

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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No./MPCB/JD(WPC)/ENV/PH/B- 240709 - FTS-0047

Date: 09/07/2024

To,
The Principal Secretary,
Environment & Climate Change Department,
Government of Maharashtra,
Room No. 217 (Annex) New Administration Building,
Mantralaya, Mumbai-400032.

Sub: Environmental Clearance - Proceedings of Public Hearing in respect of Proposed 29 Sand Mining projects. Proposed by District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office, Buldhana, Maharashtra.

Ref: Sub-Regional Office Akola submitted proceeding vide dt-19.06.2024 received on 24.06.2024.

Sir,

The Public Hearing for Proposed 29 Sand Mining projects. Proposed by District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office, Buldhana, Maharashtra.

Environmental public hearing Conducted on dtd-19.06.2024, Time-12.00. Noon., At Collector Sabhagruh, Collector Office, Buldhana, Maharashtra, 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, Amravati
- 2) The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Akola.
- 3) EIC, M.P. C. Board, Mumbai - For information & display of Minutes on website.

Copy to the applicant of the project:

District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office, Buldhana, Maharashtra.

Minutes of Public Hearing Panel in respect of proposed 29 nos. of Sand Mining Projects in the Buldana District proposed by District Mining Officer, Collector Office, Buldana Maharashtra dtd. 19/06/2024 at 12.00 Noon, at Collector Office, Buldana.

The District Mining Officer, Mining Department, Collector Office Buldhana has submitted the application for conducting Environmental Public Hearing for obtaining Environmental Clearance in respect of 29 sand ghats in Buldhana District. The said Public Hearing has been conducted as per the provisions made in the notification dtd. 14/09/2006 issued by Ministry of Environment and Forest (Climate Change). Accordingly, the Public Hearing in respect of the sand mining projects has been conducted on 19/06/2024 at 12.00 Noon at District Collector Office, Buldhana as per the provisions made in the office memorandum dtd. 09 June 2021 issued by Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change. The Hon'ble Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has issued Office Order No. E-139 of 2024 vide letter no. BO/JD(WPC)/PH/B-240607-FTS-0154, dtd. 07/06/2024 of constitution of Environmental Public Hearing Committee to conduct the said Public Hearing.

The following members of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee were present for the Public Hearing.

1. Hon'ble Dr. Kiran Patil, Collector, Buldana – Chairman.
2. Shri S. D. Patil, Regional Officer, MPCB, Amravati – Member.
3. Shri M. D. Bhiwapurkar, Sub-Regional Officer, MPCB, Akola – Convener.

The public notice for conducting the Environmental Public Hearing has been published in Daily "Lokmat" (Marathi) and Daily "Hitwada" (English) on 14/05/2024. Accordingly the Environmental Public Hearing has been conducted on 19/06/2024 at 12.00 Noon at Collector Office, Buldhana.

The Public Hearing was started with due permission of Hon'ble Chairman. The Convener of the Public Hearing Committee, Shri M.D. Bhiwapurkar, Sub-Regional Officer, Akola welcomed the participants present in the Public Hearing. He further briefed about the requirement of conducting Environmental Public Hearing of the said project. He further stated that the District Mining Officer, Buldhana has submitted Environment Management Plan, Executive Summary (English & Marathi) in respect of 29 sand ghats in Buldhana District. The said documents were made available at following offices for the people residing in the project area / environmental groups in order to obtain suggestion / objections, if any, from the concerned.

1. Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalptaru Point, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th floor, in front of cineplanet theatre, near Sion Circle (East), Mumbai-400022.
2. Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Sahakar Surabhi, Near Vivekanand Colony, Bapatwadi, Amravati-444606.

3. Sub-Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Hutatma Chowk, Near Nehru Park, Akola.
4. Collector Office, Buldhana.
5. Zilla Parishad, Buldhana.
6. District Industry Centre, Buldhana.
7. All the Sub-Divisional Officer (revenue), Dist. Buldhana.
8. All the Tahasil Offices, District, Buldhana.
9. All the concerned Gram Panchayat Offices, Dist. Buldhana.

With the permission of Chairman Shri M.D. Bhiwapurkar, Sub-Regional Officer, Akola and member of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee briefed about the procedure of Public Hearing and requested the Project Proponent to give the presentation regarding sand ghat projects.

The representative from Mantras Green Resources Ltd., Nashik (Environmental Consultant of the Project Proponent) has given the presentation regarding sand ghat projects.

He told that the water sprinkling arrangement will be made available during the transportation of sand from sand ghat. The vehicles used for transportation of sand will be covered. The sand excavation and transportation will be done only in day time. During the rainy season the sand excavation will be closed. The excavation will not be done beyond the limitation. The tree plantation will be done along the road side, along the both side of river. Due to this project the social and economic condition of nearby human beings will be upgraded. Regular health check-up will be done.

Shri M.D. Bhiwapurkar, Sub-Regional Officer, Akola and convenor of the Environmental Public Hearing Committee stated that the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board has not received any objection/suggestions in respect of the sand ghats. He appealed the participants to raise their suggestions /objections if any.

Shri Rameshwar Chate, Sarpanch, village Nimgaon, questioned that since the cancellation of Environment Clearance approval, illegal business has become more common. What can be done about it?.

In this regard Hon'ble Chairman said that the proposal of the said 29 sand ghats will be sent today to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Quarter, Mumbai for further action. The committee has been constituted at Environment Department, Mumbai to obtain Environment Clearance. Also flying squad in the district have been formed to prevent illegal sand mining and through them action is initiated. Proposals for obtaining Environmental Clearance will be considered at meeting of the said committee. Sand mining is not done during the month of October due to rain and water runoff in the river bed. Also sand mining will start after October. He further appealed that all the contractors should participate in the tender process.

Shri Ankush Deshmukh, Mouje Takarkhed (Bh.), raised the question that sand ghat environment clearance approval has expired. What solution can be planned for this.

In this regard Hon'ble Chairman said that a three years proposal plan has been prepared for the said 29 sand ghats. After today's Public Hearing, the said proposal will be sent to Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Head Quarter, Mumbai for further action. Earlier, the proposal of 12 sand ghats has been submitted to the Environment Department for approval.

Shri Rameshwar Chate, Sarpach, Nimgaon again questioned that whether tree plantation will be done through the administration?

In this regard Hon'ble Chairman said that public participation in the tree plantation is important. From the month of July this year, 4 to 5 lacs no. of trees will be planted in the district. Also, if there is land available with the concerned Gram Panchayat they should register for tree plantation. Trees will be provided for tree plantation by Social Forestry Department.

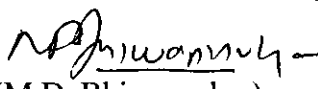
Shri Umakant Parad, Digras, questioned that there are no proper approach roads to reach sand ghats?


In this regard Hon'ble Chairman said that the whatever difficulties will be faced will be worked on with the joint participation of all and efforts will be made to solve all the problems.


Shri Umakant Parad, Digras, again questioned that due to unseasonal rain, silt accumulate on the sand ghat. What can be done about it? Some modification can be made for sand mining what?

In this regard Hon'ble Chairman said that sand ghats are proposed only after considering all aspects, so it will not be possible for any change for sand mining method.

With the permission of Hon'ble Chairman the Public Hearing concluded with vote of thanks.


(M.D. Bhiwapurkar)
Convener
&
Sub-Regional Officer,
MPC Board Akola


(S.D. Patil)
Member
&
Regional Officer,
MPC Board Amravati


(Dr. Kiran Patil)
Chairman
Public Hearing Committee
&
Collector, Buldhana.