

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED PIG IRON PLANT (600 TPD) WITH CAPTIVE POWER PLANT (4 MW) AT ETHORA MOUZA, P.S.-SALANPUR, ASANSOL, DIST.-BURDWAN, WEST BENGAL PROPOSED BY M/s. VIKASH SMELTERS LIMITED HELD ON 08.02.2008 AT THE MEETING HALL OF SALANPUR PANCHAYET SAMITY, DIST.-BURDWAN, WEST BENGAL**

M/s. Vikash Smelters Limited submitted an application to West Bengal Pollution Control Board for conducting Public Hearing for the proposed Pig Iron Plant (600 TPD) with Captive Power Plant (4 MW) at Ethora Mouza, P.S.-Salanpur, Asansol, Dist.-Burdwan, 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 the Public Hearing.

Accordingly, West Bengal Pollution Control Board after observing all formalities held a Public Hearing on 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2008 at 11.30 Hrs at the Meeting Hall of Salanpur Panchayat Samity, Dist.-Burdwan. 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 welcome note from Sri S.K.Chattarjee, Additional District Magistrate(Development), Burdwan who presided over the hearing. Dr. T. K. Gupta, Senior Environmental Engineer and In-charge – 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 others present in the public hearing made queries / suggestions in connection with the proposed project which are noted below:

Sri Utpal Mukharjee Member Ethora Gram Panchayat welcomed such project. However he has requested the project proponent to extend the scheme for implementation of local area development programme as a part of their social commitment . The local village requires improvement of primary education , health improvement etc.

Sri Shyamapada Das ,Sri Sanjay Chakraborty , Sri A.Dhyaira and Sri Dinesh Mondal of local area welcomed the proposed project . However they have mentioned that the project proponent should look into the following issues :

- Rain water harvesting.
- Tree Plantation( Minimum 33% of total area ) in consultation with Zilla Parishad & local G.P.
- Development of Community Center in Ethora Village.
- Development of local self help group.

Moreover they have categorically mentioned that the project proponent should have dedicated Environmental Management Group to look after the different Environmental issues as committed by the Project proponent during their presentation.

On behalf of the Project Proponent Sri Dipankar Dutta, Vice President (Technical) of M/s. Vikash Smelters Limited has appreciated the issues expressed by the different participants and welcomed the suggestions. He stated that the problem of air pollution, water pollution, ash management, water management would be adequately addressed while finalizing the EIA/EMP for such projects. He has also categorically mentioned that best available technology will be considered in each step of implementation of the project. He has mentioned that they will adopt the concept of zero discharge and will provide a minimum of 33% of the total area for greeneries. He has also mentioned that the project proponent will take programme for more plantation not only within the plant premises but also in the neighboring areas in consultation with the District Authorities. They will draw up different programmes for community development in consultation with the local Gram Panchayat and Zilla Parishad.

The Additional District Magistrate, Burdwan 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 welcomed the project incorporating with all the pollution control measures proposed by the Project Proponent.

sd/-  
Dr. T. K. Gupta  
Senior Environmental Engineer &  
Incharge – Consent Cell, WBPCB

sd/-  
S. K. Chatterjee  
Additional District Magistrate(Dev),Burdwan  
Dist.-Burdwan