

Proceedings of the public hearing conducted on 09.01.2024 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 5,20,475 TPA in bed of River Sutlej in an area of 51 Hectare in the revenue estate of village Parjian Biharipur and Madhepur, 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. Rajpal Gill,
Assistant Environmental Engineer,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office-3, Ludhiana.
3. Sh. Rajvir Singh,
Functional Manager,
District Industries Centre,
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 Parjian Biharipur and Madhepur, 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 51 Hectare (Ha) and out of which 30.4 Ha is in the revenue estate of Parjian Biharipur and 20.6 Ha is in the revenue estate of Village Madhepur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.
- Sand will be mined within the period of three years and sand mining capacity will be 5,20,475 TPA. Sand mining @ 3,39,428 TPA will be done from 30.40 Ha area in the revenue estate of village Parjian Biharipur and Sand mining @ 1,81,047 TPA will be done from 20.6 Ha area in the revenue estate of village Madhepur.
- The Terms of Reference (ToR) for preparation of EIA report was


Rajvir Singh

approved by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Punjab vide letter No. SEIAA/MS/2023/1537 dated 22 September, 2023. This Public Hearing is being organized in compliance to 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 11 excavators of capacity 0.9 m³ or above will be used for mining. 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 44 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 23.85 crores, out of which 23.42 lacs are reserved for development of green belt around the project area.
- Total ground water requirement is 6.0 KLD, out of which 3.10 KLD will be used for dust suspension and 2.90 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.

Handwritten signature and initials:
A. P. Singh
A. P. Singh

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:

1. Sh. Sarbjeet Singh resident of Village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

Rules & regulations regarding mining are not enforced properly and no importance is given to the safety of school children. There is no objection to the sand mining but rules & regulations must be followed. Private ownership lands were damaged during floods and compensation has not been received. Embankment of river should be built/repared and sand accumulated in private owned lands due to floods should be allowed to be lifted and slip in this regard can be issued by any concerned Authority. Village road should be made 18 feet wide so that the public does not face any problem in movement.

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

All the rules & regulations related to mining will be strictly enforced. In case of over-loading of tippers, the department should be informed immediately. It is assured that that there will be no violation of rules. If sand is not mined from the river bed, the river will change its route, which increases the chances of flooding. If mining is done, the course of the river will remain straight and the lands will not get damaged.

2. Captain Jagtar Singh S/o Sh. Kanhaiya Singh, resident of Village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

Load carrying capacity of village road is 08 tonnes and movement of large trucks damage the road. My suggestion is that a new road must be built over the embankment of river and with this new route there will be no problem to the village and the work of mining will also function smoothly. The road damage increases due to water sprinkling on it. Development of the village should be taken care of and embankment should be repaired.

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

The suggestion of building a new road over the embankment is very good and will be brought into the notice of Higher Authorities. Water will be sprinkled only on unpaved roads and no water sprinkling will be done on village road. Village must submit suggestions regarding development of village in the form of representation and work related to development can be carried out from the District Mineral Fund which is maintained by

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Sh. Sarbjeet Singh

the Government from mining activity and the same can be spent for the development of the village.

3. Sh. Amarjeet Singh S/o Sh. Malkeet Singh, resident of Village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

Work is laying closed since long and same should be started as this will provide employment to the unemployed youth of the village. Tractor trolleys and small size poclain machines should be allowed and tippers should also operate.

Reply:

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

4. Sh. Jaswant Singh Sandhu, resident of Village Parjian Biharipur, Tehsil Jagraon, District Ludhiana.

Question:

New road should be constructed as distance of main road from the mining site will reduce to 04 km only if a new road is constructed over embankment. With the development of new road embankment will be strengthened and whole issue will also be resolved. It is important to carry out the mining so as to maintain the shape of river.

Reply by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jagraon:

The suggestion has been noted and it will be considered.

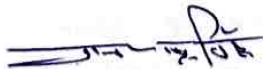
Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB further requested the persons present at the venue of hearing that if anyone else wants to seek any information/ clarification on the proposed project, but no one came forward. After that, persons present at the venue were asked to raise their hands that are in favor of this proposed project. 53 Persons (95 % of total persons present) raised hands in favor of the project. Three persons raised hand against the project. This public hearing was attended by 56 persons.

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.



(Rajvir Singh)
Functional Manager,
District Industries Centre,
Ludhiana.



(Rajpal Gill)
Assistant Environmental
Engineer, PPCB, Regional
Office-3,
Ludhiana



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