

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON 29-03-2016 AT 10.00 A.M IN RESPECT OF M/S SOMESHWARA SUGARS LTD., SY. NO. 349/3, 350/3, 370 & 385/2, KAMBAGI VILLAGE, VIJAYAPURA TALUK & DISTRICT-586 125 FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR THE EXPANSION OF SUGAR PLANT OF SUGARCANE CRUSHING CAPACITY FROM 2500 TCD TO 15000 TCD AND CO-GENERATION PLANT OF 15 MW TO 70 MW IN THE EXISTING SUGAR INDUSTRY PREMISES.

Venue of the Public Hearing: At the existing premises of Sugar Industry located at Kambagi Village, Vijayapura Taluk & District-586 125.

- Panel Members Present**
1. Sri D. Randeep,
Chairman-Environmental Public Hearing Panel &
Deputy Commissioner,
Vijayapura District, Vijayapura.
 2. Sri. B. Rudresh,
Senior Environmental Officer,
Zonal Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Kalaburgi. (Representative of Member Secretary, KSPCB,
Bengaluru)
 3. Sri K. M. Ramesh - Member Convener,
Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Vijayapura

- Officers Present**
1. Sri. S. Ramesha,
Deputy Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Vijayapura
 2. Dr. Anilkumar D. Talageri,
Assistant Environmental Officer,
Regional Office,
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board,
Vijayapura.

Representatives of the Project : Annexure-I.

Names of the public participated : Annexure-II.

PREAMBLE:

M/s. Someshwara Sugars Ltd., have proposed for expansion of Sugar Plant of sugarcane crushing capacity from 2500 TCD to 15000 TCD and Co-generation plant of 15 MW to 70 MW in the existing Sugar Industry Premises at Sy. No. 349/3, 350/3, 370 & 385/2, Kambagi Village, Vijayapura Taluk & District-586 125.

As per the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification dated 01-12-2009 of Department of Ecology and Environment, it is mandatory to conduct a public hearing of the above said project. Accordingly the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka, Department of Ecology and Environment, Bengaluru, after finalizing the **Terms of Reference (TOR)**, has directed the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing. The project proponent has also requested the Board to conduct the public hearing as per Notification.

The project proponent has submitted the Executive Summary of the said project in Kannada and English along with draft REIA to the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Bengaluru as laid down in the procedures of the EIA Notification (as amended on 01-12-2009). The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has issued Paper Notification in State level leading Kannada daily newspaper **Vijaya Vani** and leading English daily newspaper **Deccan Herald** on 27-02-2016 and also issued Paper Notification in District level local newspaper **Satya Kranti** on 28-02-2016 regarding the proposed project by inviting objections/suggestions from the bonafide residents, NGO's, Environmentalists and general public who are affected from the proposed project, either by attending the public hearing/in writing/by e-mail to KSPCB and Chairman & Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapura District, (Earlier: Bijapur District) of public hearing panel.

The Environmental Public Hearing commenced at 10.00 AM on 29-03-2016 and welcome speech was made by the Environmental Officer, Regional Office, KSPCB, Vijayapura. He also explained the purpose of meeting. The Deputy Commissioner, Vijayapura addressed the gathering and explained the need of conducting Environmental Public Hearing for the project which proposes increasing the sugarcane crushing capacity of 2500 TCD to 15000 TCD and Co-generation plant of 15 MW to 70 MW in the existing Sugar Industry premises by M/s. Someshwara Sugars Ltd., Sy. No. 349/3, 350/3, 370 & 385/2, Kambagi Village, Vijayapura Taluk & District. There after he informed the project proponent to present the case before the committee and the public present, before suggestions/objections could be invited.

Sri. Santosh Kumar T.M. on behalf of M/s. Environmental Health And Safety Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru who is the project consultant of M/s. Someshwara Sugars Limited briefed in detail about the history and activities of the company, total extent of land available, availability of raw material, sources of water, existing Sugar Cane Crushing and Co-generation Power Plant, products manufactured and by products generation, mode of collection and its disposal, waste water generation and its mode of treatment and disposal and air pollution sources and the control measures adopted in the unit.

Further, the company consultant highlighted the geography of the area, proposed land use plan, Afforestation, manufacturing process of Sugar Cane Crushing and Co-generation Power Plant unit. The consultant explained about the likely impacts on the environment arising due to proposed integrated unit, through prediction studies and by compiling the base line data collected within a distance of 10.00 KM radius on Air, Water and Noise qualities, ecology of the area and socio-economic details. He briefed that the proposed integrated plant needs about 6810 KLD of water per day for the manufacturing and domestic purposes during off-season and 3150 KLD during crushing season (Sugar Cane Crushing plants in operation & Co-generation Power plant). Water of about 3150 KLD is procured from the Krishna River and about 10,500 KLD from sugar juice. The project proponent is planning to take up the preventive measures on Water and Air pollution control measures, green belt development and socio-economic activities for which funds has been made available in the budget allocation and planning so as to spend every year starting from the date of commencement of production activities.

Further, he informed that the proponents have proposed to establish a 150 TPH bagasse fired Boiler with chimney of 108 meters above ground level and Electrostatic precipitator, D.G. Set of capacity 2500 KVA with acoustic enclosures and chimney of 15 meters above roof level as air pollution control measures to mitigate air pollution. The bagasse generated from the Sugar unit will be used as fuel to the boiler within the premises. The fly ash generated from the captive power plant will be used in composting for preparation of the manure.

He explained that the proposed project unit has Sugar Cane Crushing unit and Co-generation Power Plant. The waste water generation from the different units of the process will be treated in the Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) of capacity 1800 kilo liters per day and same will be utilized for green belt development and irrigation purposes.

He informed that the industry will adopt the water conservation techniques in the unit. He further informed that total water requirement is about 13,650 KLPD in which only 3150 KLD of fresh water will be drawn from the river Krishna and remaining quantity of 10,500 KLD of

water from sugar cane juice and condensate water. Further he clarified that the total extent of land is 5,74,654.12 Square meters out of which 33% land (1,89,636 Square meters) will be allocated for greenbelt development by using treated trade effluent and domestic effluent by way of irrigation system.

After the detailed presentation on the proposed project, the Environmental Officer, KSPCB, Vijayapura informed to the public that the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board issued Paper Notification in the leading newspapers on the proposed project establishment by inviting objections/suggestions from the public. So far, nobody had filed objections/suggestions on the proposed project to the State Pollution Control Board as well as to the District Administration. Then he invited the public who were present at the meeting to express their comments/views/suggestions on the proposed project.

Accordingly, the following persons came ahead and expressed their views on the proposed project activity;

1. Sri. M. Y. Pujari, Shegunasi Village:

He said that the project proponents are establishing a big industry and they should give employment to the unemployed ITI and Diploma holders of neighboring villages. Though there are some pollution problems, overall about 3000 to 4000 people will get benefitted. He has also informed that transportation charges of sugar cane will be minimized by establishment of this industry.

2. Sri. Mallu Dhalavai, Sangapur Village:

He said that the villagers of Kambagi, Sangapura and Shegunashi have sold their fertile land for the establishment of this sugar industry. He requested the project proponent to provide employment to eligible unemployed youths of surrounding villages. He has also requested to adopt new technologies to control pollution from the industry. He said that the industry authorities shall construct the schools and to provide drinking water facility for surrounding villages.

3. Sri. Shekappa Chikka Galgalli, Sangapur Village:

He said that the surrounding village people have sacrificed for the establishment of this sugar industry by selling their land to industry, soon the surrounding lands will be irrigated and the sugar cane grown can be supplied to industry. He also said that the Pollution Control Board shall see that there shall not be any pollution problems from the industry.

4. Sri. Shastri Hosmani, Kambagi Village:

He said that they have heard about the water pollution and sound pollution from the sugar industries. He requested the Directors of sugar industry not to give any chance to the

pollution problems. Similarly, the industry should be successful on controlling of air pollution by implementing latest technology.

5. Dr. K.H. Mumba Raddy, Shegunashi Village:

He said that it is good for the surrounding farmers by establishing this project and also requested that the industry should not pollute the environment by adopting good technology to control the pollution. He said that the social status of the villagers will be improved after establishment of the industry. He has also said that the District Minister gave an assurance to bring the irrigation to this area and they are all happy for coming-up of this industry.

6. Sri. Syed Nadaf, Kambagi Village:

He said that they are all happy about establishment of the sugar industry and requested that this industry should give employment to the qualified youngsters of the surrounding villages.

7. Sri. Basvaraj H. Navi, Kambagi Village:

He said that pollution from the industry is known to everyone and he has heard about pollution occurred from the sugar industries and crop damage by the air pollution from the industry. The adjoining farmers having only 1 to 2 Acres of land and they will suffer from crop loss. He said that the factory authority shall not give any chance to the pollution problems. Similarly, the industry should be successful on controlling of air pollution by implementing latest technology. The management of the sugar industry should give the employment opportunity to local people and unskilled youths by giving training to them.

8. Sri. Nagappa Rangappa Holeppagol, Halagani Village:

He said that the industry shall adopt latest technology for pollution control. Industry shall adopt afforestation in the area. Farmers who have lost their land shall be considered for employment and unemployed shall be trained and get employment in the industry. He requested to conduct more and more awareness programmes for surrounding village people.

9. Sri. Sangmesh R. Kolakar, Devapura Village:

He said that because of irrigation, farmers are growing sugar cane and earlier they were transporting the sugar cane to M/s Renkua Sugars which is far away from this area. Now it is helpful for the farmers to supply sugar cane to this industry. He has requested the management of the sugar industry to give employment to local people and qualified youngsters. Also, he has requested everyone to co-operate for establishment of this industry.

10. Sri. A. II. Mirji, Kambagi Village:

He said that by establishment of this industry, the farmers of surrounding villages will be benefitted and pressed the industry authorities to provide latest technology for control of water & air pollution.

11. Sri. Hanmantappa Laxman Mantur, Kanabur Village:

He said that it is good to the Kambagi and neighbour village people by the establishment of M/s. Someshwara Sugars Limited. Before, they were depended on M/s. The Nandi SSK Niyamit, Krishna nagar. Now it is helpful for them to send the sugar cane from surrounding villages. He also requested the factory management to give employment to local village people.

Sri. Vootkuri Sunanda Reddy, Environmentalist, Telangana State, Sri. H. Madhubabu, Volunteer, Rural Environment Education & Health Awareness Society (REEHAS), Hyderabad, Telangana State and Sri. B.H. Navi and other villagers of Kambagi Village submitted individual memorandums to the panel for consideration.

The Deputy Commissioner & Chairman of the Environmental Public Hearing Panel while addressing the meeting said that the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting will be forwarded to the State Level Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka for further action.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks.

RLB
(Sri. D. Randeep, I.A.S)
Deputy Commissioner & Chairman,
Environmental Public Hearing Panel,
Vijayapura District, Vijayapura.

30/1/16