

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED FOUNDRY PARK PROJECT OF M/S. FOUNDRY CLUSTER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AT RANIHATI AMTA ROAD, HAWLI BAGAN, DIST- HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL, HELD ON 02.05.2007 IN THE MEETING HALL OF OLD COLLECTORATE BUILDING, DIST-HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL

M/s. Foundry Cluster Development Association submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed Foundry Park Project at Ranihati-Amta Road, Hawli Bagan, Dist- 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 from the MoEF, Govt. of India after conducting the Public Hearing.

Accordingly, WBPCB after observing all formalities, held a Public Hearing on 2nd May, 2007 at 11.00 Hrs in the Meeting Hall of Old Collectorate Building, Dist- Howrah, West Bengal. All 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 is enclosed.

The Hearing started with a Welcome Note by Shri Narendra Nath Dutta, Additional District Magistrate (Dev.), Howrah who presided over the Hearing. Dr. T. K. Gupta, Senior Environmental Engineer and Incharge – Consent Cell, WBPCB explained about the provisions of the above stated MoEF Notification. ADM-Dev then requested the Project Proponent to explain the details about the proposed Project for the benefit of the panel members and other participants present in the Hearing.

Project Proponent then explained about the project through a PowerPoint Presentation, the likely environmental impacts arising out of the same as well as the proposed pollution abatement measures to be taken by them.

During the 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:

Shri Abinash Bagh, Head Master Kalagachhia-Hawli Bagan Primary School welcomed the proposed Foundry Park Project of M/S. Foundry Cluster Development Association. He mentioned that the existing drainage network between Bhaid Chawk to Kerani Chawk should be retained. The project proponent should take adequate measures not only to maintain the existing drainage network but also to upgrade its situation so that any kind of inundation to be avoided due to the activities of proposed Foundry Park. He has also mentioned that steps to be taken to maintain the existing PWD drain in a proper manner so that the regular flow can take place. He has categorically mentioned further that necessary steps should be considered for movement of local people between Hawli Bagan to Laskarpur. He has also requested that the project proponent should take necessary arrangement for proper rehabilitation programme in consultation with Local Panchayats, Zila Parishad and District Administration.

Shri Tarapada Patra, Smt Rupa Malik, Shri Kashinath Mondal, Shri Ratnakar Patra and Shri Narayan Patra welcomed the project. However they have requested that the project proponent should take adequate measures for water & air pollution control, management of drainage work and adequate greeneries.

Shrimati Shukla Pal, Pradhan – BanHarishpur Gram Panchayat mentioned that local people need to be deployed by the Project Proponent i.e. one from each family viz. land losers & work losers in consultation with Local and District Administration. She has categorically requested the Project Proponent to provide all documents and information about the Project to Local Administration so that they can monitor right from the early stages. The project proponent should take necessary clearance from all the Gram Panchayats where the project is proposed to be constructed. Shrimati Pal and other members present requested the project proponent to start the construction at an earliest opportunity.

Sheikh Gulam Kibria and Shri Subhash Koley have mentioned that they have gone through the Draft EIA report and requested the project proponent to show the nearby agriculture area in the final report. They have requested further that the project proponent should take adequate measures for pollution control so that the existing agriculture system in the surrounding areas does not get adversely affected.

Shri P.K. Roy, Sr. Environment Officer, Department of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal mentioned that the project proponent should adopt modern technology utilizing BF gas for power generation, measures for minimization of fugitive emission, maintenance of adequate buffer zone (more than 15 metres) in the periphery of the entire park.

Shri Narendra Nath Dutta, Addl. District Magistrate (Dev), requested the project proponent to make their own fire-fighting arrangements within the park. He has also mentioned that road network should be maintained in such a manner within the complex so that fire tenders can reach any point in the park smoothly.

On behalf of the project proponent Shri S.C. Dugar, has appreciated the concern expressed by different participants in the Hearing and welcomed the suggestions. He indicated that project proponent will address all the above stated issues as far as practicable while finalizing the Environmental Management Plan. He has also mentioned that the R&R Plan will be considered in consultation with the Local Administration, Local Panchayat & Zilla Parishad.

Additional District Magistrate (Dev.), Howrah emphasized that all possible measures should be ensured by the project proponent towards the mitigation of all environmental hazards and various points raised by the public present in the Hearing. In general the public present in the Hearing requested for incorporating all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent and to consider socio-economic issues.

sd/-
Dr. T. K. Gupta
Sr. Environmental Engineer &
In-charge – Consent Cell, WBPCB

sd/-
Narendra Nath Dutta
Additional District Magistrate (Dev.)
Howrah