

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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No./MPCB/JD(WPC)/ENV/PH/B- 240117 - FTS - 0129

Date: 17/01/2024

To,
Environment Department, Govt of Maharashtra,
Room No. 217 (Annex) New Administration Building,
Mantralaya, Mumbai.

Sub: Environmental Clearance - Proceedings of Public Hearing in respect of Proposed project for command area Development under LakdiNimbodi Lift Irrigation Scheme having 11154 Ha CCA, A/P Kumbhargaoon, Tal-Indapur, Dist-Pune, Maharashtra. Proposed by M/s. Water Resources Management., Maharashtra.

Ref: : Sub-Regional Pune-I submitted proceeding vide letter dt-02.01.2024, received on 03.01.2024.

Sir,

The Public Hearing for Proposed project for command area Development under LakdiNimbodi Lift Irrigation Scheme having 11154 Ha CCA, A/P Kumbhargaoon, Tal-Indapur, Dist-Pune, Maharashtra. Proposed by M/s. Water Resources Management., Maharashtra.

Environmental public hearing extended on dtd. 03.11.2023, Time-12:00 Noon., at Primary School, Village-Lakadi, Tal-Indapur, Dist-Pune. The minutes of the public hearing approved and duly signed by the Public hearing panel along with the proceedings are enclosed.

- Minutes of public hearing duly signed by the Chairman of public hearing panel in (English & Marathi)
- Copy of Office Order
- Video DVD and Photograph of Public Hearing.
- List of participants.
- Newspaper Notices for Environmental Public Hearing in English & Marathi.

This is submitted for further necessary action please.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr.J.B.Sangewar
Joint Director (WPC)

Encl: As above

Copy submitted for Information to:

The Member Secretary, MPCB, Mumbai.

Copy for information & necessary action to:

- 1) The Regional Officer, MPCB, Navi-Pune.
- 2) The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Pune-I.
- 3) EIC, M.P. C. Board, Mumbai - For information & display of Minutes on website.

Copy to the applicant of the project:

M/s. Water Resources Management., Maharashtra.

MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 11154 HA COMMAND AREA OF LAKADI – NIMBODI LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT AT KUMBHARGAON, TA – INDAPUR, DIST – PUNE, MAHARASHTRA, PROPOSED BY WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF MAHARASHTRA, UJJANI CANAL DIVISION NO – 8, GURUNANAK CHOUK SOLAPUR.

The Public Hearing for the 11154 ha. command area of the Lakadi-Nimbodi lift irrigation project proposed by the Water Resources Department, Government of Maharashtra, Ujjani Canal division No – 8, Solapur was conducted on Friday, 24th November 2023 at Zilla Parishad Primary School - Lakadi, Taluka – Indapur at 12.00 noon at Primary School, Village – Lakade, Tal. Indapur, Dist. Pune.

While starting the meeting, Shri Nitin Shinde, Sub Regional Officer, Pune- I Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Pune and convenor of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Jyoti Kadam, Resident Deputy Collector – Pune, journalists, irrigation department officials and local farmers/participants who were presents and with the permission of the Chairman of the committee, informed the preamble of the public hearing.

The convenor informed that TOR was sanctioned to the project on 22.05.2023 by the Environment & Climatic Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra. As per the Terms & Conditions of TOR, the Project Proponent has prepared the draft EIA and as per notification of the Govt. of India dated 14th September 2006 and applied to MPCB for conducting a public hearing.

District Collector, Pune vide his letter dated 20.09.2023 & Resident Deputy Collector vide letter dated 16.11.2023 approved the date of the public hearing on Friday, 24th November 2023 and as per EIA notification dated 14.09.2006 issued by the 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 vide Office Order No. E- 76/2023 vide Letter No.BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-231102-FTS-0230, dated 02/11/2023 constituted a Public Hearing Committee on Environment as follows:-

Jyoti Kadam Resident Deputy Collector / Additional District Magistrate, Pune	- Chairman
Shri. Ravindra Andhale Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune	- Member
Shri. Nitin Shinde Sub Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune-1	- Convener

The public consultation is mandatory before obtaining EC. The public hearing for the above project is fixed on 24.11.2023 at 12.00 noon at Zilla Parishad Primary School, Lakadi, Tal – Indapur for which 30 days in advance, first publication cancellation & again the public notice was published in the Marathi newspaper Loksatta and in the English newspaper Indian Express on 03.10.2023 and subsequently on 16.11.2023. The views, opinions, suggestions or objections to the proposed project in environmental angle were invited from the public, environmentalists and NGOs.

Also, copies of the EIA report and executive summary in Marathi and English were made available at various offices of Government i.e. District Collector, Pune, District Industries Center, Pune, Zillha Parishad Pune, Regional Office Pune & Sub Regional Office Pune-I, MPC Board Jog Center, 2nd & 3rd Floor, Wakadewadi, Pune – Mumbai Road, Pune 411003, Member Secretary, MPC Board, Kalpataru Point, 3rd Floor, Sion Matunga Scheme Road No 8, Opp Cine Planet, Near Sion Circle, Sion (‘E) Mumbai – 22, Zonal Office, West Central Zone, New Secretariat Building, Ground Floor, East Wing, Civil Lines, Nagpur – 440 001, Environment Department, Government of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralay, Mumbai 400 032, Sub Divisional Officer, Sub Division Office – Indapur, Dist. – Pune, Tahsildar, Tahsil Office Indapur, Dist – Pune, Gram Panchayat Office – Akole, Kazad, Limbodi, Lamjewadi, Mhasobachiwadi, Nirgude, Shindewadi, Lakadi, Shetfalgade Ta – Indapur, Dist – Pune, Gram Panchayat Office – Gadhikhel, Jainakwadi, Kattal, Kanheri, Katewadi, Parwadi, Sawal Ta – Baramati, Dist – Pune and on the website of MPCB.

The convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee informed that participants who desire to give written suggestions/objections, they may hand over to the representative of MPCB. It will be submitted to the Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee. Those who desire to raise oral suggestions, they may give them after the presentation. While giving oral suggestions, and objections, the name of the person and the name of the village should be informed. The Project Proponent will give answers. The minutes of the meeting will be prepared and it will be submitted to

the Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai through the Head office of MPCB. This Committee is constituted to know the feelings, opinions, and views of the public and this Committee has no right to sanction or to recommend the project. The suggestions, and objections raised during the meeting will be included in the minutes of the meeting. The total videography of the meeting, minutes of the meeting, and written objections are submitted to the Environment Department. The Expert Committee will take further decisions. He requested the Chairman of the Environment Public Hearing Committee to direct the Project Proponent to start the Presentation.

The Environment Public Hearing Committee Chairman directed the Project Proponent to start the presentation.

With permission of the Chairman, the Project Environmental Consultant gave the Presentation regarding the Environment Management Plan (EMP) of the proposed project. The consultant gave the proposed project's geographical location, the potential impact on the environment due to the proposed project and EMP for it. It is informed that as per EIA Notification, the project falls under Category B 1, River Valley Projects.

The project falls under the B 1 category, which requires prior environmental clearance from the Environment and Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, Mumbai.

Environment Consultant informed that irrigation benefits will be provided to 11154 ha of CCA to 10 villages from Indapur Taluka & 7 Villages from Baramati Taluka of Pune District. 2500 trees will be planted and maintained for the next 5 years. The total cost of the Project is Rs 34810.63 Lakhs.

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

The following individuals participated in the discussions, and the Environment Consultant/Project Proponent provided answers.

- 1. Pradhyapak Ramchandra Pandurang Vanve, Ex Sarpanch – Lakadi Village**, inquired about the commencement date of the construction work on the project and the anticipated time required for its completion.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has informed that the project is currently in the process of obtaining Environmental Clearance. Once it is received, along with the other required clearances/documentation, the construction work of the project will commence.

The approving authority has granted 5 years for the completion of the project, including necessary clearances/approvals. Additionally, there is an allocation of 3 years to establish operations, which includes the formation of Water User Associations.

2. **Dattatray Vanve of Lakadi Village** inquired, is there a provision for a separate pump house for Indapur Taluka and Baramati Taluka? Considering that Baramati Taluka has a lower water requirement and may not cover the electricity bill expenses, there is a risk that the entire scheme could be closed in the event of non-payment of the electricity bill.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has conveyed that upon completion, the project will be transferred to the Water User Associations (WUA). The WUA will initiate water demand and deposit the 'Panti Patti'/bill amount with the relevant department. Subsequently, water will be released only to the WUA with a clear and up-to-date bill. This mitigates the risk of the entire scheme being closed.

3. **Bhaskar Vanve from Lakadi Village** suggested having separate pump houses and pipelines for Baramati Taluka and Indapur Taluka. This recommendation is based on the observation that Baramati Taluka has a lower water requirement compared to Indapur Taluka, which has a higher demand. Additionally, there should be distinct Water User Associations for both talukas.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that two distribution chambers are planned at the highest feasible locations within the project area. Water will be supplied to the villages in the command area through gravity. Due to the topography of the area, it is technically unfeasible to provide separate supplies for Baramati Taluka and Indapur Taluka.

4. **Saurabh Dharne asked the following questions –**

- a) If the pipeline passes through a farmer's land, will they be entitled to receive compensation for their land? Additionally, will farmers with orchards, sugarcane, or paddy fields be eligible for crop compensation?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that, Crop compensation will be provided in accordance with the Right to Fair Compensation. As the proposed pipeline is below ground level, there will be no acquisition of land and compensation for the land will not be paid. Nevertheless, compensation will be provided for the land acquired for the pump house, distribution chambers, and service roads as per the Land Acquisition Act.

- b) The command area of the project is delineated on the map based on satellite survey data. Is it possible to expand the command area through a physical survey? This would ensure that areas not receiving irrigation benefits from

the project and not within the command area of the Nira Canal are not excluded from the scheme. Will there be a physical survey conducted to verify the command area?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that, the command area is designed taking into account the water availability and topography of the area following a physical survey. There is no further opportunity to expand the command area.

- c) The distribution of irrigation water is planned from distribution chambers situated at Jainikwadi and Lamjewadi, which are the farthest points from our Indapur taluka. Is it feasible to relocate the distribution chambers to Lakadi or Nirgude villages, which are centrally located in Indapur Taluka, and distribute water to all villages from these locations?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that, the distribution chambers are planned at their respective locations as these positions represent the highest feasible elevation points in the command area. This configuration allows for the gravity-based distribution of water. Due to the specificity of these locations, this aspect cannot be altered.

5. Tushar Zende of Lakadi Village asked the following questions -

- a) Does the project include the provision for Solar Power?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that

The pump houses require a high power demand that cannot be fulfilled by harvesting solar energy. Therefore, the pump houses will run on conventional electric power supplied by MSEDCL. However, solar energy will be harvested to power common areas, pathways at the pump houses, and distribution chambers.

- b) Water potability tests were conducted at nine locations across 17 villages. Is the water suitable for drinking purposes?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that

The water is suitable for drinking purposes at the locations where the checks were conducted. However, the water supplied from Ujjani Dam is intended solely for irrigation purposes and not for drinking purposes

- c) Are the current drinking water sources contaminated by Ujjani water?

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that

The distribution network is a closed pipe distribution network, ensuring that the current drinking water sources will not be contaminated.

- 6. Navnath Vanve of Lakadi Village asked how water be transported from Ujjani Dam, stored in each village, and then supplied to each house from a pump house. Will the tailenders receive an adequate supply of water?**

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that The water will be pumped from Ujjani Dam through an underground rising main and brought up to the distribution chamber. From there, it will be distributed through underground gravity mains and a network of secondary and tertiary minors up to a 'chak,' covering an area ranging from 5 to 12 hectares. This scheme is exclusively for agricultural purposes, and no water storage is involved.

7. **Bhauasaheb Gondhale from Lakadi** inquired about the possibility of feeding village ponds through the distribution network.

The Project Proponent/Consultant has communicated that There is no provision to feed the village ponds from the distribution network of the proposed scheme. However, during periods of sufficient rainfall and when the dam is full, any excess water can be supplied to the village ponds. The scheme is designed to provide water for eight months, from June to February

Concluding the meeting, the Chairman said that raised their suggestions and objections. All the issues raised by you will be referred to the State Environmental Assessment Committee of the State Impact Assessment Authority, Government of Maharashtra. The expert committee will take an appropriate decision in this regard.



(Mr. Nitin Shinde)

Convener
of the Public Hearing Committee
and
Sub Regional Officer, Pune- I,
MPCB,Pune



(Mr. Ravindra Andhale)

Member
of the Public Hearing Committee
and
Regional Officer, MPCB, Pune



(Jyoti Kadam)

Chairman
Resident Deputy Collector /
Additional District Magistrate, Pune