

Minutes of the 5th Meeting Of West Bengal State Coastal Zone Management Authority (WBSCZMA) held on 9th July, 2020 in the Department of Environment,

The following members of WBSCZMA / officials attended the meeting-

1. Mr Vivek Kumar, Principal Secretary, Environment Department - Chairman
2. Mr Niraj Singhal, Chief Environment Officer, Environment Department - Member Secretary,
3. Md Abdul Gani, Special Secretary, Sundarban Affairs Department - Member
4. Mr Sandip Chatterjee, Ex-Engineer-in-Chief, Dept. of Public Health Engineering - Member
5. Dr Bibhas Chandra Barman, Irrigation and Waterways Department, GoWB - Member
6. Dr Sugata Hazra, Former Director, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University – Special Invitee (attended online)
7. Mr S. Mardi, Environmental Engineer, WBPCB - Special invitee

The following persons on behalf of the project proponent i.e. M/s Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd attended the meeting-

1. Mr Arun Chanda, General Manager – Materials & Logistics
2. Mr Tushar Maiti, General Manager (Projects)
3. Mr Chayan Mondol, Sr General Manager, Mechanical
4. Mr Sangata Mahindar, Chief Manager, Environment
5. Mr Debanjan Bandyopadhyay, ERM (environmental consultant)
6. Ms Indrani Ghosh, ERM (environmental consultant)

The Principal Secretary, Environment Department and Chairman, WBSCZMA chaired the meeting and welcomed all participants. After a brief round of introductions, the Project Proponent was requested to make a presentation on their proposal – “Proposed pipelines from HPL facilities to oil jetties of Haldia Dock Complex”. The entire project was presented in detail by the Project Proponent through a presentation along with maps. The total length of the proposed pipeline is 58496 m out of which 38770 m will be along / parallel to the existing pipelines, while the balance 22.872 km of the pipeline is proposed to be laid anew. A total of 2511 metre pipeline is envisaged to be laid in the area falling under CRZ I and CRZ II zones which is under direct mandate of the WBSCZMA, out of which 2228 m is along already existing pipelines.

After detailed discussions, the following decisions were taken-


- i. As per Expert Members, the area is vulnerable to natural hazards like cyclones especially under the looming threat of climate change. Therefore Project Proponent was asked to submit to the authority the following studies and inspection reports-
 - (a) After-effects of Amphan cyclone on the existing pipelines and related infrastructure.
 - (b) Withstanding capacity of proposed pipelines and related infrastructure to cyclones and tidal surge hazards with supporting documents keeping in mind the possibility that the intensity of natural disasters / cyclonic storms may increase in future.
- ii. It was found that in the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) report, the proposed mitigation measures do not match with the proposed activities under Environment Management Plan (EMP). Therefore, Project Proponent is advised to submit a revised EMP.
- iii. Details of ‘Fire safety and fire handling measures’ have to be submitted by project proponent.
- iv. The Expert Member Mr Sandip Chatterjee suggested modifications in the check list submitted by the Project Proponent with respect to the following items:-

- (a) Height of proposed pipelines with respect to highest recorded level of submergence, impact and safety measures for pipelines at time of submergence including impact of submergence where the pipeline goes underground.
- (b) Construction materials which are to be brought from outside and earth materials required to be carried from/to outside of the area of interest.

The project proponent is advised to make a revised submission accordingly.

- v. It was observed that the proposed project of pipelines is conditional / contingent upon the completion of the new dock and other infrastructure by Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT). Therefore, it is prudent to seek the comments of KoPT on the proposed project. Also, it was decided that WBSCZMA will write to KoPT requesting to inform the timeframe by when KoPT would be providing the co-related infrastructure to HPL for the proposed pipeline.

The meeting ended with thanks to and from the Chair.


Principal Secretary
Department of Environment
&
Chairman, WBSCZMA