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PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR BAITARANI SAND BED, HABALESWAR OF SRI KRUSHNA CHANDRA SWAIN OVER AN AREA OF 5.26 HA AT VILLAGE HABALESWAR UNDER HATADIHI TAHASIL OF KEONJHAR DISTRICT HELD ON 01.10.2022 AT 11.00 AM AT VILLAGE HABALESWAR KHATA NO. 1/1, PLOT NO. 146, KISAM- BALICHARA, TOTAL AREA AC. 11.66, PROPOSED AREA- AC. 0.50 IN THE KEONJHAR DISTRICT.

The public hearing in respect of the above project was held on 01.10.2022 as per the schedule and at the venue in accordance with the EIA Notification S. O. 1533 (E) dt. 14.09.2006. The public hearing with regard to date, place and time was announced in Public Address System in nearby villages of proposed project site and also published in Daily News Paper. The process followed for public hearing was adequate

Er P Kar, Regional Officer, State Pollution Control Board, Keonjhar welcomed the public to the hearing and briefed about the objectives, process & procedures followed for conducting such public hearing.

Smt. Susama Bilung, OAS(S), Additional District Magistrate, Keonjhar presided over and supervised the public hearing. She briefed about the importance and objectives of such hearing and invited the project proponent to highlight on proposed project.

Sri Pabitra Kumar Swain (Consultant), Representative of the Project Proponent explained about the proposed project and briefed about the Pollution Control measures to be adopted in the Project.

The following is the summary of the public hearing proceedings, reflecting all the views and concerns expressed by the assembled public at the venue. It was recorded by the officials of the Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Keonjhar.

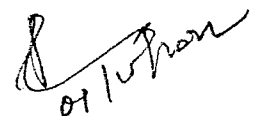
1. Sri Narayan Chandra Mohanty, Habaleswar

As a representative of Habaleswar village, Sri Mohanty opposed the proposed river bed sand mining & informed that the villagers unanimously decided to oppose the proposed riverbed sand mining. While addressing the gathering he stated that when sand will be extracted from the riverbed a vacuum will be created in the riverbed. Due to which there will be heavy water current during flood, which will hit the riverbank resulting a threat to the riverbank. Their village is situated in the bank of Baitarani River and flood water damages their houses time and again. The existing riverbank is the safeguard for the villagers. Once the proposed mining will start, the riverbank will collapse which is threat to the lives of the villagers. There is an old Shiv temple which is famous as a tourist place, may get destroyed due to this project.

Hr further informed that the Habaleswar main road of 1½ Km from the Balighat connecting a bridge and this bridge connects Panikoili NH-5. This road connects Keonjhar-Jajpur-Bhadrak and hundreds of people depend upon this road for their communication especially for better medical treatment to Cuttack etc. In addition to this on both sides of this main road there is locality and they will be adversely affected. Children from their village and other villages come to the primary and high school through this road which will cause difficulties for their communication and possibilities of accident cannot be ruled out.

One very old temple is situated at their village, and it has great significance for the devotees who comes to worship from different place like Jajpur and Bhadrak district through this road every day. Due to mining, there is threat to the lives of the devotees and cattle also.




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Once mining starts there will be movement of huge heavy vehicles through their main road, as a result people of this locality will be adversely affected due to smoke and dust. Lastly, he requested administration not to give Environmental Clearance for this proposed mining.

2. Sri Kailash Chandra Pati, Dimiria

Sri Kailash after addressing the gathering could not complete his speech due to the agitation of Habaleswar villagers.

3. Sri Prasanna Kumar Mohanty, Habaleswar

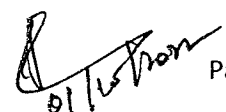
Sri Mohanty requested the administration not to give permission for this proposed riverbed mining. He requested everyone to think whether they would like to allow outsiders to take sand from this place leaving the villagers in trouble during flood. He requested Sri Krishna Chandra Swain & his representative who is from Barang locality to look for other opportunities for earning money leaving aside the addiction for this project. He requested not to disturb the peace & tranquillity of the locality. This resistance for opposing this project is not only his own decision but this is a unanimous decision of the villagers. They are also strongly committed against transportation of sand. He requested to cooperate these villagers if they are really residents of this locality and shall not disturb by giving false identification. He requested people not to take wrong step out of greed. He again stated that the relationship between outsiders with their locality is for business and they will never stand beside them in their well and woes. Till the time sand deposit exists, relationship is there once the sand is finished their relationship will get over. He stated that not a single assurance is fulfilled at Jajpur where riverbed mining is going on and still rampant heavy vehicles are plying. The only intension of this people is to entry into this business. He requested to see the condition of 2 Km stretch road which has been damaged extensively due to transportation of sand during two years of sand transportation so that administration can easily imagine why they are opposing the project.

4. Sri Gagan Bihari Pattnaik, Saranga

Sri Pattnaik after addressing the audience stated that whatever his old experienced speakers have narrated few minutes back, he has learnt many things from that and has to say many things. He said that out of 3000 to 4000 residents of this village if 40 person are opposing this project than 200 people has their consent for this project but they are not allowed to come forward to express their views. Once this mining starts the lessee will repair the road, temple, carry out water sprinkling etc. as per Govt. guidelines because Government is also observing from all these aspects. As per Government guidelines heavy vehicle movement will not be allowed from this road. However, due to movement of vehicles the shopkeepers will be benefitted and earn their livelihood by selling snacks, tea etc. Nobody has any attention for these poor people, only for political gain and personal interest they are opposing. He stated that this is obvious that people will oppose keeping in view the road condition and other issues but the lessee has given assurances to the Government to abide by the given guidelines. With respect to environment issues, as such there are no issues. So, he supported the proposed mining.

5. Sri Rabi Narayan Mohanty, Salania

Sri Mohanty supported the riverbed sand mining and stated that Keonjhar district is a mineral rich district. Due to running of these mines, the revenue generated is used for development of Odisha, which is a welcome step. When the sand mining will start, surrounding villages will be developed. So, he requested everybody to support the public hearing. He requested to repair the road by spreading chips, dust, and do regular water sprinkling. The revenue, which will be generated through this sand mining, will be used for the benefit of the students.



6. Sri Bikash Candra Bal, Soso

Sri Bal stated that lots of houses will be constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. People are compelled to procure sand from Jajpur at high cost. If a sand mining starts at their locality, people can get sand at reasonable price. Once the sand mining starts there will be generation of employment. Vehicle owners will be benefitted for earning their livelihood. He supported to start the sand mining by abiding Govt. guidelines.

7. Sri Bhimsen Sha, Hatadihi

Sri Sha while addressing the audience, informed that the Riverbed mining at Habaleswar village has been going on since last 20 years. He requested to give permission for sand mining. If permission is not given then poor people cannot afford to purchase sand at high cost because Govt. is paying only Rs.1,20,000/- to Rs.1,30,000/- for construction of a house under Indira Awas Jojona whereas, for purchasing sand they need to pay Rs10,000 to Rs 15,000 a truck trip for which Hatadihi block people are facing great difficult for construction of a house. With regard to pollution, already plantation has been done by the previous lessee who is from Habaleswar village. He then questioned now why they are opposing for operation of riverbed mining reason of which he is unknown to him. He requested not to oppose the public hearing for the sake of poor people and for their livelihood.

8. Sri Mukesh Rajput, Boncho

Sri Rajput said that he came to know about the public hearing in the morning only and hence attended to say something for the development of this area. He was quite happy that tender has been awarded and riverbed mining will start. Once the mining starts the shopkeeper, transport owner will be benefitted for which still they are in great trouble. Why the people will go outside for their livelihood having income source at their own village. He stated that due to extraction of sand from riverbed, there is no chance of flood which some previous speaker alleged, rather there will be fear of flood due to deposition of sand which will chock the water flow. Anybody can be awarded mining lease as per Govt. tender procedure, be they from their place or from any other place of Odisha, why they will oppose. He was in favour of the public hearing

9. Sri Ashish Kumar Rout, Soso

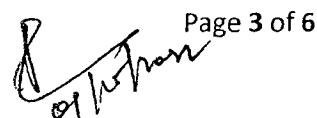
Sri Rout told in favour of this riverbed mining. He informed that Sri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister has prepared a programme for cleaning of river and rejuvenation of river. This cleaning process can be possible if sand is extracted from the riverbed. Due to deposition of sand in the river, during flood it will cross the riverbank. If sand is extracted with proper procedure water flow will be normal.

10. Sri Ranjit Kumar Mohanty, Habaleswar

Sri Mohanty while opposing the project told that this sand bed is situated at Habaleswar village so no other than residents of Habaleswar can know about this riverbed. People from distant places do not know anything about this riverbed. He said that Habaleswar villagers are strictly opposing the public hearing and are requesting not to give environmental clearance for the mining.

11. Sri Bijay Kumar Patra, Chhenapadi

Sri Patra while supporting the public hearing stated that once the sand mining starts shopkeeper at the road side who are in great trouble due to no income from business, will be benefitted. The children of those shopkeepers are being deprived of education due to no income source.



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12. Sri Taranisen Brahma, Ex-Naib Sarpanch, Habaleswar

Sri Brahma told that if this sand bed mining starts 200 families will die. Now they are unable to do farming and sitting idle. In his speech he told that since last 50 years this riverbed mining was being done by the Habaleswar people but now the tender has been awarded to the people from Bhubaneswar. Lastly he said that he is in favour of riverbed mining operation but subject to a condition that has to be run by the Habaleswar village residents.

13. Sri Alekh Dalai, Panchugochia

Sri Dalai supporting the public hearing stated that every person spoke about their interest only but how Odisha will develop and how India will develop nobody mentioned. They should understand by auction of riverbed sand how Odisha and India will develop. He said he is in favour of the public hearing but those who are opposing are not in favour of their families it seems.

14. Sri Sudhansu Sekhar Sha, Ana

Sri Sekhar while supporting the public hearing stated that he is an owner of a tractor. If this project starts, he will also be benefitted. He informed that he has to pay fine for illegal transportation of sand but when this mining will start, he can transport sand legally without paying any fine. He urged that mine shall operate so that they won't pay a single penny fine.

15. Sri Rashmi Ranjan Bardhan, Habaleswar

Sri Bardhan told that they will not allow any sand mining operation in their village and requested the authority not to allow any mining operation over there.

16. Sri Debabrata Brahma, Habaleswar

Sri Brahma told that he is not in favour of sand mining.

17. Sri Pratap Kumar Nayak, Salania

Sri Nayak while speaking in favour of public hearing stated that he has no problem for riverbed sand mining. He has 2 Nos. of tractors which has become idle. He has also paid fine for illegal transportation of sand. Once the riverbed sand mining starts he will engage the tractors and able to pay the loan instalment.

18. Sri Nikunja Bihari Das, Habaleswar

Sri Bihari opposed the sand mining. In his address, he stated that their village Habaleswar is situated in low-lying area in the Baitarani riverbank. If sand is extracted from their ghat their village including a temple will be completely submerged. He requested administration not to give permission for this project. If permission is awarded administration will be held responsible. So he personally and on behalf of the villagers opposed the public hearing.

19. Sri Kunmun Jena, Saranga

Sri Jena supported the public hearing and stated if sand mining starts they will not face any problem. Some poor people will be benefitted. He is also an operator and sitting idle from lockdown period. He will also be benefitted once the sand mining job starts.



20. Sri Babuji Kumar Sha, Chhenapadi

Sri Sha supported the public hearing and stated that there will not be any environmental impact for this proposed riverbed sand mining project.

21. Sri Narayan Behera, Habaleswar

Sri Behera opposed the proposed sand mining. He stated that by extraction of sand their village will be affected.

22. Sri Nanda Jena, Balabhadrapur

Sri Nanda supported the public hearing and stated that people of this village has constructed high-rise building. He raised question from where they managed to get sand. They are doing construction whereas other villages like Hatadihi, Anandapur etc. are deprived of getting sand. He requested to repair the road, do water sprinkling and do the mining job. There is absolutely no problem.

23. Sri Apurba Ranjan Mohapatra, Isola

Sri Mohapatra while speaking in support of the project stated that this is a welcome step of the Govt. so that people will be benefitted out of this project. At the same time, he requested all present to support the proposed project.

24. Sri Prakash Sahu, Habaleswar

Sri Sahu while opposing the proposed sand mining stated that none other than the residents of the village which are situated at the close proximity mining site will face all sorts of environmental impact. People from distant village will not face this problem. He requested not to give permission for mining.

25. Sri Ashish Kumar Danka, Sibanarayanpur, Hatadihi

Sri Danka supported the proposed river bed mining. He said that operation of the sand mining will benefit many poor people.

26. Sri Soumya Ranjan Behera, Ana

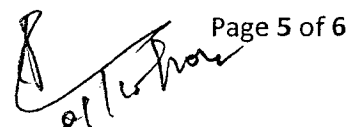
Sri Behera while supporting the public hearing stated that there will not be any adverse environmental impact if it will run as per Govt. guidelines.

27. Sri Rashmi Ranjan Mohanty, Habaleswar

Sri Mohanty while opposing the proposed riverbed sand mining stated that due to this project their road would be damaged, and their village people will face great difficulties.

28. Sri Anil Kumar Singh, Habaleswar

Sri Singh while opposing the proposed project stated that they spent the money which was earned by their village residents with respect to sand mining for development of school, temple, cyclone shelter and for the country. They did not spend the earning for their personal expenditure.



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29. Sri Sumanta Singh, Habaleswar

Sri Singh while opposing the proposed mining stated that due to operation of the sand mine there will be pollution related problem.

30. Sri Prakash Jena, Salania

Sri Jena supported the sand mining project.

31. Sri Dipti Ranjan Barik, Tartatra

Sri Barik spoke in support of the sand mining project

32. Sri Rakesh Ranjan Mallik, Tartatra

Sri Ranjan supported the sand mining project.

33. Sri Ashok Pattanayak, Saranga

Sri Pattanayak spoke in support of the project. He requested to start the job as soon as possible.

34. Sri Rajeev Kumar Rout, Boncho

Sri Rout while supporting the public hearing stated that everybody will be happy if this riverbed mining starts operation.

The Regional Officer, SPCB, Keonjhar read over the issues raised by the public in the hearing. Sri Pabitra Kumar Swain (Consultant), Representative of the Project Proponent responded to the issues raised Smt. Susama Bilung, OAS(S), Additional District Magistrate, Keonjhar gave concluding remarks of the Hearing.

The issues raised by the public and corresponding comments of the applicant were prepared in Odia and English and it is annexed with the proceedings as Annexure I & II respectively, list of the oral deliberators and participants in the hearing is annexed as Annexure III & IV respectively. Four numbers of written representations received during public hearing is annexed as Annexure-V (a to d). The videography of proceedings are recorded and submitted as DVD (I).

Hearing ended with thanks to the chair.

Er P Kar
07.10.2022
Er P Kar
Regional Officer
State Pollution Control Board, Keonjhar

Smt. Susama Bilung
07/10/2022
Smt. Susama Bilung, OAS(S)
Additional District Magistrate, Keonjhar

STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND DEMANDS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC AND RESPONSE OF THE PROJECT PROPONENT OF BAITARANI SAND BED, HABALESWAR OF SRI KRUSHNA CHANDRA SWAIN OVER AN AREA OF 5.26 HA AT VILLAGE HABALESWAR UNDER HATADIHI TAHASIL OF KEONJHAR DISTRICT HELD ON 01.10.2022 AT 11.00 AM AT VILLAGE HABALESWAR KHATA NO. 1/1, PLOT NO. 146, KISAM- BALICHARA, TOTAL AREA AC. 11.66, PROPOSED AREA- AC. 0.50 IN THE KEONJHAR DISTRICT.

Sl No.	Issues raised	Response of Project Proponent
Environmental Issues:		
1.	Pollution Control measures for smoke and dust nuisance during transportation.	Regular Sprinkling of water over haul road will minimize the Dust Nuisance and Regular maintenance of vehicle to be used for transportation will minimize the emission of smoke
2.	Operation of sand mining as per Govt. guidelines.	The operation of mining will be carried out as per the Sand Mining Guideline of State Government.
Peripheral Issues:		
1.	Education facilities for students.	Provision of books and other accessory for school student will be made available after due discussion with local authorities.
2.	Accident problem due to transportation.	Necessity traffic control systems will be adopted to reduce the accident during transportation of sand.
3.	Development of Roads.	Road maintenance where ever required will be assisted after due discussion with local authorities.
4.	Support for livelihood of tractor owners/local shopkeepers etc.	For support of livelihood of tractor owner for the transportation local vehicle will be used. Location people will be engaged in the operation of mining activity.
5.	River bank erosion & flood threat for village and the Shiv temple of Habaleswar village.	As per the direction of district administration river bank protection will be carried out. If required the periphery of Shiv temple will be bounded to save it from flood threat.
6.	Proper water sprinkling for dust suppression & adequate plantation.	Water sprinkling will be carried out regularly for dust suppression and plantation programme also carried out.

Krushna Chandra Swain

Signature with seal
of Project Proponent

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STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, ODISHA

Department of Forest, Environment & Climate Change, Government of Odisha
Parliament Building, A/113, Nilakanthapagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-751012



NO. 15466/2022-2023

NOTICE

1. The State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, is pleased to inform that the Environmental Assessment Report (EAR) for the proposed project of **Construction and operation of a 110 KV sub-station at Khajurahi, Bhubaneswar** has been submitted to the Board for its consideration. The project is being implemented by **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bhubaneswar**. The Board has constituted a Public Hearing Committee (PHC) for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the EAR. The PHC will be headed by the District Collector, Keonjhar and will consist of representatives of the local community, including the District Industries Centre, Zilla Parishad, and the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Keonjhar. The public hearing will be held on **27.05.2023** at **11.00 AM** at the **Head Office of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Parivesh Bhawan, A/113, Nilakanthapagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-12**. The Board is inviting all interested parties to participate in the public hearing and to submit their objections, if any, to the PHC. The Board will consider the EAR and the objections received and will issue its final order accordingly.

2. The Board is also pleased to inform that the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed project of **Construction and operation of a 110 KV sub-station at Khajurahi, Bhubaneswar** has been submitted to the Board for its consideration. The EMP is being prepared by **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bhubaneswar**. The Board has constituted a Public Hearing Committee (PHC) for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the EMP. The PHC will be headed by the District Collector, Keonjhar and will consist of representatives of the local community, including the District Industries Centre, Zilla Parishad, and the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Keonjhar. The public hearing will be held on **27.05.2023** at **11.00 AM** at the **Head Office of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Parivesh Bhawan, A/113, Nilakanthapagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-12**. The Board is inviting all interested parties to participate in the public hearing and to submit their objections, if any, to the PHC. The Board will consider the EMP and the objections received and will issue its final order accordingly.

3. The Board is also pleased to inform that the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report for the proposed project of **Construction and operation of a 110 KV sub-station at Khajurahi, Bhubaneswar** has been submitted to the Board for its consideration. The EIA Report is being prepared by **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Bhubaneswar**. The Board has constituted a Public Hearing Committee (PHC) for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the EIA Report. The PHC will be headed by the District Collector, Keonjhar and will consist of representatives of the local community, including the District Industries Centre, Zilla Parishad, and the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Keonjhar. The public hearing will be held on **27.05.2023** at **11.00 AM** at the **Head Office of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Parivesh Bhawan, A/113, Nilakanthapagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-12**. The Board is inviting all interested parties to participate in the public hearing and to submit their objections, if any, to the PHC. The Board will consider the EIA Report and the objections received and will issue its final order accordingly.

1. District Collector, Office, Keonjhar
2. District Industries Centre, Keonjhar
3. To the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad, Keonjhar
4. In the Head office of the State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Parivesh Bhawan, A/113, Nilakanthapagar, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-12.
5. Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha, Keonjhar
6. Department of Forest & Environment (Environment), Govt of Odisha, Bhubaneswar

For any further clarification in this matter, the Regional Office, State Pollution Control Board, Keonjhar or the Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board, Odisha at Bhubaneswar may be contacted.

OIPR-08012/1/0234/2223

MEMBER SECRETARY

The New Indian Express 15.27.5.22 Pg

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