

Proceeding of the Public Hearing of proposed expansion/modernization of the existing M/s. Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd, Located at Sy. No. 250, 259, 260, 262, 471, 263 and 473, Gokak and Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District, Karnataka State have proposed expansion of Co- Generation Power Plant from 6 MW to 18 MW, In this regard Public Hearing is conducted on 23.10.2017 at 12.30 pm.

Date : 23-10-2017.

Time : 12.30 PM

Venue : Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd, Located at Sy. No. 250, 259, 260, 262, 471, 263 and 473, Gokak and Gokak Taluk Belagavi District, Karnataka State.

M/s. Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd, has proposed to expand (Development/modernization) the existing M/s. Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd, Located at Sy. No. 250, 259, 260, 262, 471, 263 and 473, Gokak and Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District, Karnataka State have proposed expansion of Co-Generation Power Plant from 6 MW to 18 MW, In this regard Public Hearing conducted under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate, Belagavi on 23.10.2017 at 12.30 PM. The Proceedings of the public hearing is as under:

Place	:	M/s. Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd, Located at Sy. No. 250, 259, 260, 262, 471, 263 and 473, Gokak and Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District, Karnataka State
Name of the Officers Present	:	Annexure - 1
Representatives of the Project Present	:	Annexure - 2
Details of Public Participated	:	Annexure - 3
Details of awareness conducted for public hearing	:	Annexure - 4
Written Views submitted by the public	:	Annexure - 5
Power Point Presentation Made in the Public hearing	:	Annexure - 6

Preamble:

As per the Notification issued by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India on 14.09.2006 (amended to date), it is pre requisite for such project to conduct Environment public hearing prior to award of Environment Clearance. Accordingly Director, MoEF, GOI has finalized the terms of Reference of the said project vide letter dated: 26-07-2016 and informed industry representative to request KSPCB to conduct Environment public hearing. The project proponent vide letter Dated 31-07-2017 requested KSPCB to conduct public hearing. Hence the Environment Public Hearing is conducted at the project site by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board.

The project proponent has submitted the detailed EIA report and Executive Summary in Kannada and English to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board. As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, the Karnataka State Pollution control Board gave the Notification 30 days in an advance. The advertisement to this effect was published in English daily news paper dated: 22-09-2017 "THE HINDU" and Kannada daily news paper "PRAJAVANI" & "VIJAYAVANI" local edition dated: 05-10-2017. The suggestions/ views, comments and objection of the interested bonafide residents, environmental groups and others located at the project site likely to be affected by the proposed project were invited and project affected people could send their views either orally or in written or through email to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/ Deputy commissioner, Belgaum Chairman, Environment Public Hearing Committee. Along with this the proponent has made arrangements for wide publicity of public hearing through vocal announcement over speaker in Gokak City. The details attached in **Annexure-4**.

The Environment public hearing was held on 23-10-2017 at 12:30 PM under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate, Belgaum.

The Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Belgaum-2 (Chikkodi) extended warm welcome to Dr. Suresh Itnal, Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate and he has also extended the welcome to all officials of the different Departments, representatives of the project, all surrounding villagers, public, media and environmentalists. He briefly explained the need for Environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India and Environmental Public Hearing as per EIA Notification and explained the procedure of the Public hearing and about the project documents kept for the Public Hearing at six different offices. The Environmental Officer Mr.

Jagadeesh I. H. requested to the Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional District Magistrate and also the Presiding officer of the Environment Public Hearing meeting to start the proceedings. Later instructed the industry representative and their consultants to make the presentation about the expansion project of Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt. Ltd., to the public.

Environment Consultant M/s. Pioneer Enviro Laboratories and consultant Pvt. Ltd., explained about the environment impacts and mitigation measures recommended for the proposed expansion and modernization project of the Roquette Riddhi Siddhi Pvt Ltd. The copy of the power point presentation is also enclosed with the proceedings vide **Annexure-6**.

The views expressed by the public and replies given by the industry representative and consultants during the public hearing are as follows:

1. Kadappa. Durgappa. Mestri: Resident of Gokak.

He expressed that in the past (10years) there was a objectionable smell around the premises. Recently Roquette Industry has initiated to mitigate the intensity of smell by innovative approaches and the smell is remarkably reduced. By the existence of this company around 3,000 people directly and 30,000 people indirectly benefited and maintaining their livelihood. He requested industry to provide electricity to the Gokak city under expansion project.

2. Yallappa. Halappa. Sannanayak. Resident of Gokak falls.

He expressed that as prime minster brought Swatch Bharath Andolan and in the same way the company has adopted best environmental practices. The company has made mass medical eye check-up campaign in Urdu Primary school, Naka no.1 Gokak and company has provided spectacles to the students who are deficient eyesight's and appreciated the same. Further company has provided nutrients for the kids suffering from tuberculosis under CSR activities. Company has provided clean drinking water facilities in kanagaon, Kolavi, Shindikurbet and Maradimath. He wish the industry to continue the social service in the interest of public and workers in near future also.

3. V Sunanda Reddy : Resident of Nalanda Dist, Telangana

I am the first Environmentalist in India to support industries. Generally Environmentalist opposes industries, but I support the industries.

He expressed his concern for the employment and environment. I visited various states in India and attended Public Hearings for supporting industries. He requested company authorities to explore rain water harvesting and to make arrangements to store rain water. He suggested to conduct industrial skill development trainings and

practices to the youth of local like in Japan and Korea. He requested to form coordination committee to implement CSR activities by involving industry officials, Local officers, KSPCB officers and villagers. He requested company to take care of ground water levels, health condition of residents, developing medicinal plants within 10Km surrounding area. He requested the industry to take all proper pollution control measures to safeguard Air, Water and Land and to maintain ecological balance and environmental safety. Consultants have prepared a detailed EIA report and he requested public hearing panel committee to recommend to MoEF to issue unconditional permission to the Roquette Riddhi Siddhi industry.

4. Smt. Kavita Patil: Resident of Konnur.

She expressed her gratitude's to the Roquette Company for improving the environment and conveyed her best wishes for the success of expansion project. Company has provided pure drinking water units in the surrounding village schools and ensuring student's community health is protected by providing clean water. I am happy about the medical checkup carried out by the industry. She expressed her happiness towards the youth around the company are engaged in doing work in industry and as a result the unemployment has reduced. She wish the company to grow further at higher levels.

5. Mahesh Kumbar: Resident of Gokak, In-charge Principal – Govt. Degree College, Gokak.

He personally welcome the project is promising sustainable growth of Gokak & environmental friendly project, it is taking care of water resources & since from last 4 years he has not experienced any environmental harms in terms of air, water and noise in Gokak. The company is taking the confidence of the society by practicing social services and reforms under CSR scheme. He expressed his heartiest gratitude's to the company as the company has installed drinking water RO units worth of 4 Lakhs rupees and ensuring safe health of the poor student community & helping in solving the problems of ours. They are taking care of Ghataprabha Bird sanctuary of Dhoopdal and beauty of Gokak Falls. He expressed the proposed project will definitely enhance indirect employment of the Gokak society. He is confident that Roquette Company will explore high standard innovative technologies and raw materials in order to sustain better environment and it will solve the deficiency of electricity problem in the state.

6. Sunil Bhagat : Resident of Gokak

Roquette company is backbone of Gokak. After the installation of this project will provide direct labor & indirect labor employment. He expressed that the company has made an attempt to eradicate poverty. He opined that company has spent sufficient budget to develop greenery and for many social activities.

7. Udaykumar Patil: Resident and Farmer of Konnur village.

He expressed, I am farmer & this company has helped the society. The company has installed sufficient Solar Lamps across the streets, which has helped the public and the company has renovated nearby Government Schools by providing basic amenities. By the existence of this industry around 3000 employees are working in this industry and indirectly 9000 people maintaining their livelihood including family members, transporters and many others and is helping as like a mother.

8. MadhuBabu : Telangana Resident.

He expressed that the baseline data collected by the consultants (Air ambient, water and soil samples) within 10Km of surrounding area are within the norms of PCB. Please collect crop production details from near agriculture land. He suggested improve rain water harvesting schemes within premises to improve the ground water levels and it will compensate the deficiencies of water in Ghataprabha river during summer. Further suggested to improve the green belt to 50% and to plant (fruit and medicinal) trees in nearby villages and along road sides. Employment preference has to be given to the local people and give good drinking water and education facilities to the villagers.

He requested to form coordination committee to implement CSR activities. He requested public hearing panel committee to recommend to MoEF to issue permission.

9. Niyaz Desai : Resident of Gokak.

He expressed the concern for Ozone layer protection. The responsibility of handing over the good environment to the future generation is lies with us and the company is also working towards the same. He expressed the best practices and the RO technologies adopted in the company for reuse of about 80% of waste water in the process. The company is also thinking about the future generation.

And he requested to the company authorities to improve the solar energy systems. The company has developed remarkable greenbelt in the premises to compensate greenhouse gases. He welcomed the project for many indirect benefits for the society.

Chairman of Public hearing committee informed the company authorities/consultant to clarify about the ozone depletion.

The consultant explained that the ozone layer will be depleted only if the emissions of green house gases contains CO₂ by process of burning of coal. However since the industry has developed around 33% of green belt within the premises, which resulted into sinking of carbon emissions hence depletion of ozone layer do not occur.

10. Rayappa Adivappa Bagoji: Resident of Mahalingeshwar Nagar, Gokak.

He requested the company to install RO unit near DySp office to facilitate the nearby citizens to get safe drinking water.

11. Prakash Lakshetti: Resident of Gokak.

He suggested improve the greenbelt nearby 2 hillocks of Kadabagatti to Mallikarjun, the way company has made conservation plan for Ghataprabha Bird sanctuary and this can mitigate possible dust emission. He further suggested reduce and to maintain minimum fly ash stock within the premises to avoid dust emissions. He appreciated the 80% waste water recycle schemes adopted in the company. Further he expressed to follow practically the conditions of the feasibility report and ensure the overall health condition of the surrounding by controlling water and flyash.

The Chairman of the public hearing expressed that company is intending to expand their existing 6MW power plant to 18 MW. The consultants already displayed the detailed study report and its feasibility of environment impact assessment. This public hearing is called upon for the surrounding people to express their views, suggestions and comments of interested bonafide residents located nearby project site and likely to be affected by the proposed project. All the members who have expressed their opinions have converted this dais to praise the CSR activities instead of environment. Based on the information and the data's, no doubt the company is equally deserved for the appreciation. As briefed by the company authorities, It is a captive power plant project, which is exclusively required for the industry to operate uninterruptedly, so power export & power supply to Gokak town is ruled-out. As mentioned in the presentation, this expansion will enhance the indirect labor employment by various associated activities.

When I expressed my concern regarding Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary and its environment impact, the company authorities and consultants clarified that, since the proposed unit proposes 73 mts height chimney to boiler & wind is not in that direction is surrounded by natural hillocks and survey study says that, the wind direction is not towards Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary. In spite company is already proposed various Bio-diversity and wild life conservation plans to sustain Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary.

Since the Gokak is surrounded by many tourist places, I request company authorities, to improve tourism locations, natural beauties in near future.

I wish the proposed project of the company will improve and develop the company, locality and surrounding tourism places and prosperity of the society.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner & Additional District Magistrate expressed that some of the assembled persons have expressed their objections and opinion, views about impact on environment. The proceedings of the meeting were recorded and the same will be sent to MoEF through KSPCB.

The hearing concluded with vote of thanks.



(Dr. Suresh Itnal K.A.S)
Additional Deputy Commissioner &
Additional District Magistrate
Environmental Public Hearing
President



