

Minutes of Environmental Public Hearing

M/s. Pernod Ricard India Pvt. Ltd. Located at Gat no. Gut No 110, 112, 126/1/A, 126/1/B, 126/1/D, 126/2/A, 126/2/B, 126/2/C, 127/1 to 127/5, 208/1, 208/2 & 365 at village Kadwa Mhalungi & Village Pade, Tal. Dindori, Dist. Nashik, Maharashtra proposed expansion of existing grain based distillery from 60 KLPD to 250 KLPD along with expansion of captive co-generation from 2 MW to 6.5MW

Public hearing for Environmental Clearance of Pernod Ricard India Pvt. Ltd. Located at Gut No 110, 112, 126/1/A, 126/1/B, 126/1/D, 126/2/A, 126/2/B, 126/2/C, 127/1 to 127/5, 208/1, 208/2 & 365 at village Kadwa Mhalungi & Village Pade, Tal. Dindori, Dist. Nashik, Maharashtra for their proposed expansion of existing grain based distillery from 60 KLPD to 250 KLPD along with expansion of captive co-generation from 2 MW to 6.5MW was executed on July 03, 2024 at 12-00 noon. At the factory site under the chairmanship of Hon'able District Collector of Nashik.

As per the Office Order No. E - 140/ 2024 letter no. B.O. / J.D. (WPC) / Ph / B- 240613- FTS- 0122 Dt. On 13/06/2024 of Hon. Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai, Public Hearing Committee on Environment was formed and following officers of the committee attended the said public hearing.

- 1) Hon. Collector - Chairman
Collector's Office, Nashik
- 2) Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Nashik - Member
(Representative of Member Secretary MPCB,
Mumbai)
- 3) Sub- Regional Officer,
Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, - Convenor
Nashik

Mr. Amar Durgule, Sub-Regional Officer, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board Nashik and Convenor, of the Public Hearing Committee welcomed all the attendees at the beginning. Mr. Durgule briefed regarding the objective of the public hearing on environment clearance with the permission of the Hon. Collector. The

convenor gave information about the importance of the public hearing and the process followed.

Mr. Amar Durgule stated that as per the notification dated 14th September 2006 and its amendment done on 1st December 2009 issued by the Ministry of Forests and Environment, Government of India, New Delhi, it is mandatory to obtain environmental clearance for certain projects and before that public hearing is mandatory. Mr. Amar Durgule also said that an application has been received by M/s. Pernod Ricard India Pvt. Ltd. for holding a public hearing for their expansion of the existing grain based distillery from 60 KLPD to 250 KLPD along with expansion of captive co-generation from 2 MW to 6.5MW. In line with the application Hon. Collector Nashik directed to conduct the said hearing on 03.07.2024, Wednesday at 12.00 noon.

According to the above environmental notification, it is mandatory to give public notice about the public hearing in local newspaper 30 days prior to it. The Sub-Regional Office, MPCB Nashik had published a public notice regarding public hearing in local Marathi newspaper Marathi daily "Sakal" and English newspaper daily "Times of India" on 31.05.2024. Which appealed to the general public to register any objections, suggestions regarding the above project in written form.

Accordingly, the documents related to the proposed project i.e. English and Marathi copies of Environmental Impact Assessment report and Executive Summary Report were submitted at the notified offices of the Government i.e. Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, Ministry, Mumbai, Headquarters, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai, Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board – Nashik, Deputy Regional Office, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Nashik, Department of Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra, New Administrative Building, Ministry, Mumbai, Hon. Collector's Office- Nashik, Chief Executive Officer - Zilla Parishad, Nashik, Deputy Divisional Officer, Dindori, District-Nashik, Tehsil Office, Dindori, Gram Panchayat Office, Pade Village, Kadwa Mhalungi Village, Umrале Khurd, Nilvandi Pade, Valkhed, Ozarkhed, Awankhed, Karanjavan, Nigdol, Ta. Dindori, Dist. Nashik and was also made available for information and perusal for the general public on the website of the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board.

Mr. Amar Durgule said if anyone from the attendees had any objections or suggestions, they can give it in written or oral form. The said suggestions/objections will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Similarly, the video recording of the said meeting will be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, New Delhi.

The public hearing for environmental Clearance was started with the permission of the Hon. Chairman.

The environmental consultant of the project explained on various aspects about the project such as - Environmental impact assessment, project details, project design, environmental status study, local environment details and area information, site information, air quality, noise intensity, Water quality of the study area. The presentation also mentioned regarding soil quality, bio-environment, socio-economic environment, expected effects on the surrounding environment, environmental management plan, remediation plan for various environmental effects, socio-economic welfare activities under the environmental responsibility plan, provision of environmental management costs, project benefits etc.

After that Hon. the Chairman asked the attendees to submit their comments, objections and suggestion in regards to the said project.

Following topics were discussed during the public hearing-

Sr. no.	Comment, Objection, Suggestion, Issue etc.	Answer given by an industry representative
1.	<p>Prakash Balkrishna Shinde, Former Sarpanch Valkhed :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Though we extend our support to the expansion project, but you need to clarify on the utilization of the coal during crisis situation only. 2. What care you would take in regards to avoid the contamination and seepages in the nearby wells and my suggestion is they need to be monitored during the current operations also. 3. Even the air pollution is to be monitored and precautions 	<p>The project consultant and coordinator said that for the proposed expansion project, the boiler capacity would be increased to 60 tones and an electrostatic precipitator will be used as air pollution control equipment. Coal will only be used to the extent of 15% in crisis like in monsoon only. Continuous monitoring system for air pollution control equipment installed.</p> <p>Frequent check on the water sampling and air monitoring would</p>

	<p>accordingly are to be taken to avoid any further pollution.</p> <p>4. The company has to strictly follow the green belt norms and should see that the plants are surviving and proper care has to be taken to maintain the same.</p> <p>5. How C.S.R. fund is utilized needs proper monitoring? NGO is not utilizing the public fund appropriately is my concern.</p> <p>6. In terms of environment, Rs.132 lakh will be nothing in it, 10-12 of our villages are there, and the amount should also be increased in this project. And we should work for our health by taking the sarpanch of the 10-12 gram panchayats in the local area and taking their members into confidence.</p> <p>7. Due to our company, it is seen that the number of flies and mosquitoes has increased.</p> <p>8. The well water samples of 100 farmers in the vicinity should be tested. The surrounding air should be checked and the report should be placed before this committee first and then tell that there is no pollution</p> <p>9. It has come to our attention that this company's boiler* chimneys are causing climate change and also disrupting rainfall.</p> <p>10. Irrigation works should be done well.</p>	<p>be done in association with the local farmers and necessary measures would be adopted by the company to give confidence.</p> <p>The existing green belt also is maintained and monitored and precautions as per your suggestions would be taken into consideration to maintain the green belt area.</p> <p>The CSR fund mentioned of 132 lakhs is intended to be spent while the project is in progress. A separate budget is made for this and the said amount would be spent as per requirement and the advice of the authorities. As suggested by you the company will take the locals' into confidence to spend the fund appropriately.</p> <p>The company would strictly follow the guidelines to maintain the balance.</p>
2.	Sharad Eknath Malsane at Lingdoh:-	The project proponent assured that we are taking note of what you said.

	<p>You are going to use 0.75 percent of the said project i.e. 132 lakh rupees for environmental or social work, and if buildings are given to the villages of Ekalgaon, Talegaon, it will definitely be good for the tribal students there.</p>	<p>We will definitely consider it as a priority with respect to the company's budget. The company's objective is to utilize the CSR fund to benefit of the people of our geographical area.</p>
3.	<p>Vaman Patil Valkhed Police Patil Valkhed :- There is no adequate parking provision for the vehicles. It often causes traffic jams and pollution. After the expansion of the project, the surrounding roads will be damaged, thus the company needs to provide a proper parking provision and maintain the roads.</p>	<p>The project proponent stated that the company has already started making provisions for additional parking arrangements for vehicles apart from the existing parking. The company would also monitor the road condition to control Air Pollution, the company has already improved the roads by spending on its own. Also the related roads will be fully improved as per your suggestions.</p>
4.	<p>Shri. Vinayak Ramdas Shinde, Sarpanch Valkhed :- 1. During production the waste water will be discharged outside and cause water and soil pollution which will reduces the crop production capacity from the land, ash emission from boiler will falls on the crops in the surrounding fields and damage the crops, what measures have been taken for this? 2. Previously the company executed the work effectively but from last four years the work executed by the company is unsatisfactory. They also have to give permanent</p>	<p>The project consultant stated that, 1. For the proposed expansion project, the boiler would be having an electrostatic precipitator which will be used as air pollution controller to avoid further air pollution. For water pollution control we have full fledged water treatment plant consisting of primary, secondary and tertiary treatment. The waste water will be evaporate and treated water used for secondary purposes and partly gardening in own land. There is no discharge outside. 2. The company has previously spent Rs 20 to 22 crores under</p>

	<p>employment to the local people working in the company.</p>	<p>corporate social responsibility. The NGOs work in line with the rules and regulations laid down by the government. We would execute these works by discussing with the villagers and find appropriate solutions to spend the fund. We can have transparency while executing the same.</p> <p>3. In regards to the employment, a solution will be reached by discussing with the locals. Also suitable solution will be taken as per the provisions of the Company's Rules and Companies Act regarding retention of local employees.</p>
5.	<p>Mr. Prakash Balkrishna Shinde, Former Sarpanch Mauje Valkhed, Tt. Dindori, Dist. Nashik :-</p> <p>As the company has appointed NGOS they don't take opinions of the Sarpanch and the Gram Panchayat members nor they take them in confidence. What measures will you take in regards to the same?</p>	<p>The project proponent said, The company has executed the works as per the suggestions of the NGO. The company has spent around 22 crores which is a substantial amount. We assure that the further execution of the work would also see that the locals are taken into confidence to execute these works.</p>
6.	<p>Mr. Sujit Patil, Res. Mauje Valkhed, Dindori, Dist. Nashik :-</p> <p>No advertisement nor a notice was given to the villagers in regards to the public hearing. We are also not aware on the water sampling data collection.</p>	<p>Mr. Amar Durgule, SRO said that MPCB had published an advertisement in the local newspapers Marathi and in English a month ago in connection with the environmental awareness hearing of the said project and also appealed to the people to study and give their opinions in written form in the</p>

		<p>MPCB, Office, Collectorate Office, Sub-Divisional Office, Dindori, as well as the village panchayats in the surrounding areas. Also, the EIA summary of the project was placed in the Gram Panchayat and banner were displayed at grampanchayat's office.</p> <p>The Environmental consultant said that air and water samples were monitored at selected locations for the survey, and other environmental factors were also studied at selected locations in the impact area, as well as photographs are also available; the other objectives in the area were also studied through satellite imagery.</p>
7.	<p>Mr. Hiranman Dilip Patil :- I live at a distance of 700 to 800 meters from the company and I have a farm there, I and the surrounding farmers are not aware of the expansion project of the company?</p>	<p>Mr. Amar Durgule, SRO said that MPCB had published an advertisement in the local newspapers Marathi and in English a month ago in connection with the environmental awareness hearing of the said project and also appealed to the people to study and give their opinions in written form in the MPCB, Office, Collectorate Office, Sub-Divisional Office, Dindori, as well as the village panchayats in the surrounding areas. Also, the EIA summary of the project was placed in the Gram Panchayat and banner were displayed at grampanchayat's office.</p>
8.	<p>Mr. Sanjay Bajirao Patil :- A new big chimney is to be installed by the company for the expansion project, so what measures have the</p>	<p>The project promoter company will take proper care in this regard. The boiler will be upgraded with an air pollution control system. An online</p>

	<p>project authorities taken to prevent damage to farmers' grape farms due to air/dust pollution from it?</p>	<p>record of the pollutants emitted from the chimney is maintained. A treatment plant will be set up for appropriate treatment of whatever polluted water will be released from the proposed project and treated water will be reused. Dust particles are likely to be caused by vehicles passing on the road. The management of the company will take care that the proposed project will not cause any kind of air pollution.</p>
9.	<p>Mr. Narendra Kondajirao Jadhav, Sarpanch Awankhed :- The said company has been established in this place for many years. Also, the company has done lot of good work for local students. We request the company officials to see that no harm is done for the environment and the expansion can be done considering the local objectives. We don't have any objection for the expansion project but the company should follow all the guidelines laid by the environmental ministry and execute the project. We also request the company that the existing medical health facility which is been provided by running a hospital for the needy; we request the company should permanently operate the hospital and extend their services to the locals.</p>	<p>The project proponent said that the company is proud that the hospital facilities have benefited the people of the village. In addition to this the company will also provide ambulance facility and assure that they will operate the hospital in the future as well.</p>
10.	<p>Mr. Raghunath Patil, former Sarpanch Valkhed, Dindori, Dist. Nashik.</p>	<p>The project proponent said considering all your suggestions, we will put efforts to execute the same.</p>

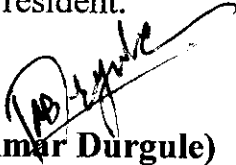
	<p>I support all the suggestions made by my fellow villagers. We want the company to work on single motto that is "to live and let us live too". We are not objecting the expansion but they need to execute the expansion project as per the environmental guidelines. The company has put efforts on education and green belt development. We request them to continue the same. We also request them to utilize the fund not through an NGO but through local groups. We know that there are a lot of employees which are from surrounding villages who travel on two wheelers; the company should make them usage of helmets compulsory to avoid accidents. Also we request that the employees should be made permanent and further employment should be preferred to the local people.</p>	
11.	<p>Mr. Ravindra Vitthal More, former Sarpanch Karanjavan :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The company has provided a large number of amenities on various levels. They have also done good work on sewage as well as environmental objectives. We also appreciate that they have even given scholarships to the local students to pursue their higher education. We request them to continue the same. 2. Company should consider to employ the local unemployed youths and give preference to them. 	<p>The project proponent thanked for the appreciation and assured them to continue the facility.</p> <p>The project proponent said that priority will be given to locals for employment.</p>

12.	Mr. Nilesh Vithoba Pelmale :- Water system should be done properly. Also Sunita Govindrao Mahale's well is getting polluted water, it should be considered. There are some pending works in the area, those works should be done.	In this regard, the Sub-Regional Officer indicated that the concerned place will be inspected and appropriate action will be taken. The project promoter assured that the related works will be completed
13.	Journalist Mr. Santosh Kartar :- My suggestion is the support given by the company in regards to the competitive exams and allied aspects should be extended and also the NGO appointed are from Gujarat and they don't extend their services properly to the locals. Lastly the company should take preventive measures to avoid contamination in the surrounding wells.	The project proponent said that all the suggestions would be considered and we would also make a note of it and also incorporate any other appropriate suggestions while executing the project.

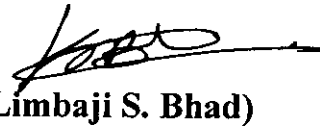
Mr. Amar Durgule mentioned that if anyone still wants to raise any written or oral suggestions / objections, they can raise them but no one raised the issue. Also, no written representation has been received by this office. He further mentioned that the minutes of the said public hearing Hon. It will further be submitted to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, New Delhi with the approval of the President.

A total of 5 written applications have been received during the public hearing.


After thanking those present, the hearing was declared closed with the consent of the President.


(Amar Durgule)

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


(Limbaji S. Bhad)

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


(Jalaj Sharma)
Chairman of the Public
Hearing Committee
and Hon'ble District
Collector, Nashik.