



A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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Lr No.PCB/ROVZ/Tech/S-807/2015- 1667

Date: 13-03-2015

To
Sri P. Vijay Kumar, Managing Director,
M/s. Vishwakshen Industries (P) Ltd.,
D.No.2-2-18/54, Vidhya Nagar, D.D. Colony,
Hyderabad 500 013, Andhra Pradesh, India.

Sir,

Sub: APPCB – RO – Vizianagaram – Proposed Color Granite Mining Activity of M/s.Vishwakshen Industries (P) Ltd., un surveyed area of Durgamma Hill Gap area, Gangarajupuram (V), Meliaputti (M), Srikakulam District – Public Hearing held on 18/02/2015 – Minutes – Communicated – Regarding.

- Ref: 1) MoE&F, Govt. of India, Notification No. S.O. 1533, dated 14/09/2006 and Circulars issued thereof.
- 2) Public Hearing Paper Notification issued in Sakshi (Telugu Daily) and The New Indian Express (English Daily) Newspapers on 14/01/2015.
- 3) Public Hearing held on 18/02/2015 Near Mandal Parished Prathamika Pathasala, Gangarajupuram (V), Meliaputti (M), Srikakulam District.

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Minutes of the Public Hearing held on 18/02/2015 at 10:30 AM near Mandal Parished Prathamika Pathasala, Gangarajupuram (V), Meliaputti (M), Srikakulam District for Color Granite Mining Activity of M/s.Vishwakshen Industries (P) Ltd., un surveyed area of Durgamma Hill Gap area, Gangarajupuram (V), Meliaputti (M), Srikakulam District is herewith enclosed along with attendance sheet for taking further necessary action at your end.

Yours faithfully,

Encl: Public Hearing Minutes


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MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE COLOR GRANITE MINING ACTIVITY OF M/S VISHWAKSEN INDUSTRIES PRIVATE LIMITED LOCATED AT UNSURVEYED AREA OF DURGAMMA HILL GAP AREA, GANGARAJUPURAM (V), MELIAPUTTI (M) SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT.

The following are Present.

Panel Members:

- | | | |
|---|---|----------|
| 1 | Sri Vivek Yadav, I.A.S., Joint Collector & Addl. District Magistrate, Srikakulam District. | Chairman |
| 2 | Sri. K. L.P. Kumar, Environmental Engineer, APPCB, Regional Office, Vizianagaram. | Member |

Special Invitee:

- 1 Sri Solman Raj, RDO
Palakonda,
Srikakulam District
- 2 The Asst. Director,
Dept. of Mines & Geology
Srikakulam.

At the outset, while welcoming the gathering, the Environmental Engineer explained the features of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India, EIA Notification dated 14/09/2006. According to EIA Notification, Environmental Public hearing is mandatory for getting Environmental Clearance for carrying this kind of mining activity from MoEF, Govt. of India. He stated that M/s Vishwaksen Industries Private Limited applied for Environmental Clearance for the color granite mining activity at Unsurveyed area of Durgamma hill gap area, gangarajupuram (V), Meliaputti (M), Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh has submitted a request to the Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Vizianagaram on 02/01/2015 for facilitating the Public Hearing along with TOR's, Draft EIA reports and Executive summaries. He informed that the press notice was issued on 15/01/2015 in two newspapers i.e., "Sakshi" (Telugu Daily) and "The New Indian Express" (English Daily) intimating about the proposed Public Hearing to be held on 18/02/2015 with project details for inviting suggestions, views, comments and objections from the public for carrying out the color granite Mining Activity. He requested the Joint Collector & Additional District Magistrate to preside over the public hearing to conduct further proceedings.

He informed the public about the significance of the Public Hearing and invited the public to express their opinions, suggestions and objections freely from the environmental point of view on the mining project and then requested the project proponent to explain the salient features of the project with the proposed pollution control measures and along with the details of environmental impact assessment studies carried in and around 10 km radius of the proposed site.

The Joint Collector while welcoming the public informed that M/s Vishwaksen mining industry is functioning since 2007. The mining activity is sensitive and may cause damages to the roads, generate dust etc., and hence preventive measures are

required to be taken by the industry. He then invited the public to express views/suggestions on pollution problems due to this mining activity freely intimating that the views expressed will be addressed by the proponent at the end of the hearing.

No representations were received during the process of Public Hearing.

Sri P. Vijaykumar, MD of the color granite Mining Activity stated the following:

He informed the gathering that the industry has been carrying its mining activity since 2007. As per the Government instructions, the industry had applied for Environmental Clearance for the mining activity duly carrying the environmental impact assessment studies through environmental consultants. He then requested the consultants to explain the salient features of the studies to the public.

Sri Chandra Sekhar Reddy, Environmental consultant stated that they have carried environmental impact studies in surrounding 7 villages within a radius of 10 km and observed that there is no significant air and water pollution in the study area and the values are observed to be within the government standards. There will be generation of dust during drilling and transportation activity of mining for which the industry is practicing water sprinkling system for suppression of the dust. Noise is also observed during operation of heavy machinery for which the industry is supplying earmuffs for the workers at the working area and the same is observed to be less than 80 db(A) in the surrounding villages. The industry is also planning to develop 7.5 m wide greenbelt around the mine besides providing check dams to abate the soil erosion and silting of adjacent lands. The cost of the project is 56 lakhs. The industry likely to generate 5,600 cum waste boulders out of which 40-50% is proposed to be used for construction activities dumping the remaining in the S-W corner of Mine. The industry proposes to allocate 5 lakhs for CSR activities, 4 lakhs for environmental safeguarding activities. The CSR activities is proposed to be taken up by allocating Rs. 65000/- per Annum.

Smt. Ganga Ratnam, Sarpanch, Gangarajapuram village stated that the village is not having proper roads and is mired with umpteen number of problems to be solved. This mining activity is of no use to the village as there is no revenue from it in spite of its working for many years.

Sri B. Bhaskara Rao, MPTC: He expressed happiness for organizing this public hearing by the District administration. He stated that the Gangarajapuram village is a backward panchayat with no amenities and no grants from the government. He lamented that this village is not getting any revenue from this mining activity. He requested the government to release the grants at the earliest.

Sri G. Srimannayudu, Gangarajapuram village stated that there is soil erosion from the hillock during rains and the clay is getting deposited on their fields and requested the government to look into this matter before finalizing the issue.



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Sri Kanchirana Lavudu, Gangarajupuram stated that there is no revenue for the village from this mining activity since 2007. There is no safe drinking water facility in the surrounding three villages.

Sri Jayasen, Gangarajupuram village stated that there will be air pollution problems due to operation of this mining activity and hence requested the government to stop the mining activity as there is huge loss for them due to the mining.

Sri Appala Swamy, villager stated that most of the villagers are depending on cultivation. He expressed that this mine is of no use to the village but instead causing crop loss owing to its operations. The village temple and agricultural lands are getting affected due to fall of fly rocks and dust and as such the agricultural yield has come down to 20 bags against normal yield of 40 bags.

Sri Janardhana Reddy, NGO while welcoming the project requested the proponent to adopt the village on humanitarian grounds rather than considering as official obligation. He requested the management to enhance the CSR budget of Rs.60,000/- to 1.0 lakh per annum besides providing employment to the youth in the village as this unit is operating for the past 7 years.

Sri Subhash chandraban, Gangarajupuram village expressed happiness for organizing this public hearing by the District administration. He anguished that the government is not concentrating on developmental activities in the village owing its location at inter- state border. There is no proper road to the village and the officers could not reach the village at some times during rainy season and as such the fire engine could not reach on some occasion. There is great loss due to this mining activity to the human beings, live stock as it is located within 1 km radius from the village in spite of income to the government. There is no timings for blasting activity being carried by the mine owners and as such are causing sound and air pollution in the vicinity, further the activity is causing clay deposits on agricultural fields due to soil erosion, road damages due to transportation of heavy duty vehicles, loss of grazing land for cattle, loss of employment, depletion of ground water etc., are resulting due to this mining activity. 2-3 quarries are existing on the same hillock and it is the moral responsibility of the quarry owners to adopt the surrounding 3 villages for taking up developmental activities. He also requested the government to ascertain the boundaries of the mining area of each quarry. He suggested that the mine owners shall adopt the live and let live policy while carrying their business, the owners shall ensure the blasting activity at prior informed timings with security arrangements, shall ensure that there will not be any soil deposits on agricultural fields, shall develop greenery and wider roads in the village, shall dig bore well in the village with the assistance of ground water department, shall own the surrounding villages and participate in the developmental activities.

Sri Meenarao, villager stated that his land of about 50 cents was damaged due to deposition of eroded soil in his field and requested to construct a bund to stop the entry of eroded soil in to his field.

Sri Sunanda Reddy, NGO while welcoming the project informed the public that there is an exponential growth of population since independence depending on the same limited resources. There is every need for protection of the same while ensuring the development. Air pollution and soil erosion are the main issues in the mining activity. This mine generates 5,600 cum of waste boulders which can be utilized for road laying purpose and as building materials. The industry shall develop medicinal and fruit bearing plants in the village duly undertaking maintenance of the same which will act as a air pollution barrier. The industry shall take up CSR activities through co-ordination committees , rain water harvesting structures, drinking water supply in the village, adopting of the village etc.,

Sri Munna, Gangarajupuram: He anguished that there is no advantage for the village due to this mine. The surrounding mine owners shall adopt the village and stop deforestation. He pleaded the government to take decision rationally.

Sri Panduranga Narsimhulu, gangarajupuram stated that this mining activity is taking away the livelihood of the local people and hence requested the government to stop the mining activity.

Sri Satyam Bishalu, villager lamented that the villagers have lost livelihood due to this mining activity and the fields are getting affected due to soil erosion. Hence requested the government to take sensible decision.

Sri Vijay Sai Reddy, NGO explained the significance of the public hearing and demanded the management to give employment to all the villagers irrespective of laws. The managements are using the public intended land for industry purpose causing loss to the live stock, livelihood of the villagers etc., The mine owners shall incorporate the remedial measures to bring back the land to its original status after completion of mine in the final EIA. He demanded the management to allocate 2 lakhs to the project affected persons and surrounding villages apart from CSR funds to take up developmental activities such as growing of fruit bearing plants, development of fodder as a social responsibility. He requested the management to look forward on humanitarian grounds.

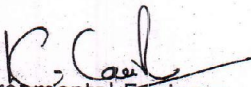
Sri Pandava Baroda, villager requested to take up de-siltation of existing tank of 50 acres extent as it is useful for cultivation.


Sri Vijay kumar, MD, Vishwaksen Industries while acknowledging the issues raised by the people, he assured the following:


- 1) The industry will lay the village road as suggested in gangarajupuram.
- 2) Industry will explore the possibility of adopting the villages by contacting and with consent of neighboring mine owners.
- 3) Industry will take up measures for removal of silt deposited in the fields.
- 4) Industry will dig bore well as per the requirements of the villages at a place desired by the villagers.
- 5) The industry expressed its willingness to provide employment to the villagers as requested.

- 6) The industry will arrange 2 nos. of watchmen working on 24 hourly basis to intimate blasting timings and alert people and assured to stick to blasting timings during day time i.e., 6 AM to 6 PM.
- 7) Industry assured to develop plantation inspite of low rate of survival owing to rocky strata and informed that they have constructed rain water harvesting pits.

While epitomizing the proceedings of the public hearing, the Joint Collector thanked the public for cooperating in smooth conduct of public hearing and expressing their views, informed that the government had sanctioned Rs.14,000/- for the panchayat and the panchayat will get scene rage charges of present year shortly. He directed the industry to maintain the blasting timings i.e between 6 AM to 6 PM, to develop green belt within the mine and in the village and operate the same in co-ordination with the local people. It is also informed that, all the proceedings of the hearing was recorded and will be sent to the government for taking further necessary action in respect of environmental clearance.


Environmental Engineer
APPCB-RO-Vizianagaram


Joint Collector & Addl.
District Magistrate,
Srikakulam.
(1/2)


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Name

Village

1) P. K. Srinivasulu NCO - G.I.J. - 18/2/2015

2) N. Sreedharan NCO 9948189066
9985404266

3) P. V. Subramanian (NCO) 9603826921

4) P. Srinivasulu NCO - Hyd - 7893128847

5) H. MADHUSUDAN (NCO) Hyd. 9908612657 H.M.S.

6) K. Srinivasulu (NCO) 9494201152 K. Srinivasulu

7) K. Srinivasulu (NCO) 9494201152 K. Srinivasulu
9 V. Jayaram GangaBasti, Co. P.W.Ramp.

8) N. Rangaraj Co. P.W.Ramp.

10 K.P. Srinivasulu

11 V. Mohan Rao GangaBasti, Co. P.W.Ramp. 9441884041

12. C. A. DHARMARAJU

13. V. Chandra Sekhara NCO 9491883019

14) V. Chinnappa

15) V. Mohan Rao

16) V. Chinnappa 9441853300

17) D. Srinivasulu Biswal

18) G. Srinivasulu

19) V. Parankumar

20) Sudarshan Biswal
Ch. Tirumalaiah Rao

IG Card

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Name

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1) P. K. Srinivasulu NCO - F.I.J. - 18/2/2015

2) N. Sreedharan NCO 9948189066
9985404266

3) P. V. Subrahmanya (NCO) 9603826921

4) P. Somayajulu NCO - Hyd - 7893128847

5) H. MADHUBABU (NCO) Hyd. 9908612657 H.M.S.

6) K. Srinivasulu (NCO) 9494201152 K. Srinivasulu

7) P. Srinivasulu (NCO) 9440163889 V. Jayaram

8) N. Rangaraj Co. P. W. Rangaraj

9) K. Srinivasulu

10) V. Mohan Rao Mangalajpet. 9441884041

11) C. A. DHARMARAJU

12) V. Chandra Sekhara NCO 9491883019

13) V. Chinnappa

14) V. Mohan Rao

15) V. Chinnappa 9441853300

16) P. Srinivasulu

17) P. Srinivasulu

18) G. Srinivasulu

19) V. Pavankumar

20) Sudarshan Biswal
Ch. Venkataiah Rao

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21) ~~K. K.~~

22) Motian Biswal

23) P. RAMBABU.

24) G. Madava Rao

25 Ch. Hemalatha

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Ganga Raja Puram.

26) B. Arjuna

27. G. Suresha (Gangaraja Puram)

9502469016

28) G. JAYA

8897737652

29. K. G.

30 Sabita Biswal

9491160816 Ganga Raja Puram

31 P. Venkata Ramana

9440253987

32. V. Mohini

9440163889 Ganga Raja Puram

33

Gangaraja Puram

34)

35) Ganesh Jaisri


36)

37) N. S. K.

38) H. V. S. 9491134248

39) K. Jitendra Reddy - VISA Lobbies

40 L. Chandra Sekhar Reddy VISA Lobbies 9701660374


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