

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF ONE NO 3 MVA SUBMERGED ELECTRIC ARC FURNACE WITH THE PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF 5220 MTPA FERRO ALLOY AT BARAKAR ROAD, PURULIA, MOUZA: PODLARA, PO: CHARRA, PS: PURULIA, MUFFASAL, DISTRICT: PURULIA, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S J & C FERRO ALLOYS PVT. LTD. HELD ON 28.01.2009 AT 12:00 HRS IN THE PANCHAYAT SAMITY MEETING HALL OF THE OFFICE OF THE BDO, PURULIA –II DEV. BLOCK AT VIVEKANANDA NAGAR, DISTRICT: PURULIA, WEST BENGAL

M/s J & C Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed installation of one no 3 MVA submerged electric arc furnace with the production capacity of 5220 MTPA ferro alloy at Barakar road, Purulia, Mouza: Podlara, PO: Charra, PS: Purulia, Muffasal, District: Purulia, West Bengal, proposed by M/s J & C Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd. 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, after observing all formalities, West Bengal Pollution Control Board conducted the Public Hearing on 28.01.2009 at 12:00 hrs in the Panchayat Samity Meeting Hall of the office of the BDO, Purulia –II Dev. Block at Vivekananda Nagar, District: Purulia, West Bengal. 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 from Sri Anjan Fouzdar, Assistant Environmental Engineer, in-charge, Asansol Sub Regional Office, WBPCB. He explained about the EIA notification. He also requested Sri Narayan Chandra Samanta, the Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia to preside over the hearing. Sri Narayan Chandra Samanta, the Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia welcomed the audience & presided over the hearing. Then he requested the project proponent to deliver their presentation and requested the audience to raise their queries after the presentation is over.

The technical representative of the project proponent (PP) welcomed the audience on behalf of the project proponent and explained the activity of the proposed unit through PowerPoint presentation. The project proponent covered the topics about the land use, raw material with sources, process flow diagram, groundwater source, ecology, air pollution sources and its control measures, plantation, rainwater harvesting, noise pollution and its control measures, monitoring of air, water and noise, corporate social responsibility and analytical results of air, groundwater, soil & noise during the presentation.

The Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia requested the audience to raise their questions and/or opinions, if any.

Sri Barun Chandra Das, secretary, Belma & Charra Gram panchayat emphasized on inclusion of permissible standards in the presentation with respect to environmental parameters.

Sri Kenaram Mahato, Sri Dharam Das Mahato, Sri Ambuj Mahato, Sri Sripati Bouri, Sri Tarani Sen Bouri and Sri Khagendranath Mahato of village Podlara supported the setup of the proposed project with proper pollution control system and expected employment generation due to the proposed project.

Sri Abani Kanta Mahato & Sri Darpahari Mahato of village Podlara have stressed the agricultural lands must be avoided for setting up the proposed project.

Sri Rajesh Bouri, Member, Panchayat Samity, suggested to form an expert committee to look into the environmental issues for the proposed project.

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The Secretary, Ram Krishna Mission, Purulia has informed that about 1000 people including students resides within the campus. He also mentioned that there are some other educational institutions located in the surrounding areas. He pointed out that the water source is very scare and especially during summer season. Availability of water is very poor during summer season. He opined that no other industrial establishment may be allowed within 20 km radius from the campus of Ram Krishna mission, Purulia.

Sri Bhim Chandra Mahato, Pradhan, Charra-Dumdumi Gram Panchayat & Sri Aditya Mahato, Member, Charra-Dumdumi Gram Panchayat welcomed the project maintaining all environmental norms.

Sri Anjan Fouzdar, Assistant Environmental Engineer, in-charge, Asansol Sub Regional Office, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system, adequate suction system for controlling the tap-hole emission of arc furnace while finalizing the EIA and EMP. He also insisted on the fact that, the APC devices should be maintained & operated in such away so that the emission standard of 50mg/Nm³ should be complied, as proposed in the draft EIA-EMP. He also mentioned that manufacturing of ferro-chrome is not permitted in this proposed project.

Sri Sanjay Kumar Jalan, on behalf of 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.

Sri Narayan Chandra Samanta, the Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia appreciated the proposal presented by M/s J & C Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd during the public hearing and 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 norms. He emphasized that the commitment made by the Project Proponent was to be kept in letter & spirit, and the welfare of the local people was primary. He also pointed out that the PP must take full responsibility of any effects of its project on the surrounding areas.

In general, the public present in the hearing appreciated the need of more industrial activity incorporating all the pollution control measures.

Finally, Sri Narayan Chandra Samanta, the Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia concluded the session with vote of thanks.

Sd/-
Anjan Fouzdar
Assistant Environmental Engineer
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sd/-
Narayan Chandra Samanta
Additional District Magistrate (Dev), Purulia
Government of West Bengal