

MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE COLOR GRANITE MINING ACTIVITY OF M/S. VIRGIN ROCKS (P) LTD., (40.0 Ha), R.SY.NO.60, GUMMAPADU & BADRI VILLAGES, BADRI (POST), SARAVAKOTA (M), SRIKAKULAM DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH HELD ON 04/10/2017 AT 11:00 AM, NEAR TO The MINING SITE OF M/s. VIRGIN ROCKS (P) LTD.,

The following are Present.

Panel Members:

- 1 Sri K.V.N.Chakradhar Babu ., I.A.S.,
Joint Collector & Addl.
District Magistrate,
Srikakulam District. Chairman
- 2 Sri T. SUDARSANAM,
Environmental Engineer, APPCB,
Regional Office, Vizianagaram. Member

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 Color Granite Mining activity from MoEF, Govt. of India. He stated that M/s. Virgin Rocks (P) Ltd., (40.0 Ha) have applied for Environmental Clearance for the proposed Color Granite Mining activity at R. Sy. No. 60, Gummapadu & Badri Villages, Badri (Post), Saravakota (M), Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh. The proponent requested the Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Vizianagaram for facilitating the Public Consultation along with TOR's, Draft EIA reports and Executive Summaries. He informed that the press notice was issued on 01/09/2017 in two newspapers i.e., "Eenadu" (Telugu Daily) and "The Indian Express" (English Daily) intimating about the proposed Public Consultation to be held on 04/10/2017 at 11.00 AM with project details for inviting suggestions, views, comments and objections from the public for carrying out the proposed Color Granite Mining activity of M/s. Virgin Rocks (P) Ltd., (40.0 Ha), R. Sy. No. 60, Gummapadu & Badri Villages, Badri (Post), Saravakota (M), Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh.

6 No. of representations were received in 30 days paper notice time and at the time of Public Consultation 3 No. of representations were received on the project.

Sri Dharmana Ram Manohar Naidu, Managing Director of the proposed Color Granite Mining activity welcomed the gathering at public consultation stating that the project and environmental study details will be appraised by the project consultant.

Sri Subramanyam, Project Consultant has explained the public about the details of the activity proposed to be taken up by M/s. Virgin Rocks (P) Ltd. This management

proposes to carryout open cast color granite mining activity by using wire saw cutting machines. The annual capacity of granite excavation is about 6,120 Cum/annum. It is informed that, the consultancy firm have taken up environmental studies for the purpose of preparing rapid Environment Impact Assessment report from December' 2016 to February' 2017. This study includes Water, Air, Noise, Land, Biological and Socio Economic Environment in the study area. The base line studies in Air Environment viz. PM₁₀, PM_{2.5}, SO₂, NO_x is observed to be within the limits of the Ambient Air Quality standards of the Government of India. Likewise, the base line noise levels are observed to be maximum of 50.1- 67.4 dB (A) while the ground water levels are observed to be suitable for drinking water. It is also observed that, there are no medicinal and extinctive plants in the study area. The impact study reveals that there will be 3.8 µg/M³ incremental increases in Suspended Particulate Matter levels in the Ambient due to this activity. There is no significant impact on ground water resources due this mining activity in the study area. This activity is expected to consume 8.0 KL per day water for using dust suppression and plantation purposes besides domestic needs. No waste water generation is anticipated from this activity, except the domestic generation of 1.5 KLD. Further it is proposed that the management will take the following steps in respect of Environment Management Planning.

- 1) Continues wetting of the roads and cooling with water during drilling and cutting activities to avoid dust nuisance.
- 2) Regular maintenance of the vehicles.
- 3) Taking up of avenue and peripheral plantation to take care of noise.
- 4) Providing of personal protective equipments to the workers.
- 5) The safe storage of waste rock within the premises.
- 6) Providing of garland drain at the foot of hillock to combat run off of soil deposits onto neighboring lands.
- 7) Anticipation of significant increase in socio economic status of the people in the area.

Sri H. Raju, S/o Varahalu, Gumnapadu (V) while welcoming the proposed project expressed that the mine holder is providing employment and He felt happy to inform that the management has provided water plant and benches for the school under CSR funds. He expressed that due to this project they will develop both socially and economically.

Sri Prasada Rao, S/o Late M. Narayana Rao, Sarpanach of Badri Village while welcoming the project he explained that he worked in the alluminium and copper underground mines and also stated that this is a small mine with no pollution. He expressed happiness that the management has taken up the rectification of road works in the villages.

Sri Sunanda Reddy, NGO while welcoming the project he informed the gathering that their organization is working for the people for the past two decades. He opined that the mining activity shall be taken up hectare after hectare. And also requested the management to take up local village development activities like education, water facilities, laying of roads etc under CSR Programmes. The mining authorities shall protect the environment by developing the avenue plantation with fruits and medicinal value plantation along the roads, on hillocks, over burden dumps etc., Finally he urged that the management should provide employment to local only and also shall take up skill development trainings.

Sri Vijaya Reddy, NGO, while welcoming the project he stated that the Environmental Consultant should have clearly stated about the baseline parameters and impacts of mining activity on environment. He opined that the management has to propose a stone crusher for the waste rock mass generated from the mine so as to use the waste rock as building material. He stated that we have to welcome this type of mining activity and shall use the royalty payments for the development of the village. He requested the management to provide employment to the local people only and shall provide harvesting pits for the effective usage of the rain water and shall also take up plantation.

Sri P.L.N. Rao, Environmental Social Worker while welcoming the project he stated that the mining activity is taken up in Vizianagaram, Srikakulam and Prakasam Districts only. And also requested the government that the village may receive the royalty payments for the development of the villages.

Sri Subramanyam, project Consultant has informed that due to the operation of the mine, there will be only air pollution for which they are proposing to develop avenue plantation.

Sri Prasada Rao, S/o Late M. Narayana Rao, Sarpanach of Badri Village explained that the run off slope is around 1 to 1.5 %.The ground water table has to be checked for every three months.

Sri Janardhana Reddy, NGO while welcoming the project he requested the management to develop the village through CSR activities i.e by providing ambulance and water plants etc.,.

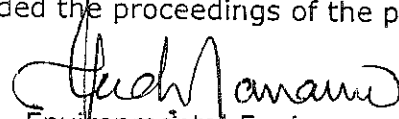

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE
VIZIANAGARAM

Sri Y. Chennakesava Reddy, NGO, Hyderabad while welcoming the proposed project, he suggested that the management shall provide rain water harvesting pits for the runoff water from the quarry, 33 % plantation programme, provide water plants in the surrounding villages, provide employment to the local people only and shall take up CSR activities for the benefit of the village.

Sri K.Venkata Ramana, Sarpanch Pratinidhi while welcoming the project expressed that the management has provided water plant and benches for the school under CSR funds and developed under ground drainage system in the Gopalapuram village. He felt happy that the project authorities are giving the waste rock mass to the villagers for house construction purpose at free of cost.

Sri Mohan Rao while appraising the project informed that the villagers are not having any problems due to operation of the mine. He also informed that the mine operator is supporting the villages very well taking up the village development activities besides carrying out the water spraying on the roads for control of dust.

The Joint Collector instructed the villagers to express their views if any and concluded the proceedings of the public consultation meeting.


Environmental Engineer
APPCB-RO-Vizianagaram


Joint Collector & Addl.
District Magistrate,
Srikakulam.