

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 3,52,000 TPA FERRO ALLOY PLANT BY INSTALLING 16X 13.5 MVA SUBMERGED ARC FURNACES FOR PRODUCTION OF FERRO-MANGANESE & SILICO MANGANESE AND 3,00,000 TPA SINTER PLANT ALONG WITH 2X 90 MW COAL BASED CAPTIVE POWER PLANT AT MOUZAS: FATEPUR, MADHAVPUR & SANDALPUR, DIST: PURBA MEDINIPUR, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S COASTAL FERROTECH LTD HELD ON 01.09.2009 AT 11:30 HRS. IN THE MEETING HALL OF NANDA KUMAR BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, PURBA MEDINIPUR, WEST BENGAL**

M/s Coastal Ferrotech Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed 3,52,000 TPA ferro alloy plant by installing 16x 13.5 MVA submerged arc furnaces for production of ferro-manganese & silico manganese and 3,00,000 TPA sinter plant along with 2x 90 MW coal based captive power plant at mouzas: Fatepur, Madhavpur & Sandalpur, Dist: Purba Medinipur, 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 01.09.2009 at 11:30 hrs at the Nandakumar Block Development Office, Purba Medinipur, 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.

Sri D. Sarkar, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB requested Sri Srikumar Chakrabarty, Additional District Magistrate (General), Purba Medinipur to preside over the hearing. Sri S. Chakrabarty, Additional District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur welcomed the audience & presided over the hearing. ADM, General addressed the audience and requested the audience to remember their past history of freedom fighting and high literacy rate in the district and to respond to present need for employment generation as well as environmental management. With this context he explained the objective of conducting the public hearing.

Sri D. Sarkar, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB explained about the EIA notification. Then he requested the project proponent to deliver their presentation and requested the audience to raise their queries after the presentation.

Shri Buddhadeb Bhowmik, Karmadhaykhsa, Purba Medinipur Zila Parishad, stated that before the technical presentation he wanted to express his views about the pollution and its control measures in the state. He apprehended that many units fail to comply with commitments made in the public hearing and this may happen in this case. A detail discussion took place about various environmental regulations and state of their implementation. Shri, D.Sarkar addressed the audience on behalf of WBPCB. Md. Alam, Mahammadpur, Shri Arindam Samanta, Haripur and few others took part in this discussion.

Shri D.Sarkar informed the audience about nature of pollution potential of the Thermal Power Plants, Steel plants etc in general. He also informed the audience about availability of pollution control systems of these projects, national standards, and need for regulatory compliance.

The technical representative of the project proponent welcomed the audience on behalf of the project proponent and initially started the presentation in English. However, the activities as mentioned above are also explained in the Bengali as per demand of the audience. The project proponent informed that they shall require 111.29 ha for this project and they have only acquired a part of it.

On further enquiry on land from audience by Sri Madhusudan Sahu, Fatepur and others Sri S.Chakrabarty, Additional District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur requested the audience to raise their questions and/or opinions, if any. However he clarified the discussion should be

limited to environmental issues as there is no question of land acquisition in this particular case. Any other issues related to land acquisition should be taken up at the appropriate forum.

Sri Sukumar Dey, Shabhapati, Nandakumar Panchayat Samity opined that the project proponent should have discussed their proposal with panchayat and should have tried to understand the peoples' concern.

Sri Jaydev Mahapatra, Mahammad pur, expressed his concern about utilization of fly ash. He wanted to know whether the unit shall set up cement plant for utilization of the fly Ash. In case the unit is planning to send the ash to other plants then the proponent should explain the measures for control of emission during transport.

Shri Buddhadeb Bhowmik, Karmadhaykhsa, Purba Medinipur Zila Parishad enquired about the emission control measures of thermal power plants, ferro plants, the SO<sub>2</sub> emission and probable ground level impacts, the name of the consultant who is providing technical input to M/s Coastal Ferrotech Ltd.

Md. Alam, Mahammadpur, requested to brief about mode of transport of raw materials, ash and slag to/from unit and measures to control pollution during transport.

Sri Arabindo Samanta, Haripur opined that zero discharge may not be feasible solution and unit should have garland drain. He also wanted to know about the probable distance up to which the environmental impacts of this plant shall be experienced. He also added that vibration from this unit may cause problem.

Sri Santosh Kumar Kulkarni, Head Compliance services, Weston Solutions (India) Pvt Ltd. Hyderabad on behalf of unit addressed the concern raised by the people. Mr. D. D. Chatterjee, General Manager, CFL explained the same in Bengali. They assured that ESPs shall be installed in TPPs and bagfilters shall be installed in the ferro plants. Covered transport shall be ensured. Water sprinkling shall be arranged to reduce fugitive emission. Ash ponds shall be provided.

Sri D. Sarkar, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB explained that the ferro plants are not likely to have water discharges. The efficient thermal power plants are also now operating with least possible discharge. Shri D. Sarakar, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB and Dr. D. Maulik, Environmental Engineer, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system for controlling the emissions from the submerged arc furnace and to comply with 50 mg/ Nm<sup>3</sup> particulate emission standard. They also opined that, while finalizing the EIA and EMP, the Project Proponents should incorporate the outcomes of the opinions of the attendants of this public hearing and to incorporate the following points---

1. Coal should be stored in covered manner.
2. Emission control system and the stack height of emission sources should be adequate to reduce the ground level impact on air quality as far as practicable.
3. ESP details should be provided in EIA.
4. Online monitoring system should be provided in TPP. Opacity meter should be installed.
5. Fly ash disposal system should be designed with quantitatively estimates. Silos should set up for dry collection. HCSD system is not encouraged. Use of fly ash in brick / cement manufacturing should be included in EMP. Copies of MOU with cement unit for accepting fly ash should be submitted.
6. No clear description for bottom ash management is available in EIA. This must be incorporated.
7. The emission from sinter plant, its impact and proposed emission control systems should be described in detail in EIA - EMP report.
8. The Pollution Control Device for Ferro Alloy Plant should be described in detail in EMP. Adequate separate suction should be arranged to arrest fugitive emission during charging / tapping.
9. The Ferro slag disposal system for long-term operation should be planned and provided in EIA.
10. Regular air quality monitoring should be introduced.
11. The unit should set up in-plant laboratory facility for monitoring basic parameters.

12. Green belt development should be pursued as per the proposal of draft EIA. However, plantation may be taken up in consultation with the State Forest Department.

On behalf of the project proponent, Sri D.D.Chatterjee, General Manager appreciated the issues raised during hearing mentioned above. The project team members: Mr. N.B.Reddy President, CFL, Mr.D.P. Singh DGM- Environment, Abhijeet Group Co and Mr. Chatterjee assured that they would take all possible measures for maintaining the Environmental Norms.

However, Shri Buddhadeb Bhowmik, Karmadhaykhsa, Purba Medinipur Zila Parishad, on behalf of people requested that they would further review the EIA-EMP report with the help of their own technical experts on basis of the feedback received during this public hearing. They proposed to send their views within ten days time about this project in writing to the Pollution Control Board and to consider their opinion as an annexure to the minutes of this public hearing.

This was agreed and Sri S. Chakrabarty, Additional District Magistrate, Purba Medinipur 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 norm and the concern raised in public hearing shall be addressed adequately. Finally, the session was concluded with vote of thanks from the chair.

Sri D. Sarkar,  
Senior Environmental Engineer,  
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sri S. Chakrabarty,  
Additional District Magistrate (General),  
Purba Medinipur  
Government of West Bengal