

Proceedings of the Environmental Public Hearing with respect to proposed mining of Ordinary Sand in an area of 12.03 Acres (4.86 Ha), of capacity 57,257 TPA at Belur Sand Mining Block-4 in Tungabhadra River Bed adjacent to Sy. No. 124 (P), 133, 134, 135 and 136 Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District by M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd., held on 12/04/2022

Venue	:	Belur Sand Mining Block-4 in Tungabhadra River Bed adjacent to Sy. No. 124 (P), 133, 134, 135 and 136 Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District
Date	:	12/04/2022
Presided by	:	Sri S. B. Shettennavar Deputy Commissioner & President, Environmental Public Hearing committee, Haveri- District
Officers Present	:	List enclosed as Annexure-1
Representatives of the Project	:	List enclosed as Annexure-2
Names of the Public Participants	:	List enclosed as Annexure-3
Hard copy of the presentation made in the public hearing	:	Enclosed as Annexure-4
Written objections / suggestions / opinions received at the time of Environmental public hearing	:	List enclosed as Annexure-5
Objection filed by Sri Ravindragouda F Patil dated: 1/4/2022	:	Enclosed as Annexure-6

Preamble:

M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd. has proposed to undertake mining of Ordinary Sand of capacity 57,257 TPA in an area of 12.03 Acres (4.86 Hectares) at Belur sand mining block No.4, Tungabhadra River Bed adjacent to Sy. No. 124 (P), 133, 134, 135 and 136 Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District

As per the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification published on 14.09.2006 and subsequent amendment by Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, the project Proponent has to obtain prior Environmental Clearance for the said project from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SLEIAA), Karnataka and it is mandatory to conduct Environmental Public Hearing at the project site. Accordingly, SEIAA has issued Terms of Reference (ToR) vide letter No. SEIAA 339 MIN 2021, dated: 13/10/2021 for the said project and directed the project Proponent to request the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to conduct Environmental Public Hearing. In view of the above, the project proponent, M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd. has submitted a draft EIA report including Executive summaries in Kannada and English and requested the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to conduct Environmental Public Hearing at the project site vide dated: 10/01/2022.

Based on the request of the project proponent and in accordance with the provisions of EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendment, Environmental Public Hearing was scheduled at Proposed Project Site on 12/04/2022 at 11.00 AM. Accordingly, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board has published Notification about the Environmental Public Hearing in leading newspapers of Karnataka State viz.. "The New Indian Express" (English) and "Vijayavani" (Kannada) on 12/03/2022 and also in local news paper "Kaurava" (Kannada) on 12/03/2022, inviting responses orally/writing/ e-mail to Karnataka State Pollution Control Board/ Chairman, District Environmental Public Hearing committee, Haveri from the concerned persons having possible stake in the Environmental aspects of the project or activity within 30 days from the date of publication of the notification.

Further, the draft EIA report and Executive Summary of the project were kept in the designated places such as Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Haveri, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Haveri, District Industry Centre, Haveri, Taluk Panchayat, Ranebennur, Gram Panchayat Office, Belur Village, Regional Office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Haveri, SEIAA, Karnataka (Ecology and Environment), Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment, Government of Karnataka, Room No. 706, 7th Floor, 4th Gate, MS Building, Bengaluru and HELP DESK, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Ground Floor, No. 49, Parisara Bhavan, Church Street, Bengaluru for public reference.

The Environmental Public Hearing was conducted on 12/04/2022 at Proposed Project Site at 11.00 AM. Dr. Sudha Sowmyalatha M K, Environmental Officer,

Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Haveri extended warm welcome to Sri S. B. Shettennavar, Deputy Commissioner & President, Environmental Public Hearing committee, Haveri District, Sri S.B. Ullegaddi, Asst. Commissioner, Haveri Sub Division, Sri Rajashekar Puranik, SEO (Incharge) Dharwad Zone, KSPCB, Sri Shankar G.S. Tahasildar Ranebennur Taluk, Sri Kodandarama V., Senior Geologist, Department of Mines and Geology, Haveri and Officials of other departments. She also extended the welcome to representatives of the project, all surrounding villagers & public who attended Public Hearing.

Dr. Sudha Sowmyalatha M K, Environmental Officer, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Haveri has briefly explained the procedure as per EIA Notification, 2006 and need for Environmental Clearance for the said project and requested the Deputy Commissioner, Haveri to start the proceedings of the public hearing. Sri S. B. Shettennavar, Deputy Commissioner, Haveri has informed the representatives of the Project and their consultants to make the presentation on proposed project and briefly present the summary before the public and informed the general public to express their views, opinions and objections if any, about the proposed project after the presentation.

On behalf of M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd. Sri Sachin MU from M/s. Horizon Ventures has informed that, M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd. has proposed to undertake mining of Ordinary Sand of capacity 57,257 TPA in an area of 12-03Acres (4.86 Hectares) at Belur Sand Mining Block-04 in Tungabhadra River Bed adjacent to Sy. No. 124 (P), 133, 134, 135 and 136, Belur Village, Ranebennur Taluk, Haveri District. He explained that, the sand mining will be done by semi-mechanized method by using Hitachi & JCB Eco Excellence will be used for digging and loading activities, No drilling and blasting will be done as it is non-compact in nature and easily diggable by using excavator. He also told that the river is sloping Northwest side, the highest elevation is 518 Mtrs and lowest elevation is 517 Mtrs above the MSL within the sand block. The Salient feature of the project, the impact of the project on the surrounding Environment, Environment Management Plan and Measures proposed to control/mitigate the Environmental Pollution and CSR activities were explained through power point presentation. The hard copy of the presentation made in the Public Hearing is enclosed as **Annexure-4.**

List of the views expressed by public during the Public Hearing after the completion of presentation on the proposed project are as follows:

1. Sri Ningappa Sannakariyappa Karidemmanavar, Belur village

He said that, mining activity by semi-mechanized method is problematic as there are a number of labours in our village. He requested to give employment to the local labours and facilitate the developmental activities in the village.

2. Sri Rajappa, Belur village

He said that, due to storing of sand in the stock yard and movement of vehicles, there is possibility of depositing sand particles on the crops resulting in crop loss. We are facing this problem since 20 years, you have to provide solution for this. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner informed him that since the government is planning to carryout sand mining activity you will not face such problem, if at all there is any problem you may contact the officers of the concerned departments. If the roads are asphalted dust nuisance is not going to occur.

3. Sri Siddappa Kudirihal, Belur village

He said that, this project is fine but our workers have not been given any chance and the farmers have not been taken in to consideration. In South Canara side there is a method of mining sand by immersing in the river. Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner informed that such type of mining is illegal and cannot be carried out. For that Sri Siddappa told that approval has been given legally to such type of mining and it was reported in news papers such as Prajavani and Kannadaprabha dated 9/11/2021. However, whatever may be the method of mining the local workers have to be considered. The Deputy Commissioner informed the project proponents to consider his request.

4. Sri Ravindragouda F Patil, Musturu Village

He has submitted a letter (Dated 1/4/2022) to the Regional office, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Haveri on 4/4/2022 and expressed his objections to few issues which are not related to this particular proposed sand mining project. Finally he has instructed to conduct the Environmental Public Hearing at Taluk Head Quarter by following the Rule and providing open and peaceful environment instead of conducting Environmental Public Hearing at the project site.

5. Sri. D. T. Hosamani, Belur Village

He has submitted a letter at the time of Environmental Public Hearing and stated that there is a huge quantity of Sand in and around our village, but the same is being transported illegally. In view of this the government has lost crores of Royalty. Hence it is requested to take action to carry out sand mining within the legal frame work and protect the Environment.

6. Sri Kenchappa Chalavadi, President, Labour union, Belur Village

He has submitted a letter at the time of Environmental Public Hearing and stated that there is a huge quantity of Sand in and around our village, but the same is being transported illegally. In view of this the government has lost crores of Royalty. Hence, as per the new sand policy, work should be entrusted to our workers.

The Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner informed that there are two different Blocks which are adjacent to each other and both the blocks are allotted to M/s. Hatti Gold Mines Company Ltd. Hence there is no need to make presentation again. Whatever presentation has been made to Block 4 applies to Block 5 also. If anybody else wanted to say something or if anybody wants to file the objection, they may submit it now. Since the mined sand will be sold by the government, people will get sand in the reasonable rate in time. We have also received letters requesting to provide sand in the reasonable rate and to help the public. He also informed the PDO of Village panchayat to keep an eye so that no illegal activities are carried out in the Panchayat jurisdiction. If there is any such activity is reported they have to respond immediately. He enquired whether the road belongs to Panchayat, The PDO informed that it is of ownership. The Deputy Commissioner informed that if road is constructed it will be helpful for sand mining activity. The Public asked where the stock yard is proposed, for which the project proponent informed that it is proposed in a government land within this village. Then Sri Siddappa Kudirihal once again informed that sand mining by immersing in the river is permitted in other districts, hence it should be permitted in this district also. Then the project proponent addressed the public informing that people submitted the requests to Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner. In this project the issue of commuting road is on priority, all these days the roads have damaged and there is dust nuisance. Now since it is a government project, as per new sand policy these issues are being taken care of. Water sprinkling arrangement on the roads will be made, sand mining will be carried out without causing any harm to the farmers as well as public. We have already identified a government land to

11. Sri Ananda. Haranagiri

He asked, what is the compensation if in case of damage of pipelines in the agriculture land due to the movement of heavy vehicles. To this the Chairman of the meeting informed that, as the project proponent has stated in the project proposal that, they will maintain the road and in case of any damage they will pay the compensation and it is their responsibility to not allow such things to be happen.

12. Sri Honnappa Hanumanthappa Poojar, Haranagiri


He said that, even earlier also mining was done illegally, but don't know whether it benefitted the Government or not, but we agree with this meeting conducted by the District Commissioner, Tahasildar and Pollution Control Board. We are well informed about this project in the meeting and have no objection to carry out the project. Also, he submitted his opinion in writing.

13. Smt. Manjula, NGO, Chitradurga has submitted her opinion in writing.

At the end of the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner and the Chairman of the meeting informed that, previously the meeting was postponed and now, after issuing public notice and paper notification regarding the proposed project, the meeting is conducted by giving sufficient time for the public to express their opinions. In this meeting it appears that, that the overall opinion is not against the project, but all are asked to implement the strict measures proposed in the project proposal, especially not to carryout deep mining.

He said that, he felt while coming to this meeting spot that, the roads are very small which would not sustain the heavy vehicle movement. And it would be informed to the project proponent to take suitable measures to this issue. Further he said that, wet sand should be transported with tarpaulin covering, mining activities and transportation should be carry out without creating nuisance to the local farmers. The mining will fetch the income through the Royalty and also the company will spend the money under CSR activities, apart from this by utilizing the District Mineral Fund development works may be carried out in this area. The opinion expressed by the public in this meeting is recorded and all recorded opinions in the CD format along with proceedings of the meeting are submitted to the Government through the State Pollution Control Board.

Sri Rajesha P Assistant Environmental officer, KSPCB, Haveri thanked all who attended the meeting and with this the meeting is concluded.


S. B. Shettennavar, IAS
Deputy Commissioner &
President-District Environmental
Public Hearing Committee, Haveri