

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 4X15 MT INDUCTION FURNACES, 1,29,375 MTPA STEEL ROLLING MILL, AND 1,20,000 MTPA WIRE ROD MILL AT MOUZA: ARGORI, J.L. NO. 27, PS: SANKRAIL, PO: ANDUL MOURI, DISTRICT: HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S BMW INDUSTRIES LTD. HELD ON 15.01.2009 AT 11:30 HRS IN THE CONFERENCE HALL OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE'S BUNGALOW, DISTRICT: HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL

M/s BMW Industries Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed 4x15 MT Induction furnaces, 1,29,375 MTPA steel rolling mill, and 1,20,000 MTPA wire rod mill at Mouza: Argori, J.L. No. 27, PS: Sankrail, PO: Andul Mouri, District: Howrah, 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 15.01.2009 at 11:30 hrs in the Conference Hall of the District Magistrate's Bungalow, District: Howrah, 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 Khalil Ahmed, District Magistrate, Howrah 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 expansion of the unit through PowerPoint presentation.

Dr. T. K. Gupta, Chief Engineer, WBPCB, then requested the audience to raise their questions and to give their valuable opinions.

Sri Shamshed Mallik, local resident, enquired about the chances of noise pollution from the proposed activity. Sri Saddik Ali Mondal, Member, Andul Gram Panchayat, enquired about the health effects of emission and the prospect of employment generation for the local youths. Sri Tapan Ganguly, local resident, expressed his concern for odour related problems from the proposed activity. Sri Swapan Ghosh and Sri Arun Chatterjee, local resident, expressed concern regarding overall environmental impacts both due to air emission and discharge of effluent. Sk Mehtab Ali, mentioned that discharge of acidic effluent during rainy season may contaminate local waterbodies. Sk Bellal Hussain, Member, Andul Gram Panchayat, expressed his concern over the possibility of depletion of ground water in the locality due to ground water abstraction by the industry.

Dr. T. K. Gupta, Chief Engineer, WBPCB, emphasized that the industry should obtain prior permission from competent authority for ground water abstraction and mentioned that rainwater harvesting should be practiced. He further reminded that recharging of ground water is not permitted for the industries. He also advised the proponent to undertake plantation covering atleast 33% of the land area, in consultation with the Gram Panchayat members and local people. He also directed the proponent to submit the revised water balance statement and rainwater harvesting scheme. He further mentioned that the proponent should take adequate measures to ensure that effluent does not contaminate adjacent water bodies and agricultural fields especially during rainy season. He also advised that zero-discharge concept to be adopted for industrial effluents, proper solid waste management should be practiced and efficient air pollution control system, adequate suction system for controlling the emission of proposed induction furnaces, Rolling mill, steel melting shop and existing galvanization plant should be installed.

Sri B. B. Mallick, Project Manager, DIC, welcomed the proposed expansion proposal and mentioned that the industry should be operated in conformity with the environmental norms.

The project proponent appreciated the questions 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. Further, Sri P. S. Mitra, Director, mentioned that a school building has been constructed in the locality and proposed to develop a health centre for the local people as part of the Corporate Social Responsibility programme. He further mentioned that the industrial activities are carried out in covered area to minimize noise

pollution. He mentioned that the effluent generated is treated properly before discharge. He assured that employment generation for local people will be explored.

Finally, Sri H. Bansal, Director, M/s BMW Industries Ltd., concluded the session with vote of thanks. He appreciated the suggestions presented during the public hearing and expressed his hope that the project would be successfully implemented. Dr. T. K. Gupta, Chief Engineer, WBPCB, expressed that the unit should comply with the environmental norms. In general the public present in the hearing welcomed the project incorporating all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent.

Sd/-
Dr. T. K. Gupta
Chief Engineer-I
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sd/-
Khalil Ahmed
District Magistrate, Howrah
Government of West Bengal