

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 4X9 MVA FERRO-ALLOY PLANT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF 73,920 TPA FERRO-MANGANESE & 52,800 TPA SILICO-MANGANESE, 2X12 MT INDUCTION FURNACE & 1X2 STRANDS CCM FOR THE PRODUCTION OF 88,980 TPA ANGLES, CHANNELS , BEAMS, TMT BARS, MS BILLETS AND WIRE RODS, STEEL BILLETS & BLOOMS; 1X25 MT AOD CONVERTER, 1X25 MT VD/VOD PLANT, 1X600 NM³/HR OXYGEN PLANT AND 60 MW CPP AT MOUZA: BIRSINGHAPUR, PO & PS: BARJORA, DIST: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S PRITHVI FERRO ALLOYS PVT. LTD. HELD ON 21.01.2009 AT 12:00 HRS IN THE COMMUNITY HALL AT BARJORA PANCHAYAT SAMITY, PO & PS: BARJORA DIST: BANKURA, WEST BENGAL

M/s Prithvi Ferro Alloys Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed 4x9 MVA Ferro-alloy plant for the production of 73,920 TPA Ferro-manganese & 52,800 TPA silico-manganese, 2x12 MT induction furnace & 1x2 strands CCM for the production of 88,980 TPA angles, channels , beams, TMT bars, MS billets and wire rods, steel billets & blooms; 1x25 MT AOD converter, 1x25 MT VD/VOD plant, 1x600 Nm³/hr oxygen plant and 60 MW CPP at Mouza: Birsinghapur, PO & PS: Barjora, Dist: Bankura, West Bengal, proposed by M/s Prithvi 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, West Bengal Pollution Control Board after observing all formalities held the Public Hearing held on 21.01.2009 at 12:00 hrs in the Community Hall at Barjora Panchayat Samity, PO & PS: Barjora 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 representative 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 Biswanath Singh of village Dhansole, Sri Ranjit Boru of village Bisanpur, and Sri Ranjit Saha, a BLLRO staff welcomed the project but demanded the installation of proper APC system & its effective operation during the setup and operation of the proposed unit. Sri Ranjit Boru also demanded employment for land losers.

Sri Vivekananda Keora of village Barjora welcomed the project but categorically mentioned that authority of the unit generally commits for effective operation of APC devices & green belt development prior to the commissioning of the unit. But, it is often found that once the industry is commissioned, the project proponent fails to fulfill their commitments. He also apprehended that local people might not get the advantage of employment, as it has happened in the neighbouring industries in the past. Hence he wanted the commitment of the project proponent in this regard. Further he sought for the intervention of authorities regarding the poor road conditions and inadequate health centre facilities.

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Sri Santa Ahmed of village Hat-Asuria expressed his anxiety apprehending lowering of ground water level and the huge ground water requirement of the proposed project would further aggravate this situation. He demanded the alternative water source for the requirement of the proposed unit.

The technical representative of the PP submitted that the unit will adopt cyclone-cum-bag filter in case of SEAF and Induction furnaces for efficient pollution control. And ESP will be provided for their power plant.

Sri Naman Ajitsaria, the director of the unit assured the local employment in the unskilled sector. Regarding the water consumption, he has highlighted that they have planned to install air cooled condenser for their proposed power plant section instead of water cooled condenser to reduce water consumption. He also mentioned that they will acquire the required land after getting proper clearance from the concerned authority. The project proponent appreciated the issues raised during hearing mentioned above and assured that they would take all possible measures for maintaining the Environmental Norms. He has also assured that they would address all the issues mentioned above and incorporate the same while finalizing the EIA and EMP.

Sri S. Narayan, Senior Environmental Engineer, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system and adequate control measures for preventing fugitive emission. He also advised for the submission of baseline data on groundwater availability and urged for green belt development.

Sri Gour Pada Sen, the Additional District Magistrate, Bankura appreciated the proposal presented by M/s Prithvi 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. In general as the public present in the hearing welcome the project incorporating all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent. 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,
Additional District Magistrate, Bankura
Government of West Bengal