

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 16.11.2015 AT 11:00 AM IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED PROJECT TO PRODUCE GOLD ORE OF CAPACITY 250 TPD AT SY No. 93, 94 AND 371 OF GUDDADARANGAVVANAHALLI, CHITRADURGA TALUK & DISTRICT BY M/s HATTI GOLD MINES CO. LTD.

1 Place of Environmental Public Hearing	: Samudayabhavana, Guddadarangavvanahalli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.
2 Official Present	: As Annexure-1
3 Representatives of M/s Hatti Gold Mines	: As Annexure-2
4 List of Publics participated	: As Annexure-3
5 Copy of power point presentation	: As Annexure -4

M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., has proposed to produce gold ore of capacity 250 TPD in an area of 62.72 hectares (155 acres) by underground mining method at Sy No. 93, 94 and 371 of Guddadarangavvanahalli Village, Chitradurga Tq & Dist. The project authority has to obtain Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forest (MOEF), Government of India as per EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006 (as amended on 01.12.2009) and required to go through environmental public hearing as per terms of reference (TOR) vide letter No. J-11015/33/2013-IA, II (M), dated 04.09.2014. The project proponent has requested the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board dated 06.05.2015 and 24.07.2015 to conduct Environmental Public Consultation / Public Hearing as per the EIA Notification, 2006.

As per the guidelines stipulated in the EIA Notification, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has initiated action and arranged for this meeting. The Board has issued the paper Notification dated 16.10.2015 in leading News papers "Deccan Herald (English), "Vijaya Karnataka"(Kannada) and "Suddi Giduga" in the local Kannada daily for wide publicity and contacted the local Grama Panchayath Office, Guddadarangavvanahalli and informed about public hearing and also to facilitate local residents. Environmentalist and the publics who are directly and indirectly affected by the project to submit their objections through E-Mail/ in writing to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board / Presiding Officer of Environmental Public Hearing (Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga District, Chitradurga) or orally during the Public Hearing.

As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification 2006, the Public Hearing was conducted at Samudaya Bhavana, Guddada Rangavvanahalli near Project site on 16.11.2015 at 11:00 AM under the Chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurga Dist. Sri M.K. Prabhudeva, Regional Senior Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Chitradurga, assisted in conducting the meeting and informed the publics regarding purpose of the meeting.

Sri. B.S. Murulidhar, Environmental Officer, Chitradurga welcomed Additional Deputy Commissioner, Officials, representatives of M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., Publics, Media Persons and all other representatives from different organization. He informed the gathered publics to express their views on the proposed project with respect to Environmental angle (impact on Environment) due to proposed underground mining activity. The Presiding Officer, then directed the representative of M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., to make power point presentation on the projects including environmental issues.

Dr. Prabhakar Sangurmata, General Manager, M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., Raichur informed that, M/s Ramkey Enviro Engineers Pvt Ltd. Bangalore has prepared detailed environmental impact assessment study of the area and make presentation. Sri. Hemanth Kumar representative of M/s Ramkey Enviro Engineers Pvt Ltd. Bangalore explained to the officials, publics and representatives of different organization regarding proposed underground mining activity through power point presentation. He also explained following details of project and environmental issues.

- Project description.
- Project location.
- Size and magnitude of project.
- Need of the project.
- Adopted underground mining technology.
- Base line monitored results of Air, Ground water, Noise and Soil samples in the project area.
- Environmental Impacts due to mining activity and proposed mitigation measures.
- Flora, Fauna and proposed CSR activities.

Copy of the presentation enclosed as Annexure – 4.

After the completion of presentation, the Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Chitradurga requested the publics to submit their suggestions, views, comments and objections through oral or written. Accordingly the publics have submitted two written complaints to the presiding officer viz.,

- Complaint from President, Gram Pachayath, Guddarangavvanahalli (Annexure-5)
- Complaint from residents of Guddarangavvanahalli (Annexure-6)

Further, following publics have expressed their views as follows:

1) **Sri. Hanumantreddy, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

The apprehension is that due to blasting activity from the proposed project, the houses/buildings of Guddarangavvanahalli village will be severely affected.

2) **Sri K.B. Dananjaiiah Reddy, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

The apprehension is that, mining activity will cause drinking water problem and also affect agricultural activity.

3) **Sri Chandrashekara Reddy, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

The apprehension is that, the mining activity leads to drinking water problem and also requested the project authorities to inform the benefits to the villagers from this mining activity. Further requested presiding officer not to give permission for mining activity.

4) **Sri Naveen G, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

The mining activity will affect on underground water table and leads to depletion of water level in surrounding borewells. Hence he requested not to issue permission.

5) **Sri Kyatappa, Aiyatolu, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

He expressed that, the operation of this mining activity will adversely effect on surrounding environment and requested the presiding officer not to issue permission for the proposed project.

6) **Sri. Gurumurthy, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

He expressed the collective opinion on behalf of the villagers that, they will not allow the project authorities for establishment of mining activity under any circumstances. In spite of our protest, if they establish mining activity, all villagers of Guddadarangavvanahalli will take poison and ends their life themselves.

7) **Sri N.T Raghavendra Reddy, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

He brought to the notice of the presiding officer that, also the authorities have carried out mining activity earlier and the same mining pits exists, but same was not filled till date. Further, the mining activity will affect the underground water table and also create noise pollution to the surrounding environment. Hence he requested not to issue permission.

8) **Sri Chandrashekar, G.R Halli, Chitradurga Tq & Dist.**

He strongly recommended not to issue permission to the proposed project and informed that, the complaint/objection letter with signature of 250-300 villagers has submitted to the Deputy Commissioner for not to give permission.

In response to the views/objections of the publics, Dr Prabhakar Sangurmath the representative of M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., explained as follows.

- ❖ M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., is a part of Karnataka Government project and will work as per the rules and regulations lied for mining activity by competent authority.

- ❖ Since the proposed mining activity will carry under the ground, which will not affect to the surrounding environment and also proposed to adopt noise mitigative measures.
- ❖ If underground water generates during mining activity will be re-used and require no fresh water.
- ❖ The authorities have allocated 1 % of the profit for development of infrastructure under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR activity).
- ❖ The authorities have proposed in totality, the mining will be carried out eco-friendly and ensure no impact on surrounding environment /publics in any manner.

Further requested the publics to co-operate for establishment of the proposed project.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner, concluded the meeting with the following.

- The objections /views submitted by the publics in written /oral will be considered and forwarded to MOEF, New Delhi for needful.
- District Administration and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board work together to ensure, no adverse affect on the surrounding environment/publics.
- After establishment of the project, the project authorities will monitor the samples of Soil, Water, Air.and Noise as per the guidelines issued by MoEF/KSPCB.
- Mining will be carried out, if it is economical otherwise they are not in a position to start the activity.
- The authorities agreed to adopt controlled blasting technology to minimize sound pollution during blasting.
- This meeting is conducted as per the directions of MoEF, Government of India. The views/complaints of the publics will be forwarded to MoEF with a request to place the proceedings of this public hearing before Technical Expert Committee for deliberation and opinion.

Finally, the presiding officer ended the hearing with thanks to all attended participants, Officials, representatives of M/s Hatti Gold Mines Co. Ltd., publics and media persons.



P.N. Ravindra, KAS.

**Additional Deputy Commissioner, Chitradurg Dist.
And Presiding Officer of
Environmental Public Hearing.**