

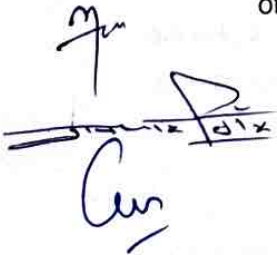
Proceedings of the public hearing conducted on 05.01.2024 regarding application filed by the District Mining Officer, Ludhiana for obtaining Environmental Clearance as required under EIA Notification dated 14.09.2006 for mining of minor minerals (sand) with production capacity of 4,32,690 TPA in bed of River Sutlej in an area of 32.96 Hectare in the revenue estate of village Manewal, Talwandi Nauabaad and Walipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana, Punjab.

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:

1. Sh. Gurbir Singh Kohli, PCS
Sub-Divisional Magistrate,
Jagraon.
2. Er. Gurmeet Singh,
Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.
3. Er. Rajpal Gill,
Assistant Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.

At the outset, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Regional Office-3, Ludhiana welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and people from adjoining villages, who came to attend the public hearing of the project. He informed that the District Mining Officer, Ludhiana has filed an application in the office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Govt. of India, New Delhi for obtaining Environmental Clearance under EIA notification no. 1533 (E) dated 14.9.2006 for operation of sand mining project in the revenue estate of village Manewal, Talwandi Nauabaad and Walipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana. After this, he requested the representative of the District Mining Officer, Ludhiana to give a brief presentation about the project. Ms. Harmanpreet Kaur, Consultant, M/s Eco Paryavaran Laboratories Consultants Private Limited brought out the details of the project proposal before the public as under:

- Total area of the site is 32.96 Hectare (Ha) and out of which mining area is 29.29 Ha.
- Sand will be mined within the period of three years and sand mining capacity will be 4,32,690 TPA.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of EIA report was approved by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Punjab vide letter no. SEIAA/MS/2023/1299 dated 13 September, 2023. This Public Hearing is being organized in compliance to


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EIA Notification, 2006 (amended thereof).

- No wild life sanctuary, Archaeological site, reserved/protected forest, site of Historical importance falls near the site.
- Mining will be done through semi mechanized system and 07 excavators of capacity 0.9 m³ or above will be used for mining. 60 Skilled/semi-skilled/un-skilled workers will be hired from nearby villages. Mining will be done during day time only.
- Mined sand will be transported through 28 Dumpers of capacity 10 Tonnes each. Water sprinkling on movement area will be done through tractor operated water sprinkling system.
- Total cost of the project is 18.71 crores, out of which 16.48 lacs are reserved for development of green belt around the project area.
- Total ground water requirement is 2.3 KLD, out of which 1.2 KLD will be used for dust suspension and 1.1 KLD will be used for domestic purposes.
- Ambient Air Quality monitoring has been done at five locations within 10 Km area of the project and value of PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO₂ are found within the limits prescribed under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Ground Water study of the area has been done and as per this study, no metallic and bacterial contamination has been found in the ground water, however, bacterial contamination has been found in the surface water.

Thereafter, the Assistant Environmental Engineer, brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.9.2006, the persons present at the venue may seek any information or clarifications on the project from the project promoter. It was also brought into the notice of the persons present there that the information or clarifications sought by them and reply given by the project proponent will be recorded in the proceedings of the hearing, which will be sent to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change Government of India, New Delhi for further consideration. Accordingly, he requested the persons present in the hearing to seek information or clarifications 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.

The detail of the information/ clarifications sought by the persons present at the venue of hearing and the reply given by the project proponent is as under:

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Signature
Cm,

- 1. Sh. Joginder Singh S/o Sh. Saiya Singh resident of Village Walipur Khurd, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

Tractor-trolley should be used in place of tippers as it will create more employment.

Reply:

No reply given as question was in form of suggestion.

- 2. Jagroop Singh S/o Sh. Harbahjan Singh, resident of Village Walipur Khurd, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

Flow in the river is high towards village. Repair of embankment is going on after 2019 floods and water flow is creating pressure on embankment towards village side. If mining is done towards village side it will increase chances of flood. No compensation is provided by the Government after floods.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer, Ludhiana:

Mining will be done at 100 m distance from the embankment. If water is flowing towards village side then no mining will be done towards this side. There are 04 approach roads to mining site and if water flows towards village side then mining will be done towards Jalandhar side. Flow of River will become straight with mining. Safety of embankment will be considered while mining.

- 3. Sh. Chinderpal Singh S/o Sh. Joginder Singh, resident of Village Walipur Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

Water is flowing at depth of 60-70 ft. River flow should be diverted by creating barrier near village Manewal at the point where Delhi – Katra Expressway is passing over the River. After diversion of flow, mining should be done from middle of the River course. If mining is done from Jalandhar side with the consensus of three villages then it safeguard the embankment and will also create employment. There is no objection if flow is diverted towards Jalandhar side.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer, Ludhiana:

Natural flow of the River cannot be disturbed at any cost. If flow shift naturally towards Jalandhar side then its ok, however flow cannot be diverted by creating barrier.

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4. **Sh. Amrik Singh S/o Sh. Makhan Singh, resident of Village Talwandi Nauabaad, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

There is no objection on mining and all labor of village is agreed with the operation of mining.

Reply:

No reply given as no information was sought in question.

5. **Sh. Harcharan Singh S/o Sh. Lal Singh, resident of Village Walipur Khurd, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

River flow has shifted towards village due to mining done towards village side in the past. If mining is not done towards Jalandhar side then flow will shift towards village side.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer, Ludhiana:

Suggestion has been noted.

6. **Sh. Ranjit Singh S/o Sh. Balwant Singh, resident of Village Walipur Khurd, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

There is sewer line in the internal area of village Walipur Kalan. Tippers should not pass through the village.

Reply by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon:

Fact has been noted.

7. **Sh. Iqbal Singh S/o Sh. Sukhdev Singh, resident of Village Bhundri, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.**

Question:

We had submitted a request letter for mining of sand from our land near River Sutlej so that the people of area gets employment, however, the mining site was handed over to a private contractor. It is requested to make this mining site a public mining site and it should not be handed over to a corporate house. Mining site was operated from 05 November to 09 November and no permission was obtained from the Punjab Pollution Control Board.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer, Ludhiana:

Mining site was operate for only 04 days after obtaining 'Consent to Operate' from the Punjab Pollution Control Board. Royalty will be provided to the land owners within 03 months.

7/11/12
Harjinder Singh
Mining Officer
Ludhiana

8. Sh. Jangir Singh, Sarpanch Village Walipur Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

No demarcation (Nishandehi) of site has been done. There is about 45 acres Panchayat land of village Walipur in the mining site. No detail has been given about Khasra nos. and no demarcation of site has been done. Flags and pillars were installed without demarcation through revenue department. Mining will be done from Panchayat land and no benefit has been proposed for village Panchayat. Village Sarpanch, Panch & Numberdar must be called during demarcation. Vehicle movement route plan must be provided. There is sewer line in village Walipur and there are chance that the same may got damaged due to movement of vehicles.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer, Ludhiana, Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, Revenue Patwari & the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon:

Demarcation was done on 13.03.2023 and survey report was prepared thereafter. Khasra nos. of mining area has been mentioned in mining plan. All other works started after demarcation.

Sh. Sukhwinder Singh, concerned revenue patwari informed that the demarcation was done before floods and people are asking for second demarcation after floods.

Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining Officer informed that Co-ordinates of site were noted during demarcation and co-ordinates does not change due to floods. Mining will not be done where River is flowing. There is no need for second demarcation. Work will start after installation of flags at site. Royalty @ Rs. 2 per cubic feet of sand will be provided to land owners.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon informed to the persons present at site that demarcation is done with DGPS machine and old Zareeb system does not work at mining sites. Demarcation has been done by the Department and co-ordinates have been noted. Co-ordinates are always fixed and never change due to flood. Work will start after the satisfaction of village Panchayat.

9. Sh. Kulwant Singh resident of Village Walipur Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

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In addition to damage to sewer line with movement of tippers, there are chances of accident with old persons and children. Schedule of School vans get affected due to movement of tippers.

Reply:

No reply was given as repeated question.

10. Sh. Mangat Singh S/o Sh. Jagga Singh, resident of Village Talwandi Nauabaad, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

We had submitted a request to the BDPO office that about 86 acre Panchayat land of village Talwandi Nauabaad falls between embankment and River course. Total Panchayat land of village is 112 acres, of which 23 acres 02 Kanals and 16 Marlas is under cultivation and about 86 acres has been handed over to Government for mining. Mining should be done on 86 acres land so that the employment can be generated in the village.

Reply by Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining officer:

All 86 acres Panchayat land is not in the mining plan. Mining will be done in the area which falls under the mining plan.

11. Sh. Chinderpal Singh S/o Sh. Joginder Singh, resident of Village Walipur Kalan, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

There is about 600 unemployed youth in adjoining 03 villages and employment must be given to this youth.

Reply:

No reply given as question was in the form of suggestion.

12. Sh. Wazir Singh resident of Village Kot Umra, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

Revenue patwari is not responding for request regarding revenue related work

Reply by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon:

Question is not related to mining. Please contact Tehsildar Office.

13. Sh. Sawaran Singh S/o Sh. Bant Singh, resident of Village Talwandi Nauabaad, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:



Flow of River will shift to the center of its course with mining and this will benefit the village. Mining should be done manually. Roads are 02 karam wide and please provide detail regarding width of tippers allowed on this road. Route plan should be provided

Reply by Consultant for Project Proponent and Sh. Harjinder Singh, Mining officer:

Tipper of sand carrying capacity @ 10 ton is allowed. Mining officer informed that tipper of capacity more than 10 ton is not allowed and permission will be obtained from concerned department for movement of tippers.

The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon asked the project proponent to provide route plan to public.

14. Sh. Jswinder Singh S/o Sh. Harbans Singh, resident of Village Talwandi Nauabaad, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

There is possibility of illegal mining. Mining will be done beyond the prescribed depth. Roads will get damaged in three years due to mining.

Reply by Consultant for Project Proponent:

All detail regarding quantity of sand mined and slips issued for mining alongwith photographs of site will be submitted to the concerned departments after every 06 months. Report will be submitted after end of the month of March and September every year. There is strict surveillance over mining and illegal mining is not possible. Government has taken control of mining work to stop illegal mining in the State.

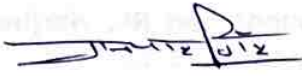
The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon informed that the report is submitted to concerned department after every 06 months and departments cross-check the compliance submitted by the project proponents. Monitoring is done by the Government. People are very alert now and information reaches to Government very quickly in case of illegal mining. Legal mining will generate revenue for the Government and labor will also be under the control of Government in case of legal mining. Monitoring of mining will be done.

Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB further requested the persons present at the venue of hearing that if anyone else wants to seek any information/ clarification on the proposed project, but no one came forward. After that, persons present at the venue were asked to raise their hands that are in favor of this proposed project. 43 Persons (86 % of total persons present) raised hands in favor of the project. 07 persons raised hand against the project. This public hearing was attended by 50 persons.

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Thereafter, the Supervisor-cum-Presiding Officer informed to the persons present at venue that video/audio recording of entire public hearing has been done and requests obtained from the public have been considered.

The hearing ended with vote of thanks to the Supervisor-Cum-Presiding Officer and the public present in the hearing.



(Rajpal Gill)
Assistant Environmental
Engineer, PPCB, RO-3,
Ludhiana.



(Gurmeet Singh)
Environmental Engineer,
PPCB, RO-3, Ludhiana



(Gurbir Singh Kohli, PCS)
Sub-Divisional Magistrate,
Jagraon