

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION PROJECT BY INSTALLING 1x350 TPD DRI KILN, 1x30TPD PRE-HEATER, 1x15T LD CONVERTER, 0.6 MILLION TPA PELLET PLANT, AND ADDITIONAL 33 MW CPP (8 MW FROM WHRB & 25 MW FROM AFBC BOILER) AT VILLAGE & PO: JOREHIRA, PS: CHHATNA, DISTRICT: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S ANKIT METAL & POWER LTD. HELD ON 03.07.2009 AT 11:30 HRS IN THE JIRRAH GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE, PO: JOREHIRA, PS: CHHATNA, DIST: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL

M/s Ankit Metal & Power Ltd submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed expansion project by installing 1x350 TPD DRI kiln, 1x30TPD pre-heater, 1x15T LD converter, 0.6 Million TPA Pellet Plant, and additional 33 MW CPP (8 MW from WHRB & 25 MW from AFBC Boiler) at Village & PO: Jorehira, PS: Chhatna, District: Bankura, West Bengal. As per the EIA notification S.O. 1533 dated 14th September 2006 of the MoEF, Govt. of India Environmental Clearance of the said project is required to be obtained after conducting Public Hearing.

Accordingly, West Bengal Pollution Control Board conducted the Public Hearing on 03.07.2009 at 11:30 hrs in the Jirrah Gram Panchayat office, PO: Jorehira, PS: Chhatna, Dist: Bankura, West Bengal after observing all formalities. Panel members were present in the hearing. A considerable gathering was also present in the hearing. List of the panel members and the others present in the public hearing are enclosed.

The hearing started with a welcome note of Sri Gour Pada Sen, the Additional District Magistrate, Bankura who also presided over the hearing. He requested the project proponent to deliver their presentation and requested the audience to raise their queries after the presentation is over.

The technical representative of the project proponent welcomed the audience on behalf of the project proponent and explained the activity of the proposed unit through PowerPoint presentation. The project proponent, during his presentation, covered the topics about the existing and proposed devices for the unit, quantity & source of water requirement, land use, ambient air quality, stack details, process flow diagram, ToR and EIA procedures, APC devices, water usage permit, plant safety, green belt development, corporate social responsibility etc.

Sri Gour Pada Sen, the Additional District Magistrate, Bankura requested the audience to raise their questions and/or opinions, if any.

Sri Harisadhan Mukherjee of village Jorehira, Sri Raghudas Mukherjee of village Rangamati, Sri Sisir Acharya and Sri Swapan Mukherjee of village Chhatna submitted that pollution level of the existing unit has considerably reduced for last few months. However, they asked the project proponent to take necessary measures for their proposed expansion project to ensure the clean environment for the neighboring area. Sri Acharya also asked for the minimum distance to be maintained for the habitation from the unit in order to ensure environmental safety. Sri Swapan Mukherjee also complained about deposition of the process dust on local water bodies. They also requested the project proponent for continuous operation of APC device, effective water treatment & solid waste management & green belt development.

Sri Jagannath Chatterjee of village Jirrah and Goutam Kumar Mondal of village Kumirdaha demanded the priority on transparent local employment policy, development of basic medical facilities like appointment of medical officer & arrangement of ambulance, implementation of transparency in employment & promotion procedures by issuance of appointment letter, employee ID card. Sri Jagannath Chatterjee requested the project proponent to provide technical training facility for the local youth to enable them for getting better job opportunity in the unit.

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Sri S. Narayan, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system for controlling the emissions from the kilns. In response to the question of Sri Sisir Acharya regarding the safe distance for habitation, he informed that, dispersion of air-borne pollutants depends on the wind speed, wind direction as well as other factors. He also insisted on the fact that, while finalizing the EIA and EMP, the PP should incorporate the outcomes of the opinions of the attendants of this public hearing.

On behalf of the project proponent, Sri J. N. Rudra appreciated the issues raised during hearing mentioned above and assured that they would take all possible measures for maintaining the Environmental Norms. They have also assured that they would address all the issues mentioned above and incorporate the same while finalizing the EIA and EMP. He assured further that the project proponent would look after the arrangement of medical facility and employment issues. The water requirement may be met up from Damodar River and no ground water will be withdrawn, as per his commitment.

Sri Gour Pada Sen, the Additional District Magistrate, Bankura appreciated the proposal presented by M/s Ankit Metal & Power Ltd during the public hearing and expressed his hope that the project would be implemented as per the commitment made by the proponent and would be maintained in such a manner that the unit would comply with the environmental norms. In general, the public present in the hearing welcomed the project provided the PP incorporates all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent. He appreciated the attendants of the public hearing for such well organized and constructive questions. Finally, Sri Gour Pada Sen, Additional District Magistrate, Bankura concluded the session with vote of thanks.

Sd/-
Sri S. Narayan,
Senior Environmental Engineer
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sd/-
Sri Gour Pada Sen,
Additional District Magistrate, Bankura
Government of West Bengal