

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED FOUNDRY UNIT FOR PRODUCTION OF CAST IRON AND DUCTILE IRON AT NAUPALA, P.S.-BAGNAN, DIST.-HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL PROPOSED BY M/s. REFORM FERRO CAST PVT. LTD. HELD ON 24.10.2007 AT MEETING HALL OF BAGNAN-II PANCHAYAT SAMITY, DIST.-HOWRAH, WEST BENGAL**

M/s. Reform Ferro Cast Pvt. Ltd. submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed Foundry Unit for production of Cast Iron (11520 TPA) and Ductile Iron (3600 TPA) at Naupala, P.S.-Bagnan, Dist.-Howrah, West Bengal. As per the EIA notification S.O. 1533 dated 14<sup>th</sup> 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 Public Hearing.

Accordingly, West Bengal Pollution Control Board after observing all formalities, held the Public Hearing on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2007 at 11.00 Hrs at the Meeting Hall of Bagnan-II Panchayat Samity, Dist.-Howrah. 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 from Sri Narendra Nath Dutta, Additional District Magistrate (General), 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. The ADM then requested the Project Proponent to explain the details about the proposed project for discussion among the panel members and others present in the hearing.

The Project Proponent then explained about the project details emphasizing on 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:

Sri Prodyut Kumar Ghosh welcomed the proposed project of M/s. Reform Ferro Cast Pvt. Ltd. However, he specifically mentioned that the Project Proponent should strictly adhere to the commitments made by them. He requested that the PP should take care of the health aspect of the workers. He also requested that the local water bodies should not be polluted due to the discharge of water from the proposed plant.

Ms. Mitali Panja mentioned that the the PP should monitor the impact of the proposed activity, if any, on the local flora and fauna. She also requested the PP to take adequate

measures for control of noise and emission of particulates in and around the factory premises.

Sri Sayed Azijul Rahman, Karmadhakshya, Bagnan-II Panchayat Samity appreciated the initiative of the PP for plantation at the proposed project site. However, he has requested that the PP should take specific programme for more plantation (at least 33% of the total project area) as per their commitment. He also expressed that the proposed activity may generate more employment opportunity among the local people.

Sri Bijoy Bijuri welcomed the proposed project and appreciated the commitment made by the PP. However, he has expressed his concern about the post project monitoring. He has requested that the PP should undertake all measures for better environmental management.

Sri P. K. Roy, Sr. Environment Officer, Dept. of Environment, Govt. of West Bengal emphasized on the awareness of the workers in using the personal protective equipments. He requested the PP to take adequate steps in reducing noise and fugitive emission during loading and unloading operation. He categorically mentioned that the number of induction furnace will be two instead of one as mentioned in the draft EIA/EMP report. He emphasized that the PP should explore the possibilities of installation of new generation ladle furnace having built-in emission control facilities.

On behalf of the project proponent Sri Basant Saha, Managing Director and his colleagues have appreciated the various issues expressed by different participants and welcomed the suggestions. They indicated that they will provide necessary facilities like accommodation, sanitation and medical facilities to the workers including the construction workers. They will install adequate emission control devices like Gravitational Settling Chamber, Cyclone Separator, Ventury Scrubber and Bag Filter in desired areas of operation. They also mentioned that they will provide rain water harvesting facility, recirculation and reuse of waste water and adequate plantation. They mentioned that the above stated issues will be addressed while finalizing the environmental management plan.

The Additional District Magistrate (General), Dist.-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 welcome the project incorporating with all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent.

Dr. T. K. Gupta  
Sr. Environmental Engineer &  
Incharge – Consent Cell, WBPCB

Narendra Nath Dutta  
Additional District Magistrate (General)  
Dist.-Howrah

