

MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED EXPANSION OF M/S. SKYTECH ROLLING MILL PVT. LTD., SURVEY NO.473, 479, 481, 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. Skytech Rolling Mill Pvt. Ltd, Survey No. 473, 479, 481, village Usar, Taluka Wada, District Palghar to organize the public hearing on proposed expansion to increase the total production capacity from 18000 MT/A to 40000 MT/A has been received to Sub Regional Office, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III on 03.08.2023. 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 No. E-83 of 2023, letter No. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-231201-FTS-0208, dated 01.12.2023 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) | District Magistrate, Palghar
Or his representative not below the rank of
Additional District Magistrate | Chairman |
| 2) | Representative of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board
Regional Officer, M.P.C.B.Kalyan | Member |
| 3) | Sub Regional Officer, M.P.C.B. Kalyan-III | Conveyor |

As per the EIA Notification, one month advance public notice has been published in the local newspaper on 16.11.2023 in Marathi 'Daily Sakal' 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, 15th Floor, Madam Kama Road, Mantralaya, Mumbai-400 032.
2. M.P.C. Board, Kalpataru Point, 3rd & 4th Floor, Opp.Cine Planet,Sion (East), Mumbai.
3. 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

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 about it, to inform the general public about the pollution control systems required for the project, considering the suggestion 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 2 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 19.12.2023 at 11.00 A.M. at premises of M/s. Skytech Rolling Mill Pvt. Ltd, Survey No. 473, 479, 481, village Usar, Taluka Wada, District Palghar. The said public hearing started on 19.12.2023 at 12.14 P.M. Total 54 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
6. Shri. Jayprakash Bhusara, 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. Skytech Rolling Mill Pvt. Ltd, Survey No. 473, 479, 481, village Usar, Taluka Wada, District Palghar. 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 the following suggestions/questions/objections have been raised.

- 1) **Mr. Mahesh Varade, Motewada, Usar Village, Taluka Wada, District Palghar-** From this new project of the industry What will the benefit to Usar village? :-

Project Proponent- The expansion of this project will require 240 nos. of manpower and will provide employment to the people of the Usar Village. Maximum number of people of in the village will be given employment according to their educational qualification.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- How much skilled and unskilled manpower is required out of total 240 manpower? :-

The project proponent said that, at present they have not divided the skilled and unskilled manpower. The manpower will taken as per requirement of the project and as the project expansion phase will progress.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- If the project report is ready with the industry, it should be known how much skilled and unskilled workers are required. How many skilled and unskilled workers are currently working in the project? :-

The project proponent said that currently total 65 manpower is working out of which 10 are skilled and remaining 55 are unskilled manpower.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- How many local unskilled worker in the industry ? :-

The project proponent said that currently 10% local unskilled workers.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Why local workers are not taken by the industry? :-

The project proponent said that, some outside workers has to be hired because local unskilled workers are unwilling to do work in scrap sector.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Is there any local people here? :-

Mr. Raghu Patil, Gram Panchayat Member, Usar- Since Gram Panchayat is scattered and population is less, the local people are not ready to work for 12 hours and 8 hours, also as they get a lot of work at the local level, local people are not willing to do heavy work in the industry. He also mentioned that the problem here is that skilled people with technical knowledge are interest in clean work :-

The project proponent said that, local workers are not working in scrap sector, because of the percentage of locals is less in the industry.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- People from the surrounding villages will not be available?

Mr. Raghu Patil, Gram Panchayat Member, Usar- mentioned that, unskilled workers will be available from the surrounding villages.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar directed that Environmental Clearance will be given only if employment will be given to local people and the industry will have to submit an affidavit regarding employment provision to local people.

The project proponent agreed to provide an affidavit regarding employment provision to local people.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- How much water will be required for the project?

The project proponent answered that the water demand is 76.5 MLD for the project.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Why water is not brought by pipeline from Tansa River where it is only 1.9 k.m. distance from the project?

The project proponent stated that the River water is not allowed to be used by the industry.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Why industry is not taking permission from the Irrigation Department for the River water use from Tansa River. Also directed to demand permission to reserve water quota from Irrigation Department. Despite the fact that there is a perennial flowing Tansa River is only 1.9 k.m. distance Why to waste natural resources by drawing water from bore wells and lowering the water table?

The project proponent said that rain water harvesting is being done in this regard.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Rainwater harvesting is good and must be done. How much is your discharge?

The project proponent said there is zero discharge. It is reused after treating the water in the production process.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Can the production of 40000 metric tons per year by the industry?

The project proponent answered - Yes Sir.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- how many metric tons will be produced per day?

The project proponent said the production will be 50 metric tons per day.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- How many vehicles come daily?

The project proponent replied that 4 to 5 vehicles come daily.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Have you noticed that heavy vehicles running on the local roads may contribute to damage of the local roads and will industry make some contribution for repairing of damaged roads.

The project proponent agreed to contribute in repairing of local roads.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- Asked what is the perpetuity of the contribution from the industry and What if the roads get damaged? :-

The project proponent said that, Hon'ble Chairmans view is correct about perpetuity of the contribution and also contributions will be made by the industry.

Mr. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist- stated as follows;

Sir Namaskar, I am Mr. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist. My basis is to support the industry management, I am first environmentalist to support the industry. In my opinion unemployment is a major social pollution, at the same time water and air pollution shall be controlled. In this regard requested for the plantation as per environmental norms. Further requested to plantation maximum upto 50% to 60%. In the plantation plants having medicinal value should be included instead of normal plants with the help of government. And also requested to do avenue plantation along side of the roads with the help of CER activity. The rain water harvesting shall be done by the industry. Recommended to take water from the nearest river, as it is very admissible instead of ground water with the help of the government. Requested to form a co-ordination committee of officers, gram panchayat, villagers and with co-ordination employment to the villagers as per the demand can be given. Further, congratulated to the industry management regarding employment provided and additional planning of employment generation upto 240 numbers. Requested the industry to take precautionary measures to prevent air, water and noise pollution and ultimately protect the environment. He expressed his gratitude towards opportunity given to express his opinion.

The project proponent said that these suggestions will be taken into consideration.

Hon'ble Chairman and Collector, Palghar- asked Mr. Sunanda Reddy that, from which area do you represent?

Mr. Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist- Answered as Environmentalist.

Mr. Chandu, Environmental Activist- I would like to raise the following points in the Environmental Public Hearing of M/s. Skytech Rolling Mills Pvt. Ltd., through Maharashtra Pollution Control Board :- There is a need to develop green belt around the project area, it is necessary to use Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER) for providing employment to the people of surrounding villagers, protect the environment after getting Environmental Clearance. :-

The project proponent said that these suggestions will be taken into consideration.

Conclusion: Peoples representatives, local body officials, villagers, businessmen, Environmental experts are 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 were taking note of the suggestions/objections of the peoples/ villagers regarding the environmental issues. The Convenor of Public Hearing Committee thanked all those present the public hearing and with the prior permission of Honorable Chairman and Collector, Palghar District announced that, the process 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

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