

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED FIBRE CEMENT ROOFING SHEETS (3,00,000 TPA) PLANT AT VILL.-MULDI, BLOCK – RAGHUNATHPUR-II, PO – NANDUKA, DIST. – PURULIA, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S BALMUKUND CEMENT & ROOFINGS LIMITED, HELD ON 30.08.2011 AT 12:00 NOON AT THE OFFICE OF THE BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, RAGHUNATHPUR – II DEVELOPMENT BLOCK, DIST – PURULIA, WEST BENGAL.

M/S Balmukund Cement & Roofings Limited. at Vill.- Muldi, Block- Raghunathpur, PO- Nanduka, Dist – Purulia, West Bengal submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed Fibre Cement Roofing Sheets (3,00,000 TPA) Plant. 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 from the MoEF, Govt. of India after conducting the Public Hearing.

Accordingly, West Bengal Pollution Control Board after observing all formalities, held the Public Hearing on 30th August, 2011 at 12:00 Noon at the Office of the Block Development Officer, Raghunathpur – II Development Block, Dist – Purulia, West Bengal. All the panel members were present in the hearing, Sri Jayanta Kr. Aikat, Additional District Magistrate, Purulia presided over the hearing. List of the panel members and the others present in the public hearing is enclosed.

The hearing started with a welcome note from Sri Anjan Fouzdar, Assistant Environmental Engineer, West Bengal Pollution Control Board. He explained about the provisions of the above stated MoEF notification and also informed the audience about the draft proposal of M/S Balmukund Cement & Roofings Limited at Vill.- Muldi, Block- Raghunathpur, PO- Nanduka, Dist – Purulia, West Bengal.

Sri Jayanta Kr. Aikat, Additional District Magistrate, Purulia briefed about the proposed project and then requested the Project Proponent to explain the details about the proposed project for discussion among the panel members and others present in the hearing.

Sri Partha S. Ray, Executive Director, M/S Balmukund Cement & Roofings Limited welcomed the delegates and the audience for being present in the public hearing and then made the technical presentation of the proposed project. He narrated about the project details and the proposed pollution control devices through Power Point presentation, emphasizing on the likely environmental impacts arising out of the same as well as the proposed pollution abatement measures to be taken by them. He has mentioned about their emission control proposal for each unit. Categorically he has mentioned that the PM level from Bag Opening Device & Edge Runner Mill would be $2\text{mg}/\text{Nm}^3$ (maxm.) and that from other related stacks would be less than $50\text{mg}/\text{Nm}^3$. He has also mentioned that they would take up intensive rain water harvesting program and the harvested water will be used for industrial purpose as well as development of greeneries.

He has also confirmed that the local people shall be consulted in each stage of the project and the industry is planning for initiating social responsibility programmes like setting up of vocational training institute for training & skill development of local youths, health camp, eye camp, ambulance, repairing of schools, library, supply of books & stationeries to poor school children, computer training centre, awards of scholarships, sinking of tube wells in neighboring villages, rain water harvesting program, etc. He has further mentioned that it would generate employment for local people and take neighboring villagers into confidence in each stage of the project.

During discussion the panel members and the others present in the public hearing made queries / suggestions with respect to the proposed project, which are noted below:

Sri Madan Bauri, Sri Anup Chakraborty & Sri Bhabani Chatterjee of Bagmani village, welcomed the proposed project with all the commitments made by the PP during their presentation in the public hearing. They

informed that they welcomed the industry along-with infrastructural support and employment for local people. They, however, apprehended that the proposed cemented asbestos based roofing sheets plant may cause serious environmental degradation of the surrounding area and requested the PP to take appropriate pollution control measures in this regard.

Sri Sukumar Bauri of village Mautor , Sri Ananda Bauri & Sri Subhamay Chakraborty of Gobranda village requested the PP to consider the local people for employment in the proposed project.

Sri Santiram Bauri & Sri Manik Bauri of village Banda enquired about the scope of socio-economic growth & impact on health of the local people by the proposed project. They also requested the project proponent to consider employment for local people and to develop local infrastructure .

Sri Kalachand Bauri & Sri Surojit Chakraborty of Rampur village welcomed the project and emphasised on environmental protection. They also stressed on development of greeneries by the PP.

Sri Debashish Chatterjee & Sri Ashim Bhattacharjee of village Mautor apprehended pollutional hazards from the upcoming unit. They, however, welcomed the project maintaining all environmental norms and looked forward to complying all the commitments made by the PP. They also requested the project proponent to ensure proper pollution control measures in the upcoming project .

Sri Sajal Chakraborty & Sri Kalipada Bauri of Gobranda village, Sri Nunaram Mandi of vill.-Nanduka welcomed the proposed project maintaining all environmental norms. They requested the PP to ensure proper pollution control measures in the upcoming project .

Sri Jayanta Kr. Aikat, ADM, Purulia requested the representatives of M/S Balmukund Cement & Roofings Limited to respond to villagers queries.

Sri Partha S. Ray, Executive Director, M/s.Balmukund Cement & Roofings Limited appreciated the various issues raised by different participants and welcomed their suggestions. He stated that the PP will address all the issues raised in the public hearing during finalizing the environmental management plan. He confirmed that they will take all necessary measures to comply with the suggestions made in this public hearing. He also committed that the social responsibility program shall be taken up in consultation with local administration. Regarding particulate emission, he stressed that as the manufacture would be a cold press process, with adequate supply of water, the fear of air pollution was unfounded to a large extent.

Sri Jayanta Kr. Aikat, ADM, Purulia emphasized that all possible measures should be ensured by the Project Proponent towards the mitigation of all environmental problems and various issues raised by the people present in the public hearing. He further requested the PP to incorporate proposal for extensive plantation program, Rain Water Harvesting and generation of new surface water sources in the locality, in the final EIA report. He also wanted the Project Proponent to ensure that the employees staff who would be engaged at the facility be regularly checked medically to clinically rule out suffering from asbestos related diseases like asthma, emphysema etc. The project is welcomed only after incorporation of all the pollution control measures and corporate social responsibility programmes proposed by the Project Proponent. He assured the audience that the proceedings of this public hearing shall be duly forwarded to the Ministry of Environment and Forest, Government of India and further expressed his gratitude to the audience for their active participation in this public hearing procedure.

Sri Anjan Fouzdar,
Assistant Environmental Engineer,
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sri Jayanta Kr. Aikat
Additional District Magistrate, Purulia
Dist. Purulia