Minutes of Public Hearing for the Jalwa Quartz, Quartzite (Silica Stone) mining project of M/s Idio Construction & Industries (India) Limited at Bishunpur, Tehsil- Surajgarha, District-Lakhisarai

Venue: Mining project Site at Bishunpur, P.S.-Piri Bazaar, Block- Surajgarha, District-Lakhisarai

Date: 15/12/2022; at 01:30 p.m.

The following officials attended the Public Hearing:

- 1. Sri Sudhanshu Shekhar, ADM, Representative of D.M. Lakhisarai
- 2. Sri Suresh P. Roy, Regional Officer, Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Begusarai
- 3. Sri Randheer Kumar, Mineral Development Officer, District- Lakhisarai

The following proponents / officials / representatives attended the Public Hearing:

- 1. Smt. Renu Singh, Chairperson, M/s Idio Construction & Industries (India) Limited
- 2. Sri Rajnikant Kumar, Representative of M/s Idio Construction & Industries (India) Limited
- 3. Dr. S. Prasad, EIA Consultant, M/s Paramarsh Servicing Environment and Development, Lucknow

Number of persons participated in the Public Hearing was 77 and signed attendance sheet is enclosed as **Annexure – I**.

The Regional Officer, BSPCB, welcomed the ADM, Lakhisarai to preside over the public hearing meeting, comprising of local people, project proponent and other participants in the public hearing. He initiated with introduction about the proposed mining project and the importance of public hearing for Environmental Clearance. He stated that the Terms-of-Reference (TOR) dated 29/07/2022 has been issued by the State level Environment Impact assessment Authority (SEIAA), Bihar for this project in accordance with the EIA notification, 2006. He stated that public notice had been issued through different daily news papers regarding this public hearing in accordance with the EIA notification with a request to submit their suggestions/comment with respect to the EIA report. He informed that there was no written communication received so far from anyone in this context. He requested the audience to present their views/ comments & suggestions/ objections, if any, related to the environment of the area pertaining to this mining project.

The ADM, Lakhisarai welcomed the public, representatives of the project proponent, and other participants present in the public hearing. He initiated with the need of the project for socio-economic development of area through direct and indirect employment. He stated that environment should be taken care of while execution of any project. Thereafter, he invited the project proponent's representative/ consultant to explain salient features of environment impact assessment (EIA) report and environment management plan (EMP) prepared for the proposed Jalwa Quartz, Quartzite (Silica Stone) mining project.



Dr. S. Prasad, Environmental Consultant of the project delivered a presentation and highlighted the following points:-

- He described salient features of the project as an open cast mining of Quartz, Quartzite (Silica Stone) with regulated blasting. Total lease area is 19.8 Hectare for mining of Jalwa Quartz, Quartzite (Silica Stone) with total investment of Rs. 350 Lakh approximately. Study area for this EIA report is within 10 km radius from the project site within which baseline environmental data & conditions of the area was studied for three months.
- He stated that water/air/soil samples were collected and analyzed, assessed about water requirement and waste water generation/emissions in air.
- Study was conducted about PM10, PM2.5 and green belt development scheme of the mining project.
- Explained the likely impact on environment and its mitigation measures.
- Informed that proposed mining shall be based on modern technology; adequate area for green belt development; statutory permission for abstraction of ground water shall be obtained from competent authority; Project shall be implemented / established by following all statutory norms as prescribed under the Rules, and
- Also state that employment will be generated from the project and employment preference will be given to local people or as per Rules.

Response of the Public and their views/opinion:

1. Sri Mahesh Kumar from village Bakarchak asked about the use of water stored in the mining area.

Reply of Project Representative: The water stored in the mining area will be used in water sprinkling for dust suppression, ground water recharge and to meet other domestic requirements.

- Sri Praveen Kumar Kushwaha, from village Banshipur, Arma asked about provisions for development of the locality/ area.
 Reply of Project Representative : Approximately 1% of total project cost i.e 3.5-4.0 lakh as per guidelines of MoEFCC has been earmarked for the development of local facilities as applicable. This expenditure may be made on proposal duly approved by the local committee and The District Magistrate, Lakhisarai.
- 3. Sri Kanhaiyalal Mandal from village Bariyarpur asked about measures to prevent and control air pollution from vehicle movement, blasting and other mining activities.

Reply of Project Representative: Air pollution will be controlled by doing water spraying, tree plantation in three layers, along the road and mining area. Vehicles with PUC will be engaged. Silent type DG set will be established. Controlled blasting with delay technique will be used to control noise and air pollution.

- Sri Kailash Mandal form village Ghoghi, Bariyarpur asked about the measures to control water pollution due to domestic sewage.
 Reply of Project Representative: Sewage treatment plant will be used to treat domestic sewage and treated effluent will be reused in plantation and dust suppression.
- 5. Sri Abhishekh Raj, Mukhiya, Bariyarpur informed about the extent of pollution during operation of this mine previously and asked about the measures to be taken to protect the agriculture land in the vicinity and along the road, and to protect the labours' interest such as healthcare, insurance, safety.

Reply of Project Representative: Mines will be operated with proper care to avoid any adverse impact on agricultural fields. To control and minimize air pollution, green belt will be developed along the roads and regular water sprinkling will be done to minimize dust emission. Interest of public and labour such as healthcare, insurance, safety will be taken care of as per the rules prescribed by the Govt. Group insurance, PPE kits such as Helmet, Hand gloves, mask, wearing glasses, earplug etc. will be provided during operation as per statutory norms of The Factories Act'1948.

6. Sri Surendra mandal of Bariyarpur asked about scope of employment for the local people.

Reply of Project Representative: Local people will be preferred in non skilled employment and in the skill employment depending up on their level of qualification and skill.

- 7. Sri Mantoo Kumar of Marsouni village informed that agriculture is totally depending on rains in this area and underground water level is very high. He asked if water crisis would be worse after commencement of this mining project. Reply of Project Representative: As per CGWA assessment area falls under Safe assessment unit having abundant ground water. Only 10 KLD of ground water will be abstracted for meeting the water requirement of the project. To compensate ground water withdrawal, Rain Water Harvesting technique will be adopted to recharge ground water aquifer.
- 8. Sri Nitesh Kumar, Deputy President of Abhaypur asked about measures to be taken for control of noise pollution from vehicle movement, blasting, and DG set. Reply of Project Representative: Air pollution will be controlled by doing water spraying, tree plantation in three layers, along the road and mining area. Vehicles with PUC will be engaged. Silent type DG set will be established. Controlled blasting with delay technique will be used to control noise and air pollution.
- 9. Sri Ramashish Bind of Daink Bhaskar informed about the experience of traffic issue in Kajara Bazar due to movement of heavy vehicle and suggested to allow the vehicle during night only and there should be imposition of NO ENTRY during

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daytime. Sri Chandan Kushwaha suggested for development of 1.5 Km long alternate route/ by pass for the Kajara Bazar. The ADM, Lakhisarai suggested to develop this bypass under different government schemes proposed in this Block or District.

Reply of Project Representative: Mining cess will be paid to Govt. for developmental activities under the government projects. Heavy Vehicles transportation pertaining to mining activities will be preferred only during night time.

10. Sri Prashant Kumar of Bariyarpur suggested to ensure employment of local people, to stop overloading in vehicle which damage the road and to plant all trees during the current year only.

Reply of Project Representative: Local people will be preferred for employment depending up on their qualification and skill level. Tree Plantation will be done in the nearby villages in consultation with local gram panchayat.

Conclusion:

The ADM, Lakhisarai concluded with thanks to the audience for overwhelmed participation in this public hearing. He appreciated unanimous approval of the mining project with active participation and valuable suggestions for the protection of environment as well. Overall views of the public participated in the hearing were in the favors of the project with adequate water/air/noise & waste management facilities.

The proceedings of the public hearing are recorded and video taken. The same shall be submitted to all concerned and to the authority for necessary action.

The proceeding of the public hearing concluded with vote of thanks.

(Suresh P Roy) Regional Officer BSPCB, Begusarai

(Sudhanshu Shekhar) ADM, District- Lakhisarai

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