

## **MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED EXPANSION OF M/S. AL HIND LUBRICANTS, GUT NO.412, VILLAGE USAR, POST UCHAT, TALUKA WADA, DISTRICT PALGHAR**

As per the provisions of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification 2006, dated 14/09/2006 an application of M/s. Al Hind Lubricants, Gut No. 412, village Usar, Taluka Wada, District Palghar to organize the public hearing on proposed expansion to prepare the Biodiesel by the most widely used transesterification reaction of methanol with non-edible vegetable oils (Ruchi Soya, Patanjali, Liberty Oil) in the presence of sodium hydroxide catalyst with production capacity of 18000 KL/A has been received to Sub Regional Office, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III on 16.11.2023. Accordingly Sub-Regional Office, Kalyan 3 has submitted proposal to JD (WPC) Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Office, Sion, Mumbai for the conduction of public hearing for the conduction of public hearing. As per the vide Office Order of, No. E-87 of 2023, letter No. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-231211-FTS-0262, dated 11.12.2023 JD (WPC) MPCB has been instructed to Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III to conduct environmental public hearing and following officials were appointed as the panel members.

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|----|--|-----------------|
| 1) | <b>District Magistrate, Palghar<br/>Or his representative not below the rank of<br/>Additional District Magistrate</b> | <b>Chairman</b> |
| 2) | <b>Representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board<br/>Regional Officer, M.P.C.B.Kalyan</b>                      | <b>Member</b>   |
| 3) | <b>Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III</b>   | <b>Convenor</b> |

As per the EIA Notification, one month advance public notice has been published in the local newspaper on 26.11.2023 in Marathi 'Daily Lokmat' and in English 'Daily The Free Press Journal'. Copies of EIA report and Executive Summary in English and Marathi were made available at offices of :

1. Environment & Climate Change Department, Govt. of Maharashtra, New Administration Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Madam Cama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032.
2. M.P.C. Board, Kalpataru Point, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Opp.Cine Planet,Sion (East), Mumbai.
3. The Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (WCZ), Ground Floor, East Wing, New Secretrait Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur.
4. District Collector, District-Palghar
5. Chief Executive Officer(CEO), Zilla Parishad, District Palghar
6. Sub Divisional Officer, Wada, District Palghar
7. Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalyan
8. Tahsildar, Wada Thesil, District Palghar
9. Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti, Wada, District Palghar
10. General Manager, District Industries Center, Palghar District
11. Sarpanch, Group Gram Panchayat, User, Taluka Wada, District Palghar

P.T.O.

Through the public notice the basic purpose of environmental hearing is to give information to public in the project area about the said project, to know impacts of the project and opinions of general public, to inform the general public about the pollution control systems required for the project, considering the suggestions given by them and the public in general were appealed by notice to submit their suggestions/objections regarding the above project in oral/writing or by E-mail. Accordingly 4 notices regarding the said project have been received via E-mail at the Regional Office, M.P.C.B. Kalyan.

In this regard as per the prior permission of Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar District, public hearing was organized on 27.12.2023 at 12.00 P.M. at premises of Hotel Shivam-Inn Lodging & Boarding, Wada Bhiwandi Road, Nare Phata, Village Nare, Palghar-421 312. The said public hearing started on 27.12.2023 at 12.59 P.M. Total 50 representatives including public representatives, industry representative, representative of local bodies, environmental experts, representatives of social organizations, newspaper and news channel representatives and general citizens were present for the said public hearing, list of the same is enclosed herewith. The following officers were also present in the public hearing.

1. Hon'ble Shri. Govind Maruti Bodke, Chairman and Collector, Palghar District.
2. Dr. Rajendra A. Rajput, Member and Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Kalyan.
3. Dr. Seema Uday Dalvi, Convenor and Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III.
4. Shri. Sanjiv Redasni, Field Officer, Regional Office, M.P.C.B. Kalyan
5. Shri. Mahendra Patthebahadur, Field officer, M.P.C.B., Kalyan-III

The Sub Regional Officer, Kalyan-III as the convenor with permission of Hon'ble Collector, District Palghar has briefed about the public hearing and requested to project proponent to present environmental technical things of the said proposed project.

As per this, the project proponent has presented the detailed information of proposed project of M/s. Al Hind Lubricants. After presentation the convenor has requested to all public to raise questions/suggestions/objections etc., As well as requested to submit suggestions if any in writing to the representative of M.P.C. Board.

Subsequently following suggestions/questions/objections have been raised.

- 1) **Smt. Sanika Sandeep Dubele, Usar Gram Panchayat, Taluka Wada-** At first everyone says that, there will be no pollution, but later on if there is pollution or farmers suffer to whom should they complain and in future who will take responsibility for this? We file complaint to Gram Panchayat as villagers cannot file complaint at higher level, but no action is taken. Also we are pressurized for not to file complaint, what should we do? :-

**Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar** said that, complaint regarding environmental pollution can be submitted to M.P.C. Board. Later the convenor and Sub Regional Officer, MPC Board has given the detailed information how the complaint is redressed.

- 2) **Shri. Mahendra Janardan Patil, Usar village, Taluka Wada-** According Revenue Departments Regional Planning 2017 how far from village can industries be allowed?  
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**The convenor and Sub Regional Officer, Kalyan-III** said that, as this public hearing is only on environmental questions/ issues please raise only environmental aspects.

**Shri. Mahendra Janardan Patil, Usar village, Taluka Wada-** But the consent to operate given to this industry is few meter away from the village and can it be given like that? The companies on the village side are in the red catogery. I have written letter twice about this. According to Regional Plan of 2017, the consent to operate given by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board can be given? :-

**The convenor and Sub Regional Officer, Kalyan-III** said that, No Objection Certificate (NOC) is issued by the Gram Panchayat and without NOC from Gram panchayat MPCB does not grant consent to the industry.

**Shri. Mahendra Janardan Patil, Usar village, Taluka Wada-** It should be noted that, there is no record of abovesaid industry with Gram Panchayat and no tax or house rent is levied on the said industry. Also there are 25 bogus companies, which do not have any records with Gram Panchayat. Also this public hearing has been organized in Nare village and asked to please understand the problems of villagers of Usar village :-

**The convenor and Sub Regional Officer, Kalyan-III** said that, as this public hearing is only on environmental questions/ issues please raise only environmental aspects.  
**The Chairman and Collector, Palghar District** said committee's purpose to conduct public hearing is to record the opinions/suggestions/objections of the public with regards to environmental point of view. The committee will not take any decision about the project.

**Shri. Mahendra Janardan Patil, Usar village, Taluka Wada-** Questions were asked regarding the resolution passed by Gram Panchayat or applications given by the farmers :-

**Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar** said that, this is environmental public hearing and apart from this, there are different issues such as construction permission and planning and there are different authorities for that process. Todays topic is only related to environmental matters therefore raise only environmental issues.

**Shri. Mahendra Janardan Patil, Usar village, Taluka Wada-** Hon'ble Chairman, I request you, to please take action on two letters given by me. :-

**Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar** said that, officials of M.P.C. Board will investigate the complaint received from Shri. M. J. Patil and appropriate action will be taken if non-compliances observed.

- 3) **Shri. Nilesh Dasharath Patil, Nare Village, Taluka Wada-** Dear Sir, the public hearing being held here today and I am alleging that, some companies have a very terrible situation, even if the complaint is filed there is no redressal. The second point is whether the industry is going to provide 20, 30, 40, 50 percentage employment to the locals or the government is going to provide 80 percent employment as per rules, they should give assurance in written? :-

**The convenor and Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C. Board, Kalyan-II** explained how complaints are redressal.

**Project proponent** said that, 30 to 40 percent employment will be given to the local people. He said that, unskilled workers will be taken from the village and if not available in the village, they will be taken from outside.

**The Chairman and Collector, Palghar** instructed that, if local workers not available in village, industry can give priority for nebour villagers for the employment.

Project proponent stated that, if local village workers won't be available industry will give priority for nebour villegers for the employment.

- 4) **Shri. Kishor Suresh Mase, Farmer, User village, taluka wada, District Palghar-** My personal opinion is that industry shall give in written to Gram Panchayat that the company will give employment to local people :-

Project Proponent stated that, the efforts will be made to provide 60 to 70 percent employment for the local people.

**Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar** asked the company management to clarify the meaning of skilled and unskilled. If 10 nos of manpower is required what is the problem in hiring all local people ? :-

Project Proponent said that, those who will operate machines are said as skilled and helpers and other are said to be unskilled. Also said that, industry will try to take all workers from local village.

**Shri. Mahendra Patil, User, Taluka Wada, District Palghar** – This company is next to Gaonthan of the village and there is possibility of people will relocate in gaonthan of the village. He expressed his opinion that, people can be build houses in gaonthan of the village in future, so this industry may pose a threat due to pollution in the village :-

The convenor and Sub Regional Officer stated that, this Gram Panchayat comes under PESA Region hence M.P.C. Board does not grant consent to industry without obtaining NOC from the Gram Panchayat.

**Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar-**The company management has been directed to give copies of Powerpoint Presentation to all the villagers in this public hearing. He also directed that, if the company does not fulfil matters mentioned in the presentation the villagers shall file complaint to M.P.C. Board :-

Project Proponent has agreed to act accordingly.

The convenor and Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C. Board, Kalyan-III assured that, after receiving complaint to M.P.C. Board appropriate action will be initiated against industry if non compliance observed.

**Conclusion:** People representatives, local body officials, villagers, businessmen, Environmental experts have been participated in the Public Hearing and they expressed their suggestions/objections regarding the project. Also the Chairman and members of the Public Hearing Committee and the Project Proponent have taken note of the suggestions/objections of the peoples/ villagers regarding the environmental issues. The Convenor of Public Hearing Committee given vote of thanks to all those present in the public hearing and with the prior permission of Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, District-Palghar announced that, the process is completed of public hearing has been completed.



( Dr. Seema Uday Dalavi )  
Convenor of the Committee &  
SRO, MPCB, Kalyan-III



( Dr. Rajendra A. Rajput )  
Member of the Committee &  
Regional Officer, MPCB, Kalyan



( Govind Maruti Bodke )  
Chairman of the Committee  
& Collector, Palghar District