day from the proposed distillery project?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, proposed expansion of Molasses based distillery from 60 KLPD to 120 KLPD (Increase by 60 KLPD) in the existing unit. The production capacity of alcohol produced from the said project is 120 KLPD.

2) Shri. Ganesh Ekatpure, Shankarnagar, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.-

What is the total cost of construction of the proposed alcohol manufacturing plant?

The cost of the proposed distillery – Rs.49 Crore
Factory – Rs.333.19Crore, Cogeneration – Rs. 165.12Crore, Acetic Acid / Acetaldehyde
Plant Rs. 11.0056Crore

Total (Proposed + Current) = Rs. 605.69 Crore

3) Shri. Muralidhar Sadashiv Jare, Tandulwadi, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.

How many people will get employment due to the project?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, After expansion additional 20 People will get employment. A total of 458 currently operational and 20 proposed 478 People will get employment.

4) **Shri. Chandrakant Shivdas Kumbhar, Yashwantnagar, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.**

How will the post-processed spent wash powder will be used ? Will it be useful in the production of potash and urea?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, spent powder will be sold to fertilizer manufacturing companies. It will be provided to farmers to use as fertilizer for crops.

5) **Shri. Rahul Shivaji Kadam, Girzani, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.**

What is the proposal for the treatment of waste water generated in the project?

Effluent generated i.e., Spent lees, Cooling Blowdown, Boiler Blowdown, M.E.E. Condensate, lab and washing of distillation plant will be treated in CPU and totally used in manufacturing process to achieve ZLD.

6) **Shri. Vijay Bhaskar Lavand, Vijayawadi, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.**

Which air pollution control device will be installed for the boiler?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, Industry has already installed ESP to Boiler to control air pollution as a Pollution control equipment.

7) **Shri. Dilip Jagannath Bhakare, Pisewadi, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.**

What are the benefits of the proposed project to the people of the surrounding villages?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, the factory will provide direct and indirect employment to the people. The project will increase by-products and benefit the member farmers to get increased sugarcane buying price.

8) **Shri. Appasaheb Rede-Patil, Mahalung, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur**

What kind of oxygen supplying new plants are going to be planted in the expansion project?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, list of relevant trees are given in Greenbelt Plan. E.g. Limb, Karanj, Vad, etc.

9) **Shri. Ashok Shinde, Velapur, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.**

How long will the distillery project continue?

Project Environmental Consultant answered that, distillery project will continue 330Days / Year.

10) Shri. Santosh Machchindra Ekatpure, Malewadi, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.

How much spent wash will be produced in the proposed distillery plant? And how it will be disposed off ?

In the proposed distillery unit 960 K.L. Raw spent wash and 192 K.L Concentrated Spent wash will be generated. Raw Spent wash is fed to MEE, M.E.E. will be evaporated and concentrated. The concentrated spent wash will be processed in ATFD to form powder.

11) Shri. Tatyasaheb Kumbhar, Shankarnagar, Taluka Malshiras, District Solapur.

Will the project cause noise pollution?

Mainly the noise pollution from : Mills, Compressors, Boilers, Turbines and D.G. in Sugar Factory will be the main source of noise pollution. Adequate precautions will be taken and by regular maintenance of machinery to ensure that the employees do not suffer from noise pollution and once in a year a health checkup camp will be organized. The said project will not cause noise pollution.

Mr. Chandrakant Shivdas Kumbhar, a local journalist, resident of Yeshwantnagar, Akluj, Taluka Malshiras, District-Solapur said that he is a local resident and existing the project does not cause any water and air pollution to him and the local people. Due to the project, the social and economic development of the area has taken place. Therefore, the local people should support and approve the expansion of the project.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that the Environmental Public Hearing Committee has given opportunities to all participants in the meeting to raise any suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle. He again appealed to the participants for any other comments, suggestions or objections if they have.

Member, Convener informed that the suggestions, objections raised during the meeting are noted and it will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The written suggestions, objections will be attached along with final EIA and minutes of the meeting with approval of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee and it will be submitted through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee there will take further decision.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee thanked all for attending the Environment Public Hearing and raising suggestions, objections. He thanked all project officials

and government officials and on behalf of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee declared that the meeting is concluded.

The details of written 01 suggestions/objections/comments received regarding project expansion are mentioned below and are enclosed herewith:-

- 1) Vootkari Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Dharithri Paryavarana Parirakshana. Samstha, Telangana

The meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.

(Nikhil Jalindar More)

Member, Convener,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
&
Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Solapur

(Sou. Shama Pawar),

Chairperson
Environment Public Hearing Committee
&
Additional District Magistrate, Solapur
District - Solapur