

MAHARASHTRA POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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No./MPCB/JD(WPC)/ENV/PH/B- 240709 - FTS - 0043

Date: 09/07/2024

To,
Ministry of Environment,
Forests & Climate Change Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110 003.

Sub: Environmental Clearance - Proceedings of Public Hearing in respect of **Proposed** Establishment of Sugar unit of 7000 TCD, along with Establishment of 300 KLPD Syrup based distillery/300 KLPD B-Molasses Based Distillery /300 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to Produce RS/ Ethanol & Co-Generation Power Plant of 30 MW. **Proposed by** M/s. Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd. (SBPL) Gat no 163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas village, Tal- Sangola, Dist-Solapur, Maharashtra.

Ref: Sub-Regional Solapur submitted proceeding vide letter dt-04.07.2024 received on 08.07.2024.

Sir,

The Public Hearing for **Proposed** Establishment of Sugar unit of 7000 TCD, along with Establishment of 300 KLPD Syrup based distillery/300 KLPD B-Molasses Based Distillery /300 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to Produce RS/ Ethanol & Co-Generation Power Plant of 30 MW. **Proposed by** M/s. Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd. (SBPL) Gat no 163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas village, Tal- Sangola, Dist-Solapur, Maharashtra.

Environmental public hearing conducted on dtd. 26.06.2024, Time-12.00 Noon, At Proposed project site – M/s. Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd. (SBPL) Gat no 163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas village, Tal-Sangola, Dist-Solapur, 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)
- 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, Pune
- 2) The Sub Regional Office, MPCB, Solapur
- 3) EIC, M.P. C. Board, Mumbai - For information & display of Minutes on website.

Copy to the applicant of the project:

M/s. Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd. (SBPL) Gat no 163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas village, Tal- Sangola, Dist-Solapur, Maharashtra.

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF SUGAR UNIT OF 7,000.0 TCD, ALONGWITH ESTABLISHMENT OF 300.0 KLPD SYRUP BASED DISTILLERY/300 KLPD B-MOLASSESSES BASED DISTILLERY / 300 KLPD GRAIN BASED DISTILLERY TO PRODUCE RS/ETHANOL & CO-GENERATION POWER PLANT OF 30.0 MW AT GAT NO.163/2, 164 & 165 OF KADLAS VILLAGE, TALUKA – SANGOLA, DISTRICT – SOLAPUR - 411 045, MAHARASHTRA BY PROJECT PROPONENT M/S SAIPRO BIOFUELS PVT. LTD., (SBPL), GAT NO.163/2, 164 & 165 OF KADLAS VILLAGE, TALUKA – SANGOLA, DISTRICT-SOLAPUR – 411 045, MAHARASHTRA

The Environment Public Hearing in respect of proposed establishment of Sugar Unit Of 7,000.0 TCD, along with Establishment Of 300.0 KLPD Syrup Based Distillery/300 KLPD B-Molasses Based Distillery / 300 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to produce RS/Ethanol & Co-Generation Power Plant Of 30.0 MW At Gat NO.163/2, 164 & 165 Of Kadlas Village, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur - 411 045, Maharashtra By Project Proponent M/s Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd., (SBPL), Gat NO.163/2, 164 & 165 Of Kadlas Village, Taluka – Sangola, District-Solapur – 411 045, Maharashtra was conducted on Wednesday, the 26th June, 2024 at 12.00 noon at the Project Site.

Shri Nikhil More, Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur and Member, Convener of the Environment Public Hearing Committee welcomed Mrs. Manisha Kumbhar, 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.

Member, 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, Gol) dated 14th September, 2006 as amended on 1st December, 2009 and 14th August, 2018, it is mandatory to conduct prior public consultation to certain projects which are covered in the schedule of the said Notification.

Convener further informed as per EIA Notification, 2006, the category of proposed project falls under Category A – Sugar Production – schedule 5 (j), Co-gen Project – schedule 1 (d) and Distillery - 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.

Member, Convener informed that the aim of conducting prior public consultation is to make aware, local people who can be participant in the hearing and they should know the developmental activities and Environment Management Plan of the unit.

Project Proponent had submitted online prescribed application alongwith pre-feasibility report on 15-03-2024 to carry the survey for preparation of Draft Environment Impact Assessment Report and Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi has considered and given online ToR (Terms of Reference) approval on 04-04-2024.



Member, Convener informed that Maharashtra Pollution Control Board was in receipt of application from Project Proponent M/s Saipro Biofuels Pvt. Ltd., (SBPL), Gat No.163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas Village, Taluka – Sangola, District-Solapur – 411 045, Maharashtra on 07/05/2024 to conduct Environmental Public Hearing for their proposed establishment of Sugar Unit of 7,000.0 TCD, alongwith Establishment of 300.0 KLPD Syrup Based Distillery/300 KLPD B-Molasses Based Distillery / 300 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to produce RS/Ethanol & Co-Generation Power Plant of 30.0 MW At Gat No.163/2, 164 & 165 of Kadlas Village, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur - 411 045, Maharashtra.

Joint Director (Water Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai vide letter dated 08-05-2024 directed Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur to conduct the process of conducting environmental public hearing regarding the said project.

After sanction from District Collector, Solapur to conduct the Physical Environment Public Hearing on Wednesday , the 26th June, 2024 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 Environment Public Hearing Committee vide Board's Office Order No. E- 141 of 2024 under letter no. BO/JD (WPC)/PH/B- 240624 FTS- 0096 dated 24-06-2024 as under:-



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

As per 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 for Marathi and in Newspaper Divya Marathi for English on 25th May, 2024. 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) General Manager, District Industries Center, Solapur;
- 4) Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Solapur;
- 5) Tahsildar, Tahsil Office – Sangola, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur;



- 6) Block Development Officer, Panchayat Samiti, Sangola, Taluka-Sangola, District-Solapur;
- 7) Gram Panchayat Offices related to -Mouje Kadlas, Akola, Alegaon, Kedarwadi, Kamalapur, Watambare, Rajuri, Nijampur, Lonavire, Hanamantgaon, Sonand, Agalavewadi, Javala, Dongargaon, Godasewadi, Tarangewadi, Bhopsewadi, Manegaon villages, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur;
- 8) Deputy Secretary (Technical), Environment & Climate Change Department, Maharashtra Government, New Administrative Building, 15th Floor, Mantralaya, Madam Cama Road, Mumbai – 400 032;
- 9) Joint Director (WPC), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1st,2nd,3rd, 4th Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 10) Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Kalpataru Point, 1st,2nd,3rd, 4th Floor, Sion-Matunga Scheme Road No.8, Opp. Cine Planet Cinema, Near Sion Circle, Sion (East), Mumbai – 400 022;
- 11) Regional Officer, Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Jog Centre, 3rd Floor, Wakadewadi, Old Mumbai Pune Road, Pune-411 003;
- 12) Sub Regional Officer, Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, 4/B, Bali Block, Civil Lines, Opp. Govt. Milk Dairy, Saat Rasta, Solapur – 413 003;
- 13) EIC Section, Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Mumbai; - for posting on website



Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur has received 02 suggestions/ objections/ comments/ complaints regarding the above project till date.

Member, 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.

He further asserted that, this Committee is constituted only for recording public opinion, views, suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project in environmental angle only and the Committee 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 Environmental Assessment Report of the Project Proponent and minutes of the meeting, the video recording of the said meeting, suggestions and objections recorded orally and written suggestions/objections are attached and after approval of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee will be submitted through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to Environment Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee there will take further decision regarding the same. He 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.

Environmental Consultant said that, the total investment for the said project is expected to be Rs 350 crore and the said project is a Zero Liquid Discharge project. The capital expenditure for environmental management in the project is Rs 66.2051 crore and the recurring expenditure is Rs 14.11 crore. The project will develop 33% green belt as per guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board.

A total of 280 persons will get job opportunities due to the said project. 100 persons will get employment contract in the construction phase. After the implementation of the project, the project will provide employment opportunities to 180 skilled persons and 100 persons in unskilled cadre.

Similarly, due to the said project, there will be a huge increase in the indirect business in the area.

After the presentation, Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, appealed to the participants to register any environmental objections, suggestions regarding the proposed project.

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. Natha Nivrutti Waghmare, Residence – Udanwadi, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur :-**



After inception of the project, will the villagers in the project affected area get job opportunities?

Environmental Consultant of the project informed that, the project will require about 280 people after the project is operational. It requires around 180 skilled and 100 unskilled workers. If the local persons possess the requisite educational qualification for the skilled cadre, then only the local persons of the project area will be given priority in job opportunities. Local persons will be given preference for job opportunities even in unskilled cadre.

2) Shri. Vilas Sadashiv Pandhare, Residence – Udanwadi, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur:-

What measures will be adopted to avoid water pollution and air pollution in the area due to the proposed project?

Environmental Consultant of the project replied that remedial plans have been proposed to prevent water and air pollution from the project in the area. An Electro-Static-Precipitator (ESP) device will be installed to the stack in the project for air pollution control. Therefore, the smoke particles emitted in the production activities will be completely arrested. So, no polluting smoke will be emitted.

In order to prevent water pollution, ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) will be commissioned in the sugar department, in which the effluent generated in the production activities will be processed.

Also, the waste water/spent wash generated in the Distillery Unit of the project will be bio-methenized by spent wash dryer, multi-effective evaporation, then the spent wash will be converted into powder form using



the spent wash dryer. Spent wash powder can be made available to local farmers for use in their fields as fertilizer.

Similarly, condensate will be processed CPU (Condensate Polishing Unit – CPU) and reused in the production process.

In this way, waste water generated in the project will be processed, recycled and reused in the project production. Not a single drop of treated effluent will be released outside the project.

3) Shri. Nilesh Mane, Residence -Kadlas, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur :-

Local people have not been informed about this environmental public hearing. There is no information about the effect of the project's pollution on the people and animals living nearby. Some people have come here from outside the villages. I have submitted a personal written letter to local MPCB Office – Sub Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur. No written reply has been given in this regard, and no information have been given to attend the said public hearing.

There are water sources at a distance of 5.0 to 50.0 meters from the location of this factory. There is also a pond on their right side. There are two large lakes owned by the Government. One of them is Kodi Lake, there is a government water well. Its water is directly supplied to people's homes through Gram Panchayat. Also, from the water that is stored in the lake, we are given water for our agriculture and animal husbandry.

Hence, we think that we have to face the risk of water pollution, poor water supply for animal husbandry and agriculture after this factory



starts. However, I myself, farmers and citizens are against the project. However, an explanation should be given by the Environment Public Hearing Committee.

Here, Member, Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee explained that the purpose of this public hearing is basically to note the feelings, thoughts, suggestions and objections of the project affected and local people about the proposed project. As stated at the beginning of the meeting, this Committee does not approve any project, reject any project or recommend any project. Suggestions / objections raised by you are recorded and will be included in the minutes of the meeting. Written suggestions/objections as received, minutes of meeting as approved by Hon'ble Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee will be submitted through Headquarters, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board to Government of India. An Expert Committee there will take appropriate decision in this regard. Hence, if participants have any environmental suggestions, objections about the proposed project, it should be raised.

Here, Shri. Nilesh Mane objected again that the local people have no knowledge about this project. Hence, many local people could not come here. People here are not very educated.

However, the objections raised by me should be considered. Here in the meeting, Mane, Gaikwad, Khatkale, Bhaganale families, who have their farms here, have come to register their objections. Those whose houses are near the water source, near the project. However, Environmental Public Hearing Committee should think about this.



4) Shri. Balasaheb Sudha Mane, Mane Vasti, Residence – Kadlas, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur :-

I am a farmer and my house is on the lower side of the lake here. Gram Panchayat water has not reached here. We get water only after getting water in this lake. After start of this project, if the effluent from the factory gets mixed with the lake, how we will get water? How we will drink the water? Because all the villagers say that the polluted waste water from the factory will go into the lake itself.

Hence, all the farmers here are against this project and we should be informed in writing about this.

5) Shri. Sharadchandra Shivaji Gaikwad, Residence-Kadlas, Taluka – Sangola, District – Solapur :-

We are not against development. But if we look at the geographical situation of this area, there is a slope from the factory location to this side (public hearing location). In the Presentation, it is mentioned that the wastewater will not go outside the project. Here, now it rained more than expected. There is fully water accumulated behind our percolation pond. There was no water for the last thirty years. So, in this situation, what the factory will do?

It is agreed that development work should not be hampered. Earlier, the drain has been banked here by the Agriculture Department. Project officials have leveled it. Due to which, the water in our lake is higher than other lakes. However, while setting up such a factory, the small farmers should also be considered.

Also, why Maharashtra Pollution Control Board did not inform Gram Sevak, Sarpanch, Talathi to give information about this meeting orally / through (Davandi) ?



Due to this we, the local farmers here, would have been able to prepare and raise our objections regarding this project. This should be explained.

Project Environmental Consultant explained that, question has been raised about what to do in case of heavy rainfall. While the project will have a separate pipeline for storm water drain, there will be a separate line for carrying waste water. The factory will take care that these two are not mixed.

Here Shri. Sharadchandra Gaikwad objected that, the canal which was bunded by the Agriculture Department was flattened with whose permission? Local people have not been informed about this. Therefore, in the present situation, this lake has more water than other lakes. I have sugarcane crop in my field. The percolation pond has been converted into a storage pond. Still there is water in my field. So, due to the geographical situation, the waste water from the project will go to our agriculture fields, which is at downside of the areas.

Environmental Consultant explained here that, the sewage will not go outside the project. Because the treated effluent will be recycled and reused in the project itself. But if the rain is heavy, the storm water will go to the fields. Also there will be no air pollution as ESP – Electro-Static-Precipitator will be installed at the stack in the project.

At this time, some participants said that, all the farmers residing here are against this project. Local farmers do not have the idea that the factory will be built here, all the farmers are against it. However, this public



hearing should be held again by giving advance notice to all the farmers in the area, the opposition of all the farmers will be seen.

Member, Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee said that, the suggestions and objections raised by the participants for the proposed project have been recorded and will be included in the minutes of the meeting and will be submitted to the Government. If there are any new issues other than the existing issues, they should be raised. Participants are being given an opportunity in this regard.

6) Shri. Sunanda Reddy, an Environmentalist, Telangana State:-

My request to the Environmental Public Hearing Committee is to consider first the suggestions and objections raised by the villagers. Although industrial development is important, at the same time, environmental protection, Zero Liquid Discharge projects are necessary. It is also important to avoid water pollution, air pollution, land pollution. Also, the thoughts and interests of the farmers living in the project affected area should be taken care of.

Also, while developing the green belt, medicinal value plants, as well as fruit bearing plants should be planted in large quantities. ETPs and STPs should be established by the Project Administration and it should be operated efficiently. Project Administration should take decisions in the interest of local people, local farmers.

Member, Convener, Environment Public Hearing Committee here again asked the participants that if there is any environmental suggestions, objections regarding the proposed project.



7) **Shri. Dattatraya Jadhav, Residence – Kadlas, Taluka – Sangola,**
District – Solapur :-

As shown in the Presentation, the funds that will be reserved for the village, Gram Panchayat, will be spent on what activities?

Environmental Consultant replied that the funds to be reserved in the proposed project will be under the Corporate Environment Responsibility (CER) Fund. The funds will be spent only for the works/activities for which the said activities are planned. These activities will be completed before implementation. A total fund of 5.25 crores has been kept in reserve.

Member, Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee expressed his opinion that in today's public hearing, participants have been given sufficient time to register their environmental suggestions, objections about the proposed project. The issues raised have been noted and it will be included in the minutes of meeting. Also, after publication of Environment Public Notice in local newspaper, the written suggestions/objections as well as by email as received by Sub Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur; written suggestions/objections received during the meeting, and video shooting and minutes of meeting and Revised EIA report after approval of Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee will be submitted through Head Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai to Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi. An Expert Committee there will take further decision. He requested Hon. Chairperson to say few words.



Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing Committee said that, today we have gathered here to conduct environment public hearing of M/s. Saipro Biofuel Private Limited (SBPL), Gut no. 1613/2, 164 and 165, Kadlas Village, Taluka-Sangola, District – Solapur for their proposed establishment of sugar unit of 7,000.0 TCD alongwith Establishment of 300.0 KLPD Syrup based distillery/300 KLPD B-Molasses Based Distillery/300 KLPD Grain Based Distillery to produce RS/Ethanol & Co-Generation Power Plant of 30.0 MW. Environment Consultant of the Project Proponent has given presentation regarding the project and Environment Management Plan (EMP) to all.

The basic objective of this environment public hearing is to make aware the villagers about the proposed project and all the pollution control systems in the project, to address the suggestions/objections raised by them and to record them in the minutes of the meeting.

Chairperson further said that, Shri Nilesh Mane, a villager had registered objections to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Solapur regarding the establishment of the proposed project in writing. It has been recorded and the suggestions/objections raised in the meeting have been recorded. It will be included in the minutes of the meeting and all the documents will be submitted to the Government of India.

An Expert Committee there will take appropriate decision regarding it.

Chairperson remarked that participants were repeatedly appealed to raise their suggestions/objections. There was no response from the participants, which can be assumed that there is no suggestion/objection



from the public and hence Environment Public Hearing is declared completed.

Member, Convener, Environmental Public Hearing Committee thanked Hon'ble Chairperson, Environmental Public Hearing Committee, villagers of project affected villages, public representatives, officials of Project Proponent, journalists, charitable organizations working on environment, channel representatives and local people who were present in large numbers and with the consent of the Hon'ble Chairperson, Environment Public Hearing declared that the meeting is concluded.

Enclosed herewith 02 written suggestions / objections/ comments/complaints as received.

Meeting ended extending thanks to the Chair.



(Nikhil More)
Convener,
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Sub Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board,
Solapur



(Manisha Kumbhar)
Chairperson
Environment Public Hearing Committee
And
Additional District Magistrate, Solapur,
District – Solapur