

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 2X75 TPD SPONGE IRON PLANT, ONE NO 8 MT INDUCTION FURNACE AND 4 MW CAPTIVE POWER PLANT AT MOUZA: TILABEDYA, J L NO. 239, BANKURA HIGHWAY, PO & PS: BANKURA, DIST: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL PROPOSED BY M/S BHAVYA ALLOYS PVT. LTD. HELD ON 05.12.2008 AT 12:00 HRS IN THE PURANDARPUR GRAM PANCHAYAT OFFICE AT KANCHANPUR, PO: KANCHANPUR, PS: BANKURA SADAR, DIST: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL

M/s Bhavya Alloys Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed 2x75 TPD sponge iron plant, one no 8 MT induction furnace and 4 MW captive power plant at Mouza: Tilabedya, JL No. 239, Bankura Highway, PO & PS: Bankura, Dist: 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 after observing all formalities held the Public Hearing on 05.12.2008 at 12:00 hrs in the Purandarpur Gram Panchayat Office at Kanchanpur, PO: Kanchanpur, PS: Bankura Sadar, Dist: Bankura, West Bengal. The 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 representatives of the project proponent welcomed the audience on behalf of the project proponent and explained the activity of the proposed unit through PowerPoint presentation.

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

Sri Rajesh Chattarai, Sri Anup Chattarai, Sri Sahadeb Mukherjee and Sri Manik Bill stated against the setting up of the proposed sponge iron unit. They also mentioned about pollution created by existing sponge iron plants located around Mejia, which is near to their locality. However, they welcomed the other section of the proposed project, i.e., induction furnace. Besides, majority of the audience raised voice against the setting up of the sponge iron plant, because of the non-complying attitude of similar types of existing industries in the nearby area. They also blamed the State Pollution Control Board for giving permission to operate the sponge iron and ferro-alloy units, which are running without maintaining environmental norms, and thereby causing serious adverse impact on environment including human, flora & fauna.

Sri Anup Chattarai also mentioned that there will be huge consumption of water, the source of which is underground water. This may create situation of lowering of ground water table. He therefore, apprehended that this may create situation like drying up of drinking water well in dry season.

Sri S. Narayan, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system, adequate suction system for controlling the emission of induction furnace. He also mentioned following discrepancies in the draft EIA-EMP report:

- Details of APC devices mentioning operation periods of GCT-ESP route & WHRB-ESP route
 - Complete utilization of dolochar and continuous operation of CPP
 - Ash handling and its disposal details
 - Specification of fly ash types & quantities from each of FBC & WHRB
 - Compatibility of captive power generation capacity with boiler capacity
 - At least 33% green belt area should be maintained
- (Contd.)

- Implementation of adequate pollution control measures complying new emission standard of particulate matter in case of setting up new sponge iron & ferro-alloy plant
- Proper solid waste management & its disposal details

He also mentioned the existing infrastructure of the State Pollution Control Board is inadequate and as such it is difficult in performing the continuous vigilance at the non-complying units. Often the defaulting units are fined /prosecuted by the State Pollution Control Board for non-compliance of environmental statute. But, still they are defying the environmental norms due to inability of close monitoring of the State Pollution Control Board. To overcome the problem, he advised the audience to constitute a committee in local level amongst themselves in order to address the pollution problems at different hierarchies.

Sri R. M. Singhania, the project proponent said that they would consider the issues rose 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.

Sri Gour Pada Sen, the Additional District Magistrate, Bankura stated that the public opinions have been recorded and will be forwarded to proper authority for their appraisal and necessary action. He also stated that, no decision is taken regarding the grant of permission for setting up this project; this is conducted only for seeking public opinion of the local residents/ villagers on the proposed project. Finally, Sri Gour Pada Sen, the 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,
The Additional District Magistrate, Bankura
Government of West Bengal