Proceedings of the public hearing conducted on 10.10.2018 in connection with the application filed by M/s Sukhbir Agro Energy Ltd., under the EIA notification dated 14.9.2006 for establishment of Bio-mass based Power Plant of 18 MW in the revenue estate of Village Sedha Singh Wala, Tehsil Jaitu, District Faridkot.

The following were present to supervise the proceedings:

1. Sh. Gurjit Singh, PCS,
   Additional Deputy Commissioner,
   Faridkot.
2. Er. Pradeep Balu,
   Environmental Engineer,
   Punjab Pollution Control Board,
   Regional Office, Faridkot
3. Er. Parveen Kumar Saluja,
   Environmental Engineer (Mega),
   Punjab Pollution Control Board,
   Patiala.

Environmental Engineer (Mega), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala welcomed the Supervising-cum-Presiding Officer and people from adjoining towns/villages, who came to attend the public hearing of this project for the proposed project to be located in the revenue estate of Village Sedha Singh Wala, Tehsil Jaitu, District Faridkot. He informed that an application was filed by M/s Sukhbir Agro Energy Ltd., Village Sedha Singh Wala, Tehsil Jaitu, District Faridkot with the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Punjab for getting Environmental Clearance under EIA notification no. 1533 (E) dated 14.9.2006 for establishment of Bio-mass based Power Plant of 18 MW. After considering the application of the industry, the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Punjab had issued 'Terms of Reference' to the industry for preparation of draft EIA study report. Now, the industry 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. Environmental Engineer (Mega) apprised the public present there about the requirement of conducting the public hearing before deciding the

application filed by the industry for getting the said clearance for establishment of the proposed project at the said site. He also brought into the notice of public that a copy of the draft EIA report alongwith the executive summary of the same submitted by the industry to the Punjab Pollution Control Board was placed in the office of Chairman, Zila Parishad, Faridkot; Deputy Commissioner, Faridkot; General Manager District Industrial Faridkot; Regional Office of MoEF&CC at Chandigarh; Environmental Engineer, Regional Office, Punjab Pollution Control Board, Faridkot for access to the public and other stakeholders. He further brought out that a notice of public hearing was published in two prominent newspapers namely, The Hindustan Times (English Daily) and 'Spokesman' (Punjabi Daily) dated 01.09.2018 to make the public aware of the date, time & venue of the public hearing and about the places/offices, where the public could access the draft EIA report and its executive summary report before the said hearing. Thereafter, he requested the representative of the project proponent, who is the Environmental Consultant of industry to elaborate about the main features of the project and the draft EIA study report.

Sh. Narinder Singh Bhullar, representative of the Company and Sh. Nilesh Desmukh of M/s SMS Envocare Ltd., Environmental consultant of the promoter company, brought out the details of the project proposal before the public as under:

1.0 Introduction

M/s Sukhbir Agro Energy Limited has proposed Agro-based Thermal Power Plant with capacity of 18 MW at Village Sedha Singh Wala, Tehsil-Jaito, District- Faridkot. Paddy Straw will be used as Raw material for this proposed project.

2.0 Salient Features of the Project

Sr. No.	Details	Information
1.	Name of the Project	18 MW Biomass Based Thermal Power Plant of M/s. Sukhbir Agro Energy Limited
2.	Regulatory Framework	1(d) Thermal Power Plants as per EIA notification 2006

3.	Category	'B' Category (> 15 MW plants based on biomass fuel)
4.	Capacity	1x18 MW
5.	Location	Khasara No. 206, 207, 214, 170, 171, 204, 205,571/172, 159,160, 161/1, 173, 174,572/172 at Village Sedha Singh Wala, Tehsil-Jaito, District-Faridkot, Punjab
6.	Latitude	$30^0$27'22.8"N
7.	Longitude	$74^0$56'16.2"E
8.	Nearest Railway Station	Gangasar jaito Railway Station : 8.0 km (SW)
9.	Nearest Airport	Sri Guru Ram Dass jee International Airport, Amritsar, 145 KM (SE)
10.	Nearest Town	Jaito City, 5 km (W)
11.	Nearest Water body/river	Raunta (Jaitu) Rajwaha Canal, 2.50 KM (S)
12.	Eco Sensitive zone (National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Biosphere Reserve, Wild Life Corridors etc). Historical & Archeological Important Place/s	Not within 10 kms study area.
13.	Man Power	Direct : 200, Indirect : 1500
14.	Project Cost	Rs.141.25 Crores.
15.	Area requirement	1. Built up land : 16500 sqm, 2. Road Development : 12,000 Sqm 3. Green Belt : 35,200.73 Sqm 4. Storage Biomass : 37,000 Sqm 5. Open Areas : 5853 Sqm Total : 1,06,553.73 sqm
16.	Raw Materials requirement	Total consumption of raw material will be 1, 41,912 MT/Annum having the Gross calorific value (GCV) 2800 Kcal/Kg.
17.	Water Requirement:	Total requirement of Water has been estimated at 225 CuM/Hr which will be sourced from Raunta (Jaitu) Rajwaha Canal.

18.	Power requirement	10 to 11 % of total power generation

3.0 Baseline study and summary

The field survey for the collection of the baseline data including ambient air, water (ground & surface), soil, noise, ecology & biodiversity were commenced during 1st March 2018 to 31st May 2018. A general socio-economic survey was also conducted among the villages present in 10 km radius study area. Project site and 10 km radius study area is falling in Toposheet No. 44J/14, 44 J/15, 44 N/2 & 44 N/3 of Survey of India. Field surveys in the study area were also conducted for the purpose of ground truthing and augmenting the remote sensing data. For this purpose various attributes such as land features, rivers, and forest and vegetation types were recorded on the ground. Findings of baseline study is given below:

- No National Park, Wild Life Sanctuary of Biosphere Reserve are present in study area.
- There is no direct or indirect impact is identified by the proposed unit on the forest as there no any type of forest land is required to be diverted for proposed unit.
- Geologically project site situated at safe zone as per Seismic zone map of India
- No any River of seasonal streams are crossing from the project site.
- Ambient Air quality in the project site as well as nearby the area is well within the prescribed limit of CPCB.
- Water quality of the area is good and within the limit.
- Socioeconomic condition in the area is satisfactory whereas sanitation and safe water supply is not up to the expected resulting water borne disease is common.
- Proper drainage facility is available in almost villages whereas with proper electrification.

4.0 Environmental Management Plan (Emp)

Various pollution controlling devises and measures are integral part of project and incorporated with the project component like ESP, Bag Filters, Stacks, and Effluent Treatment Plant etc. Apart from these; other pollution mitigation

measures and management plans are mandatory to run the plant eco-friendly manner. The brief of the same are given below.

4.1 Air Pollution Mitigation and Management

i) Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) bag filter has been proposed as APCD.

ii) 70 m height of Stack will be provided.

iii) Transportation of construction material in closed containers/ trucks.

iv) Regular water sprinkling in entire construction site, along the road etc.

v) Thick greenbelt shall be developed in and around the project site.

vi) Maintenance of vehicles, ensuring PUC certificates.

vii) Storage of excavated material in a war to avoid the direct contact with blowing air.

viii) The construction activities shall be carried out during day time only.

ix) All the internal roads shall be concreted / asphalted to reduce the fugitive dust due to vehicular movement.

x) A dust control plan shall be implemented viz. regular spraying of water on daily basis on the road and periphery of the project site and dust porn area in the project site.

4.2 Noise Pollution Mitigation and Management

i) Manufacturers and suppliers of machine/equipment shall be selected to ensure that these machine /equipment meet the desired noise/vibration standards.

ii) The operators working in the high-noise areas shall be provided with ear-muffs/ear-plugs.

iii) Acoustic laggings and silencers shall be provided in equipment wherever required.

iv) Transportation of raw material & Final Product shall be ensured in day time only.

v) Proper green belt shall be developed which helps to reduce the noise level.

vi) Noise level can be reduced by stopping leakages from various steam lines,

compressed air lines and other high pressure equipment.

vii) Padding at various locations to avoid rattling due to vibration.

viii) The air compressor, process air blower, shall be provided with acoustic enclosure.

ix) All rotating items shall be well lubricated and provided with enclosures as far as possible to reduce noise transmission. Extensive vibration monitoring system shall be provided to check and reduce vibrations. Vibration isolators shall be provided to reduce vibration and noise wherever possible.

4.3 Water Conservation & Pollution Control:

i) Raw water from adjacent canal shall be tapped & stored into raw water reservoir.

ii) Proper separate drainage system will be developed for storm water and Effluent.

iii) Water for plantation shall be supplied from waste water.

iv) No ground water will be abstracted as required water will be source from nearby canal.

v) Drinking water facilities shall be provided.

vi) Rainwater Harvesting measures shall be adopted.

vii) Effluent Treatment Plant & Water Treatment Plant is proposed for Effluent & Waste Water Management.

4.4 Solid & Hazardous Waste Management

i. Construction waste shall be managed as per Construction and demolition waste management rule, 2016.

ii. Municipal solid waste shall be stored separately.

iii. Organic waste shall be managed by vermi-composting/ composting.

iv. Non organic waste shall be stored separately and sent to the authorized agency.

v. Handling of waste shall be done in a way so as to avoid loss of material during handling.

vi. Biomedical waste shall be managed as per New Biomedical Waste Management Rule, 2016.

vii. Electronic waste shall be managed as per E-Waste Management Rule, 2016.

viii. Other hazardous waste shall be managed as per Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management & Transboundary Movement) Rule, 2016.

ix. During operation, annual ash generation will be 19800 MT. Ash collected from the bottom of furnace (bottom ash) and the ash collected in the air heater hoppers and ESP hoppers are taken to an ash silo through a pneumatic conveying system. The ash from the silo will be disposed of to farmers, who can use the ash as manure for the crops and to local industries, who will utilize the ash for manufacture of bricks.

4.5 Occupational Health & Safety Management

i) Workers engaged in material handling system will have regular health examination

ii) Insulation will be provided to the to minimize the heat radiation & protection of workers.

iii) Proper training & instruction for the handling of material, equipment shall be provided.

iv) All operations and methods of work shall be kept under regular review.

v) Appropriate facilities for first aid, prompt treatment of injuries and illness at work shall be provided.

vi) Onsite/ Offsite Emergency Action Plan shall be prepared and implemented.

4.6 Green Belt Development Plan

Green belt will be developed along plot boundary for width of 3 to 5 meters using varieties of plant species suitable to local environment. Total 33% of Total plot area has been secured for Green Belt Development. Species type will be selected based on soil characteristics, and other related aspects to mitigate pollution effects due to noise, odor, dust etc.

4.7 Cost of Environmental Management Plan

The approximate cost for the EMP will be 125.0 Lakhs towards capital investment and about 60.0 Lakhs/year towards recurring cost per annum. The break up of the cost to be spent under EMP is as under:-

SR. NO.	PARTICULAR	AMOUNT (RS. IN LAKHS)
Capital Cost		
1	Green Belt Development	10.0
2	Solid & Hazardous Waste Management	20.0
3	Water & Waste Water Management	20.0
4	Air Pollution Management including instrumentation	30.0
5	Occupational Health & Safety	25.0
6	RWH& Miscellaneous Cost	20.0
Total		125.0
Recurring Cost		
SR. NO.	**PARTICULAR**	**AMOUNT (RS. IN LAKHS/year)**
1	Green Belt Development	2.0
2	Environmental Monitoring	3.0
3	Solid & Hazardous Waste Management	25.0
4	Water & Waste Water Management	5.0
5	Air Pollution Management	15.0
6	Occupational Health & Safety	5.0
7	RWH& Miscellaneous Cost	5.0
Total		**60**

5.0 Corporate Environmental Responsibility (CER)

i. Corporate Environmental Responsibility is an Integral part of the planning as management.

ii. Company has secured total 0.75% of total project for developmental activities under company's CER initiative.

iii. Regular health checkup for employees, financial assistance to establish self help Group, support to development of educational facilities, avenue plantation etc. are few highlights of CER activities.

6.0 Conclusion

Proposed project of Biomass based thermal power plant will not only add the power to the state power supply but it will also help to reduce the pollution load generated by agricultural waste in the area. Direct and indirect employment shall be generated which ultimately help to enhance the economic condition of the area.

Thereafter, Environmental Engineer (Mega), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala brought into the notice of public present at the venue of hearing that

as per the provisions of EIA notification dated 14.9.2006, as amended from time to time, 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 SEIAA, Punjab 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.

Thereupon, 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:

Sr. No	**Name of the person**	**Detail of query / statement / information / clarification sought by the person present at the venue of hearing.**	**Reply of the query / statement / information / clarification given by the project proponent**
1.	Sh. Nachhatar Singh, Ex. Member Panchayat, Village Dal Singh Wala, District Faridkot.	1. How many bailers are there with the industry. 2. How the bailers will be distributed to village-wise. 3. What charges will be taken by the industry from the farmers for taking bundles of rice straw (bailes).	The representative of the company informed that:- 1. The industry has hired 50 bailer machines for its Sedha Singh Wala project. 2. The bailer machines will be distributed village-wise in the nearby area for which a list shall be prepared and same can be taken up from them. 3. No charges will be taken by the industry from the farmers for taking bundles of rice straw (bailes).
2.	Sh. Sukhwant Singh, Village Lakhanwala, District Faridkot	He stated that the bailer owners will charge Rs.1500/- per acre for bailing the bundles of rice	The representative of the company informed that the company will not take any amount from the farmers

		straw, which is not bearable for the farmers. He further stated that the farmers will prefer to fire the rice straw then spending amount Rs.1500/- on the bailer machine. Therefore, the bailers should be provided free of cost. Two bailers should be provided to each village through cooperate societies and company should give assurance in this regard. He also stated that the bailers should work within 15 kms. If company will not provide free of cost to the farmers then the project may not be fully successful.	for facilitating to arrange bailers. However they will purchase baillies @ 130/- per quintal. Two bailers to each village will be ensured within 25 kms of the project site and their phone numbers will be made available to the farmers for arrangement of the bailer. As already informed that the company has not owned any bailer machines, but the bailer machine owners have been associated with them from the nearby area. He also informed that they cannot bound the bailer owners to work within 15 kms as they have invested huge amount on it and they will try to work more to earn more for getting amount so invested by them.
3.	Sh. Nirmal Singh, r/o Village Harike Kalan, District Faridkot	He stated that he has bailer. The thread used in the bailer is very costly and the company has fixed moisture of the baile as 16%, which is not possible. The rate of rice straw has been fixed by the company is Rs.130/- per quantal which is very less. Minimum rate of Rs.200-250 per quantal should be fixed as Rs.80/- per quantal is demanded by the transporter for transporting the bailes to the destination.	The representative of the industry informed that their company has fixed moisture as 16% in the rice straw but the other companies have fixed this as 15%. The bailes have been stored upto 20-22 ft., if the moisture will be more than 16% then there chances of fire in the stock and also there will be no efficiency of the plant with more moisture in the bailes. They will review the rate of rice straw and will take up the matter in a meeting at their head office level.

Environmental Engineer (Mega), Punjab Pollution Control Board, Patiala 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 people were asked to raise their hands who are in favour of this proposed project and most of the people present raised hands in favor of the project. This public hearing was attended by 146 persons.

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

(Parveen Kumar Saluja) Env. Engineer (Mega) PPCB, Head Office, Patiala	**(Pradeep Balu)** Env. Engineer, PPCB, Regional Office, Faridkot	(**Gurjit Singh**), **PCS,** Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Gen) Faridkot