

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED THERMAL POWER CAPACITY EXPANSION PROJECT OF 2X660 MW (SUPER-CRITICAL) AT SAGARDIGHI THERMAL POWER PROJECT STAGE –II (UNITS 3 & 4), DIST: MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL, PROPOSED BY M/S WEST BENGAL POWER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED ON 16.12.2008 AT 13:00 HRS IN THE SAGARDIGHI BLOCK DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, DIST: MURSHIDABAD, WEST BENGAL

M/s West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed thermal power capacity expansion project of 2x660 MW (super-critical) at Sagardighi Thermal Power Project Stage –II (Units 3 & 4), Dist: Murshidabad, 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 after observing all formalities arranged the Public Hearing on 16.12.2008 at 13:00 hrs in the Sagardighi Block Development Office, Dist: Murshidabad, 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 from Dr. T.K. Gupta, Chief Engineer, WBPCB. He explained about the EIA notification and requested Sri Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay, the Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad to preside over the hearing. Sri Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay, the Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad 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.

The technical representative of M/s West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited welcomed the audience on behalf of the project proponent and explained the activity of the proposed units through PowerPoint presentation. They have also mentioned categorically that the SPM level would be maintained below 50 mg/Nm³ in the stack emission.

Sri Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay, the Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad then requested the audience to raise their questions and to give their opinions, if any.

Sri Abdul Hadi, Sabhapati, Sagardighi Panchayat Samity welcomed such project and requested the project proponent to organize the awareness campaign program & training program for local community. He has also mentioned that the proposed expansion program and industrial activity may generate more employment opportunity in the local level.

Sri Nanda Kishore Bagchi mentioned that, Sagardighi is a draught prone area, therefore he has requested the Project Proponent to take program on adequate plantation and to take some specific environmental management schemes for improvement of Uplai Bill, Balia.

Sri Naresh Chandra Saha, a senior citizen of village Monigram, Sri Muzibar Rahman Mollah and Md. Ashadullah welcomed such project with a request to the PP to consider the following issues -

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- Improvement of the conditions of the adjacent local roads
- Supply of drinking water in the neighbouring villages
- Adequate plantation
- Adequate coal ash management
- Electrification in the neighbouring villages
- Supply of water in the nearby Barisha Bill areas, particularly in dry seasons

Dr. T.K. Gupta, Chief Engineer, WBPCB advised for the installation of efficient air pollution control system and adequate suction system for controlling all types of possible emissions. He also stated that the unit should comply with the standard environmental norms.

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 Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay, the Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad appreciated the proposal presented by M/s West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited 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, the public present in the hearing welcomed the project incorporating all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent. Finally Sri Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay, the Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad concluded the session with vote of thanks.

Sd/-
Dr. T. K. Gupta
Chief Engineer,
West Bengal Pollution Control Board

Sd/-
Kajal Kumar Bandyopadhyay
The Additional District Magistrate, Murshidabad
Government of West Bengal