

Proceedings of the public hearing conducted on 04.01.2024 at 03:00 pm in connection with application filed by Executive Engineer/Ferozepur Drainage-cum-Mining & Geology Division, Department of Water Resources Punjab for obtaining environmental clearance under EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006 for mining of minor minerals (Sand) from the agriculture land in the revenue estate of Village Behak Gujran, Tehsil Zira, District Ferozepur.

Following were present to supervise the proceedings:-

1. Sh. Gurmeet Singh,
Sub Divisional Magistrate,
Zira.
2. Er. Daljit Singh,
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Faridkot.
3. Er. Anish Sharma,
Asstt. Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Faridkot.

At the outset of the public hearing, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Faridkot welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and persons who came to attend the public hearing of this proposed project. He explained that Executive Engineer/Ferozepur Drainage-cum-Mining & Geology Division, Department of Water Resources Punjab has proposed to set up mining project for mining of minor minerals (Sand) @ 49,145 TPA in an area of 7.30 hectares from the agriculture land in the revenue estate of Village Behak Gujran, Tehsil Zira, District Ferozepur. After considering application, the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Punjab had issued 'Terms of Reference' to the company for preparation of draft EIA study report. Now, the company has submitted draft EIA report to the Punjab Pollution Control Board for conducting public hearing of the project as per the procedure prescribed in the EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006. He also

apprised to the public present at site about the requirement of conducting the public hearing before deciding the application filed by the company for getting the said clearance for mining of minor minerals (Sand) from the above mentioned site. He also brought to the notice of public that a copy of the draft EIA report alongwith the executive summary of the same is submitted by the company to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur, Chairman, Zila Parishad, Ferozepur; General Manager, District Industries Centre, Ferozepur, Executive Engineer-cum-District Mining Officer, Ferozepur, Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Chandigarh and Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board Regional Office, Faridkot and also uploaded the same on the official website of Punjab Pollution Control Board for access to the public and other stakeholders. He further brought out that a notice of public hearing was published on 01.12.2023 in two prominent newspapers namely 'Hindustan Tiimes' (English) daily and 'Rozana Spokesman' (Punjabi) to make the public aware of the date, time & venue of the public hearing and about the offices, where the public can access the draft EIA report and its executive summary report before the conductance of said hearing and also to submit suggestions, views, comments and objections in written/email/in person, if any, on the proposed project, to the Member Secretary, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala, within 30 days of the publication of the public notice. Thereafter, he requested the representative of the company to elaborate the main features of the project and the draft EIA study report.

The representative of the Environment Consultant of mining department M/s Grass Roots Research & Creation India (P) Ltd. brought out the details of the project before the public that the proposed mining project is located in the revenue estate of Village Behak Gujran, Tehsil Zira, District Ferozepur and got sanctioned the mining lease area of 7.30 hectares for the mining of minor minerals (Sand) @ 49,145

TPA. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 150.0 lacs. The Department of Mines & Geology, Punjab has issued letter for mining for a period of three years. The nearest city near the mining site is Makhu and various hospitals, educational institutions and railway station also exists there. The EIA study was conducted during the period March 2023 to May 2023. Water will be used for drinking and sprinkling at the project site for dust suppression & plantation purpose. The total manpower in the project will be of 24 persons. Extraction of minerals will be done from the bed leaving safety zone from bank. The maximum working depth will remain above ground water table of the area. Health facilities will be provided to the workers & surrounding people in the impact area to reduce the health impacts. No wildlife will be affected. Effective mitigation measures will be adopted to minimize disturbance during transportation & handling of minerals. Restoration plan during the closure of mine at the onset of monsoon season will be adopted. Disaster Management Plan to take timely precautionary measures to avoid effects of impending disasters will also be adopted. The water will be sprayed at the roads to control dust emissions. The plantation will be developed around the mining site and in the adjoining area to the project site to reduce the problem of dust emissions being generated during loading & movements of vehicles. There will not be any generation of trade effluent during mining process and wastewater will be generated only from the office toilets for which there will be septic tank as treatment facility. Effective monitoring of air quality, water quality and soil quality will be carried out during the operation of the project.

Thereafter, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Faridkot brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.09.2006, as amended from time to time, the public present at the venue may seek any information or clarifications on the proposed project from the project promoter and may also raise

objections, if any. It was also brought into the notice of the public present there that the information or clarifications or objections raised by them and reply given by the project proponent will be recorded in the proceedings of the hearing, which will be sent to the SEIAA, Punjab for further consideration. Accordingly, he requested the public present in the hearing to seek information or clarifications or raise objections, if any on the project one by one. He also informed that no information / clarifications / comments / views / suggestions / objections on the project have been received from the public in writing by the Board so far. No information / clarification sought by the public present at the venue of hearing.

Thereafter, the Assistant Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board requested the public that if anyone want to ask any question or objection about the proposed project, he may come forward, but no one came forward. After that people were asked to raise their hands who are in favour of this project and all persons present in the public hearing raised their hands in favour of this project. He then asked the people to raise their hands who are not in favour of this project and no one raised his hand in disfavor of this project. The videography & photography of the public hearing was carried out and 40 persons attended the public hearing.

The hearing ended with vote of thanks from Environmental Engineer to the Sub Divisional Magistrate and public present in the public hearing.


(Anish Sharma)

Asstt. Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Faridkot


(Daljit Singh)

Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Faridkot


(Gurmeet Singh)

Sub Divisional Magistrate
Sub Division, Zira